



UCD School of Medicine

Scoil an Leighis UCD

Our Mission is to build a community of healthcare professionals and scientists that improves health outcomes through excellence in education, research and patient care

Alumni e-Zine, Issue 3, Q2, 2021

Dear all

I am delighted to welcome you to this third issue of our new e-Zine for our alumni in Ireland and across the world and share the latest news from your School with you.

As always, we have no shortage of news relating to developments in education across our medicine, radiography, BHLS and GT programmes and on this occasion relating to research outputs across critical care, colo-rectal cancer staging and treatment, mHealth intervention in overweight and obese women during pregnancy and access to oncology services for adolescents and young adults (AYA) with cancer.

We also share news of how we are engaging with TY, fifth and sixth years and encouraging them to consider careers in medicine, radiography and BHLS and we highlight some of your fellow graduates and their significant achievements as reported in national and international media over the last quarter or so.

We continue to drive the School's EDI agenda striving for an environment where the culture, practices and policies are inclusive. In addition, we continue to promote the MGA as a platform to build social and professional networks with your classmates. In this regard the MGA is always seeking class representatives to assist with disseminating reunion information to other class members so if you are interested in volunteering as a representative for your class, please contact mga@ucd.ie.

We hope you enjoy this issue and find news and updates that interest you specifically. We also welcome any feedback you might have on content and suggestions for themes and topics to cover in future issues. Please feel free to email comms.medicine@ucd.ie with your ideas.

I would like to close out by acknowledging the visit by Simon Harris, TD, Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to UCD on Wed 14th June. During this visit, the Minister congratulated the UCD medical research and science community on stepping up and looking for solutions and practical ways to help in our national effort against C-19. I would like to echo this and thank this community for your ingenuity and dedication in this vast and challenging space.

Very best wishes

Michael Keane, Dean



Michael Keane



Education

2021 Medicine Conferring

237 graduates were conferred with undergraduate Bachelor of Medicine, Surgery and Obstetrics degrees on Thurs 3rd June at a virtual ceremony with 22 nationalities represented amongst those graduating, including 67 international students. Addressing the graduates Prof Mary Horgan, UCD Medicine Graduate 1986, Consultant in Infectious Diseases, CUH, former UCC School of Medicine Dean, RCPI President and member of NIAC & NPHT said 'You have joined a wonderful profession and every day that you go to work you will make a difference to peoples' lives. Please always assume that those you care and advocate for, are your family and friends.' View the ceremony [HERE](#)



2021 Radiography Conferring

85 graduates were conferred with undergraduate Bachelor of Science degrees (Radiography) on Tues 16th June at a virtual ceremony. Addressing the graduates, Dean Harper, Radiation Therapy Services Manager, St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network, Rathgar and President, Irish Institute of Radiography and Radiation Therapy (IIRRT) said 'Radiography is a dynamic, rewarding and challenging profession and the scope of the radiographer is extending all the time.' View the ceremony [HERE](#)



2021 RUMC (RCSI & UCD Malaysian Campus) Conferring Ceremony

113 graduates were conferred with undergraduate Bachelor of Medicine, Surgery and Obstetrics degrees from the RUMC on Sun 30th May at a virtual



ceremony. Addressing the graduates, Prof David Whitford, President, CEO & Registrar RUMC said 'This conferring is a double landmark in our RUMC history. This is our 21st year of conferring medical degrees and our 25th or silver anniversary year since RUMC was established as Penang Medical College. In addition, you are all part of the class in which our 2000th graduate will be conferred.' View the ceremony [HERE](#)

UCD CHAS Multidisciplinary Virtual Celebration

A virtual ceremony event was held on Thurs 17th June to celebrate the conferring of Master of Public Health, Master of Science (Child Art Psychotherapy & Clinical & Translational Research & Emergency Medical Science – Advanced Paramedic & Experimental Physiology & Psychotherapy) Doctor of Medicine and PhD Degrees who had graduated on 3rd December 2020. View the ceremony [HERE](#)



GT Programmes Update

Did you know UCD School of Medicine offers over 40 Masters, Diploma and Certificate programmes delivered part-time and full-time with some offered entirely online? We are also offering two new programmes in Sept 2021 including the [MSc in Precision Medicine](#) (an offshoot of the [MSc in Data Analytics for Precision Medicine](#)) directed by Prof Brendan Loftus and the new [Professional Certificate in Skin & Hair Follicle Science](#) at the Charles Institute. Full details of our GT programmes open for September 2021 can be found [HERE](#)

