



A partnership approach to curriculum design: enabling a holistic curriculum where students can develop their identities and be successful

Colette Murphy & Dr Roisín Curran
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Our focus

Civic Contribution

- Social Renewal
- Sustainability
- Healthy Communities
- Creative Futures

Academic Excellence

- Teaching Excellence
- Student Experience
- Research Training
- Research with Impact

Global Vision

- Diverse University Community
- International Networks
- Global Challenge, Local Impact

Operational Excellence

- People and Culture
- Service and Reputation
- Financial Sustainability
- Infrastructure

1 Civic Contribution:

As Northern Ireland's civic university we will focus our efforts on global societal issues relevant to Northern Ireland. Collectively our impact will contribute towards the wellbeing and economic prosperity of our society.

2 Academic Excellence:

We will deliver teaching and research of the highest academic standing. Our research endeavour will have global significance and meaningful impact. Our educational experience will prepare future leaders.

3 Global Vision:

As we reassert Ulster University's international leadership in teaching and research we will attract high calibre international staff and students who will enrich both our academic mission and cultural diversity while also contributing to the economic prosperity of the university and wider region.

4 Operational Excellence:

We will ensure that the support, resource and systems are in place to deliver on our teaching and research ambitions. We will continue to attract, retain and develop our staff with the skills and enthusiasm needed to deliver an effective, seamless student centered educational experience.

Rationale for a Curriculum Design Framework



Shared understanding of Curriculum



Enable course teams to re-invigorate their Programmes holistically while building curricula design capabilities



Integrate economic and industry priorities and advances in the discipline



Facilitate an ethos of partnership and co-creation



Maximise the quality enhancement aspect of quality assurance systems

Defining a Holistic CURRICULUM for workforce development

Curricula dimensions

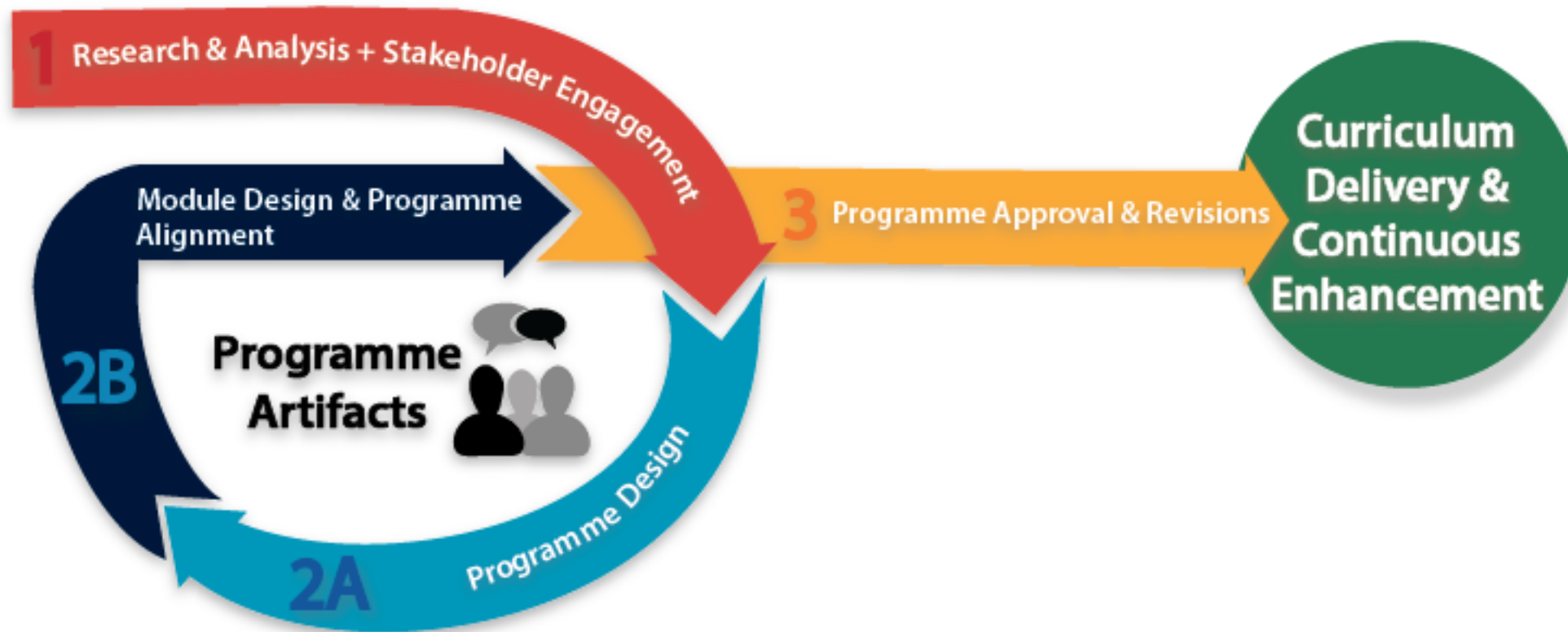


(Barnett and Coate,
2005)

Designing for success: knowing, doing and being

- What does the student need to **be**?
- What does the student need to be able to **do**?
- What does the student need to **know**?

Integrated Curriculum Design Framework (ICDF)

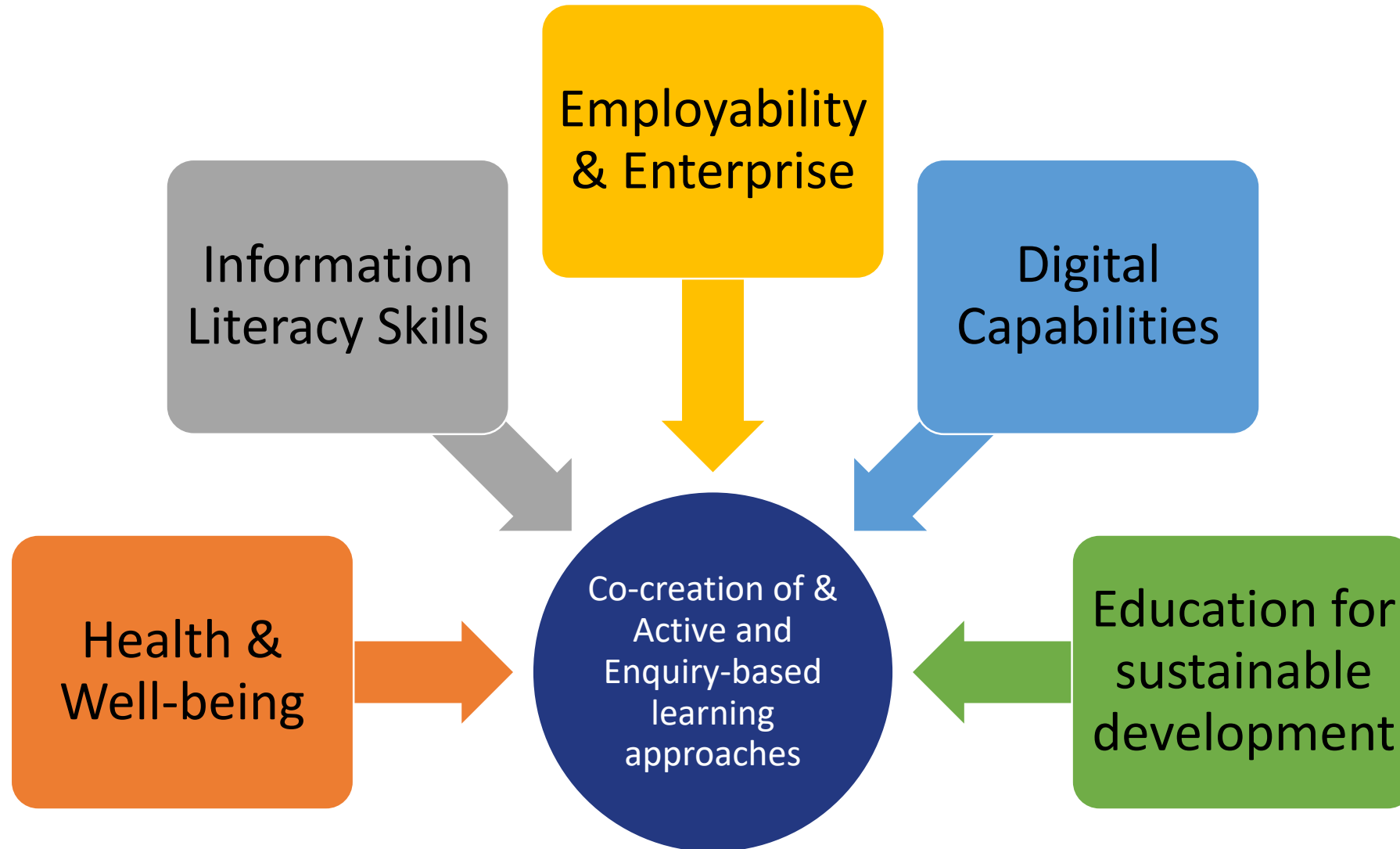


ICDFramework [overview](#)