ACCREDITATION

The School aims to integrate quality considerations in all aspects of teaching and research and to work closely with our clinical and academic colleagues and professional bodies. Accreditation of programmes follows a robust review of curriculum content and delivery by professional, prestigious bodies. View the list of bodies that have accredited our GT programmes [HERE](#) . Please note that the [Irish Institute of Radiography and Radiation Therapy](#) and [CORU](#) (Regulating Health & Social Care Professionals) recently accredited the BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography (Graduate Entry) programme. The School's MSc

Ultrasound Programme and Graduate Certificate in Fertility Ultrasound were also recently accredited by [CASE](#) (Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education.)



Research in Action

18/06/21

Major international trial finds cooling critical patients' body temperature after cardiac arrest does not improve survival

See more [HERE](#)



31/05/21

Application of digital visualisation technology can fully determine malignant tissue in real-time and inform Immediate individualised cancer treatment

See more [HERE](#)



24/05/21

UCD Perinatal Research Centre study shows high acceptability of mHealth to support positive interventions in overweight and obese women during pregnancy

See more [HERE](#)



17/05/21

Inequitable access to oncology services for adolescents and young adults (AYA) with cancer and only modest survival gains in this patient group in Ireland and across Europe,

persist - Key to maximising survival lies in access to age-appropriate treatment environments and clinical trial

See more [HERE](#)



Student Life



SoM Summer School

The 2021 UCD Virtual Summer School held on Tues 8th June was a tremendous success, with 4,000 + registrations from Transition Year/secondary school students, their parents and guidance counsellors across Ireland. The School of Medicine content, which included presentations by Dr Peter Holloway, Prof Mary Higgins, Prof Sinead Murphy, Dr Rachel Toomey and Prof Bill Watson, in addition to interviews with current students on Instagram Live has amassed 1,000+ views combined.



Bringing life as a scientist to life for TY Students

Early career researchers from SBI, the Conway Institute, the Charles Institute and the UCD DCRC delivered a weeklong schedule of exciting activities with Transition Year students on a work experience week in April 2021, to give them insight into their working life. See more [HERE](#)

Alumni Life

Dr Catherine Moran, Class of 2006

Dr Moran was appointed as Consultant Neurosurgeon to Beaumont Hospital in Oct 2020 and is notably the first female neurosurgeon appointee in Ireland. Dr Moran's sub-specialisation is functional neurosurgery so in this role she will carry out deep brain stimulation, implanting electrodes in the deep nucleus of the brain, which send a current to disturb the abnormal motor circuits so that the patient's normal movement is restored. Dr Moran's appointment was officially announced to celebrate International Women's Day 2021 on Mon 8th March.



Dr Martin Tobin, Class of 1975

Dr Tobin, an Illinois-based Critical Care Physician, Pulmonologist & Academic is a world recognised expert in acute respiratory failure & mechanical ventilation. Global press coverage reported that Dr Tobin gave clear testimony & crucial evidence at the Derek Chauvin Trial on Wed 21st April for the murder of George Floyd.



Dr Linda Mulligan, Class of 2002

Dr Mulligan, Consultant Forensic Pathologist, with 18+ years' experience, both nationally and internationally, in forensic pathology, histopathology and clinical medicine was appointed as State Pathologist in Feb 2021.



Community

EDI (Equality, Diversity & Inclusion) Staff Survey

The School's EDI Committee conducted a survey of staff in March 2021. The survey explored issues under SEVEN THEMES relating to gender inclusion in the School and informs us on initiatives we can implement, initiatives to support staff and ensure that the School is a place where all staff have equal access to opportunity. 25% of staff (55% faculty and 45% non-faculty) responded to the survey. 65% of respondents were female and 35% male. Detailed results of the survey will be shared with staff in July 2021 via the [EDI section on SoM website](#). The School's EDI Committee looks forward to working with you and addressing the gender inclusion related issues that you have highlighted in your responses to this survey.