Extended partnership approaches

- Academic staff
- Students & UUSU
- Alumni
- Employers, industry and professional bodies
- Professional support services
 - LIBRARY
 - Careers & Employability
 - Student wellbeing
 - Office of Digital Learning
 - Education for Sustainable Development

An INTEGRATED Curriculum

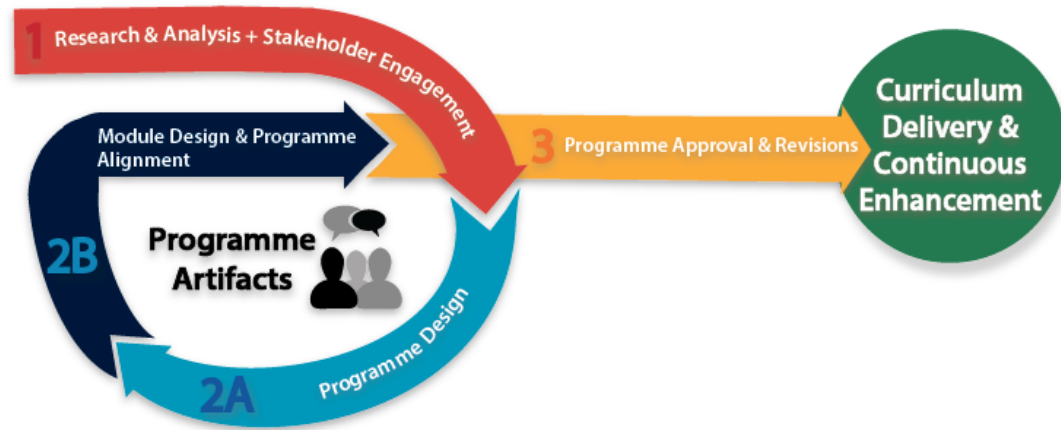




Key Stages and Insights



Process (ICDF) & Product (Outputs)



Quality Assurance System

- Developed revalidation template
- Changed Institutional revalidation guidance documents

REVALIDATION COORDINATOR:

UNIVERSITY APPROVAL

Chair of Revalidation Panel

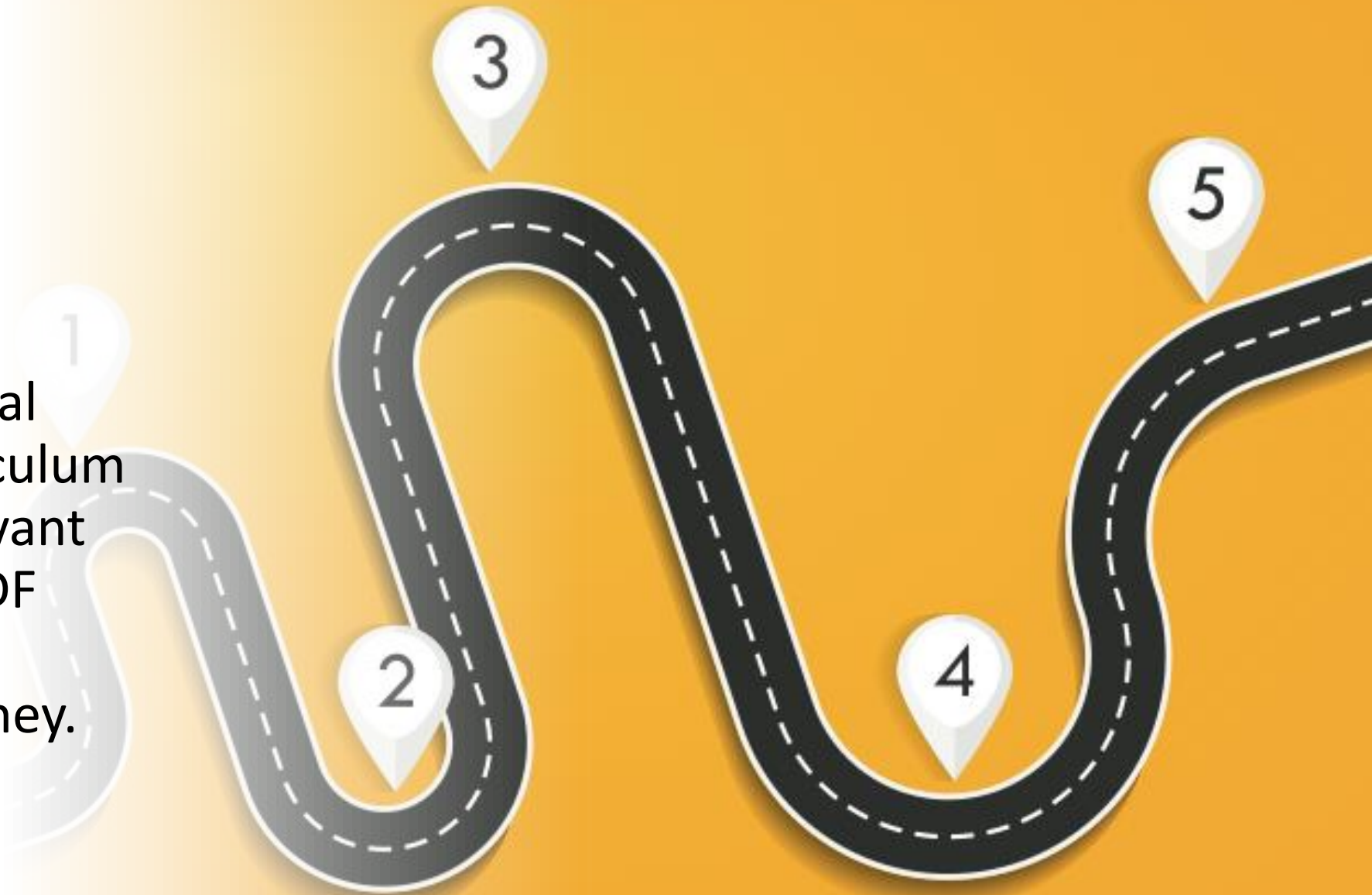
2019

Chair of Revalidation Panel

Date

Curriculum Mapping

Integration of central departments' curriculum services at the relevant junctures to the ICDF programme design/review journey.



Implementation

Services

- Workshops
- Consultancy
- Sharepoint Resource Area
- Formal Accredited Qualifications

The screenshot shows a web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links: Home, Research, Prog Design, Module Design, Prog Approval, AHSS, CEBE, LHS, UUBS, Contact Details, Archive, and Workshops. Below the menu is a header section with a circular logo on the left and the text 'Programme Design- ICDF Phase 2A' on the right. Underneath the header, there is a secondary navigation bar with '+ New', 'Page details', and 'Analytics'. The main content area is titled 'Ulster's Curriculum Themes' and features seven theme cards arranged in two rows. Each card has an icon and a text label: 'Inclusive Learning, Teaching and Assessment' (with a group of people icon), 'Digital Capabilities' (with a laptop icon), 'Information Literacy Skills' (with a person and document icon), 'Employability' (with a briefcase icon), 'Entrepreneurialism' (with a person and gear icon), 'Education for Sustainable Development' (with a globe icon), and 'Student Partnership (UUSU)' (with a person and plus icon).

Co-creation with Stakeholders

- Support regional economic needs
- Industry, Employers, Awarding Bodies, Alumni
- Partnership with Careers and Employability Services



Integrated Pedagogical **DESIGN** Approaches

- Active, Blended and Enquiry-based Approaches
- Assessment OF/FOR/AS learning
- Inclusive and Flexible Design