MGA (Medical Graduates Association) In Conversation series (Q4, 2021)

The MGA propose to hold a series of three IN CONVERSATIONS featuring lively, virtual discussions with three of the School's world-class academic and alumni leaders. The conversations will focus on critical global challenges in medicine and offer insights for uncertain times. The School's 8,500 alumni will be invited to tune in from home and submit

questions for a Q&A session at the end of each interview and leverage this opportunity to rise to the future and inspire transformational change. More to follow on [MGA section on SoM website](#)



Congratulating and Celebrating

10/06/21

Congratulations to the organisers of the annual UCD Research Colloquium in partnership with IBM Research with its focus on emerging surgical technologies and advancing the national ecosystem to position Ireland as a leader in digital surgery. See [MORE](#)

01/06/21

Congratulations to Profs Kate Matthews and Louise Rainford who were awarded €97,485 from EC-Education Audio-visual & Culture Executive Agency for a project titled 'Framework for Online Radiographer Clinical Education (FORCE)'.

26/05/21

Congratulations to six UCD Faculty who were elected to RIA (Ireland's highest academic honour) including Prof John Crown, Consultant Medical Oncologist, SVUH and former Senator and Prof Des Tobin, Full Professor of Dermatological Science, UCD and Director, Charles Institute of Dermatology. See [MORE](#)

25/05/21

Congratulations to Dr William Martin and colleagues, Dr Eoin Brennan and Prof Catherine Godson and supervisors, Dr Neil Doherty and Prof Carel le Roux at UCD DCRC for their winning presentation titled 'Mechanisms underpinning reductions in diabetic renal injury following intentional weight loss' at the annual EDNSG (European Diabetic Nephropathy Study Group) meeting.

21/04/21

Congratulations to the Consortium led by Atturo Ltd, a UCD spin out company, founded by Prof Stephen Pennington and comprising Prof Peter Doran, UCD School of Medicine; Agilent Technologies Ireland Ltd and Neoteryx Ltd which was awarded funding of €1.57 million as part of the overall Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF). This funding will enable the Consortium to develop an innovative home plasma sampling device and incorporate this device into a diagnostic workflow, called the PERSONA© Pathway. The project will focus initially on tests for inflammatory diseases, such as psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. See [MORE](#)

Remembering



RIP - Mr Enda McDermott (UCD School of Medicine, Class of 1977) Tues 4th May

With great sadness, our Dean, Prof Michael Keane, advised staff across the School of the unexpected death of Mr Enda McDermott. Enda was Consultant Breast, Endocrine and General Surgeon at St Vincent's University Hospital and Associate Professor of Surgery at UCD. Colleagues across St Vincent's remember the special bond that they had with Enda because of his very kind and respectful nature. They also remember Enda as a trusted and highly valued colleague, who was always calm under pressure and loyal to his patients and colleagues to the end. In their tributes, close colleagues in St Vincent's Breast and Endocrine Unit have spoken of Enda as a gifted and exemplary surgeon and as a terrific educator and mentor, to all young medics around him and Enda was also remembered for promoting mentorship in surgery as a way of life. He will be especially fondly remembered by generations of UCD medical students as an outstanding teacher and role model, always generous with his time. All express what an absolute privilege it was to have known and worked this gentleman and surgeon.

Dates for your Diary

C&AP C-19 Weekly Webinar Series

The UCD Academic Child and Adolescent Psychiatry section has been presenting a C-19 weekly webinar since Summer 2020. This webinar series embraces the opportunity to increase our understanding of psychological distress presented by the pandemic. Please see Webinar Schedule [HERE](#) and recordings of all previous webinars [HERE](#).

SoM Events

Please keep a watch on <https://www.ucd.ie/medicine/events/> for upcoming events.

Connect with Us

UCD Alumni Network

When you graduate from UCD, you are automatically part of a worldwide alumni network and will receive regular communications relating to reunions, events, courses, and activities on campus, and in your local area. Please see benefits [here](#) and reconnect with us [here](#).

Global Alumni Ambassador Programme

If you studied at UCD as an international student, you are eligible for the Global Alumni Ambassador Programme, which connects alumni with international prospective

students who are looking for advice from graduates like you. [Sign-up here.](#)

UCD Medical Graduates Association (MGA)

The MGA plays a vital role in keeping you in touch with your fellow alumni and with UCD. The Association offers opportunities to build professional and social networks and to maintain old friendships and contacts. The MGA is always seeking class representatives to assist with disseminating reunion information to other class members. If you are interested in volunteering as a representative for your class, please contact mga@ucd.ie.



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