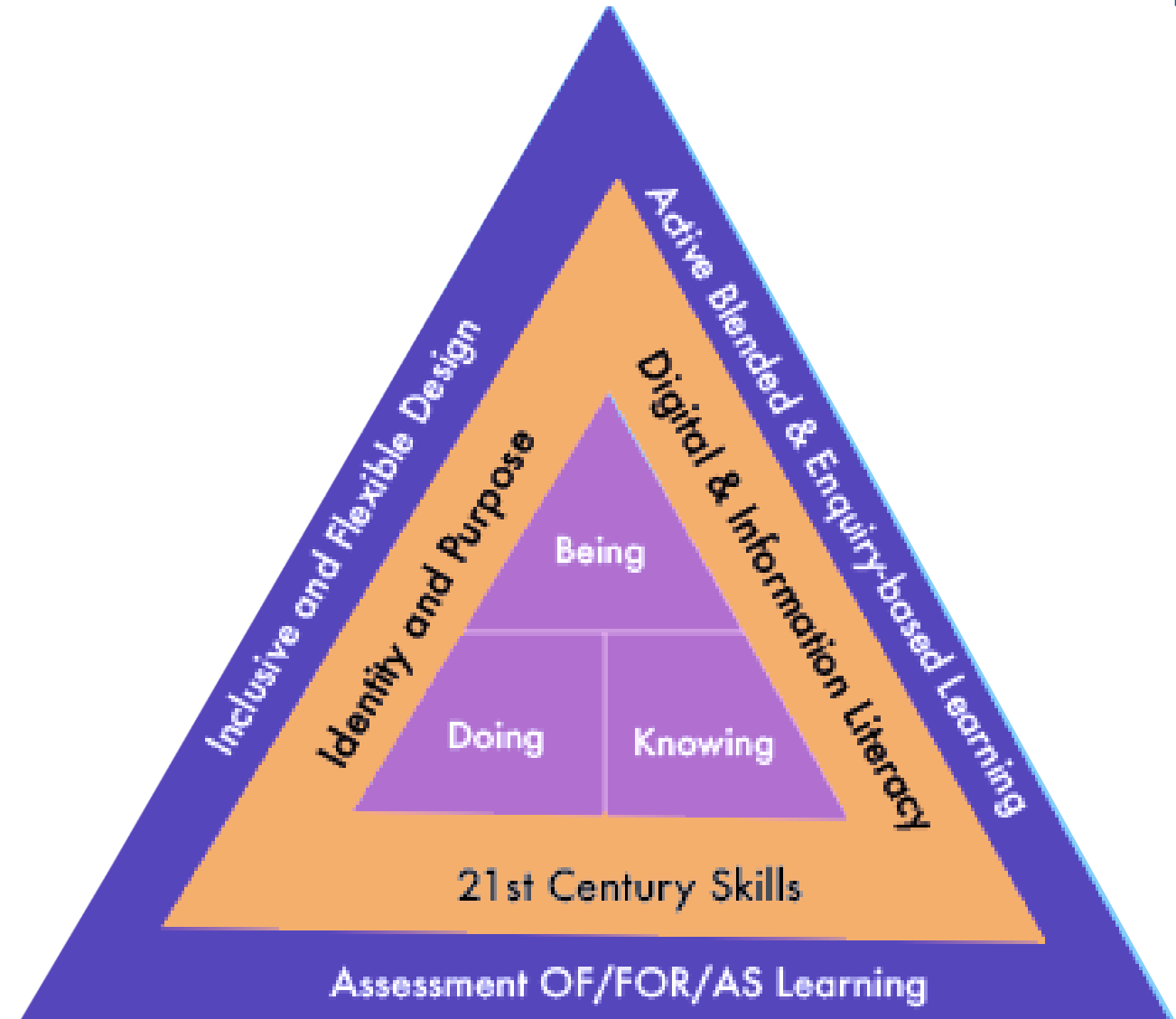
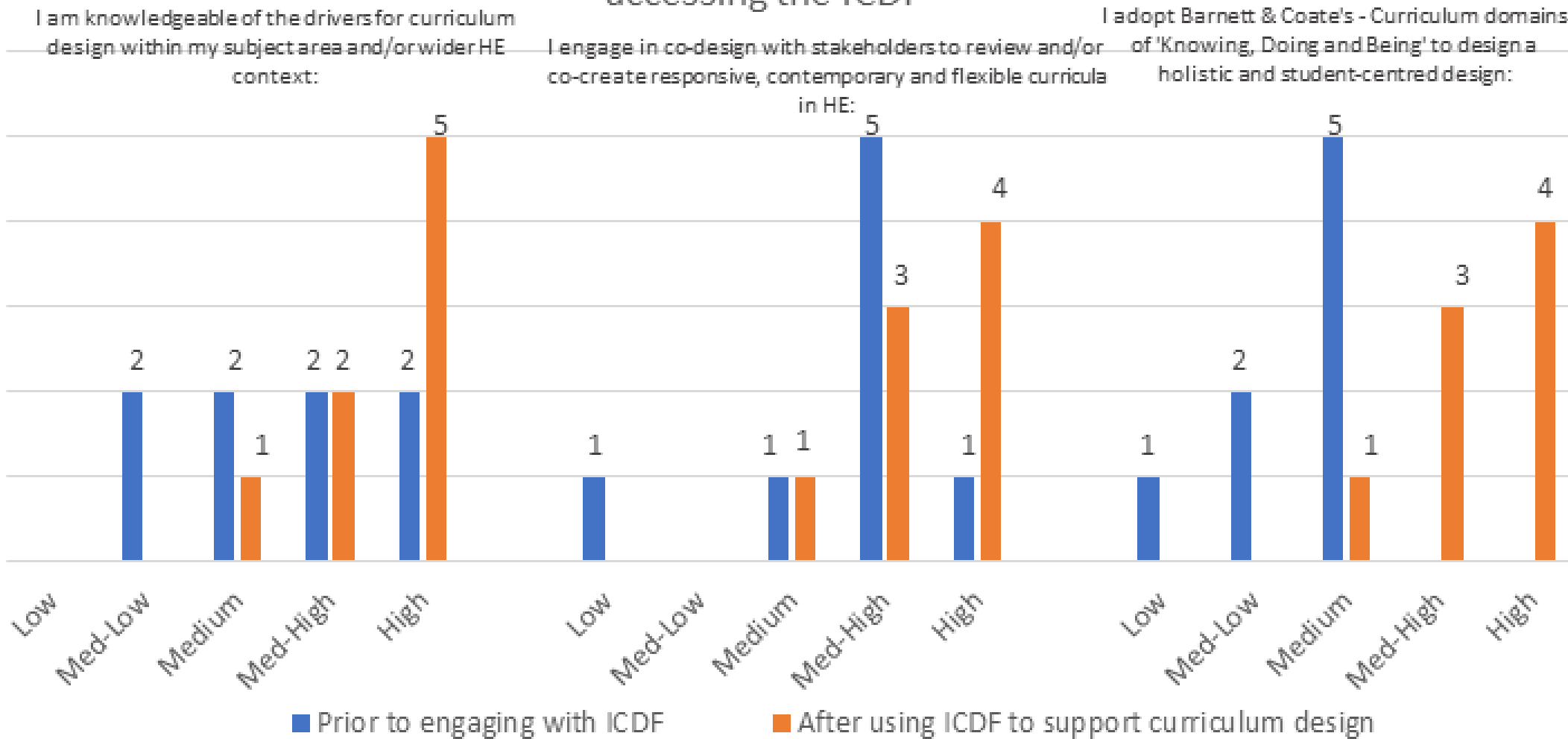


Figure 3: Progression of staff confidence prior to starting and after accessing the ICDF



Overall, I am confident and capable of embedding:

	Definitely Agree	Mostly Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Mostly Disagree
<i>Information literacy skills</i>	3	3	1	1
<i>Educational sustainable development goals</i>	1	4	2	1
<i>Wellbeing in the curriculum</i>	1	4	2	1
<i>Digital capabilities</i>	5	2	0	1
<i>Employability and Enterprise</i>	2	5	0	1

References

- Barnett, R. and Coate, K. (2005) *Engaging the Curriculum in Higher Education*, Berkshire: Society for Research into Higher Education and Open University Press.
- Bartholomew, P. and Curran, R. (2017) *Translating institutional approaches to curriculum design into practice – A leadership perspective*. In Horsted, A., Nygaard, C., and Branch, J. (2017) *Learning-Centred curriculum design in higher education*. Libri: Farringdon, Oxfordshire.
- Murphy, C. and Curran, R. (2018) 'Integrated Curriculum Design Framework', Ulster University (available from: <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/cherp/academic-development/icdf>).
- Murphy, C. and Curran, R. (2019) 'ICDF – Module Design Planner', Ulster University (available from: <https://ulster.sharepoint.com/sites/ICDF/Stage2b>).
- Ulster University (2016) 'Five and fifty. Five-year strategic plan, fiftieth year strategic vision, 2016-2034' (available at: <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/fiveandfifty/strategicplan.pdf>).

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