

Winter 2021



UCD today

THE FLOURISHING IRELAND'S FOLK MUSIC REVIVAL

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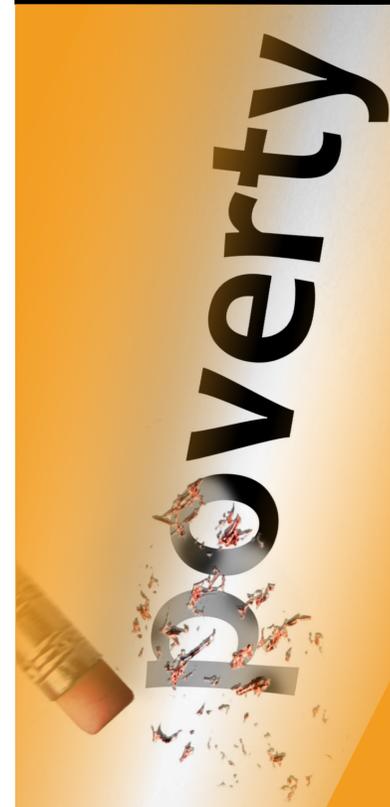
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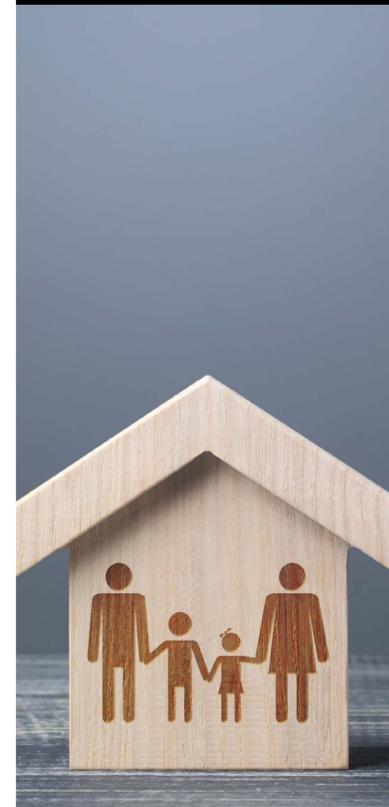
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EDITOR'S LETTER

EILIS O'BRIEN DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING



When we first discussed ideas for performance to celebrate Belfield 50, Associate Professor PJ Matthews mentioned research for a book he was undertaking on the Irish Folk Music Revival. We found ourselves talking about the transition in music in Ireland from traditional to popular and the influence of Irish musicians on the waves that spread from Ireland across the globe.

We moved on to talking about how we might engage with musicians – capture their knowledge, feed in to scholarship and of course, blend with a public performance. PJ had previously recorded a Scholarcast with Paul Brady among others and Críostóir Mac Cárthaigh in the National Folklore Collection has also been gathering recordings. And so we moved on to plan a programme that would include a very special honorary conferring

and presentation of the Ulysses Medal. As with many plans, COVID wreaked its havoc, but we were determined to host this event in person rather than pivot to remote, so instead we postponed the date to 18 March 2022.

In the meanwhile, we had come across a five-minute clip from the 70s of Planxty playing Theatre L and between the flares and the hair and the beat of the music we had to create a legacy for Belfield 50. So, we diverted our energy into making a documentary *The Flourishing*, produced for us by Tyrone Productions, which will be aired on RTÉ 1 on 30 December 2021 at 18.30.

So, over Christmas, tune in and enjoy and keep an eye out for more on the St Patrick's conferrings in the new year.

UCD thanks...

Subscribers: Xuefang Alterman, John Barry, Rupert Bowen, Rebecca Boyle, Caroline Byrne, Ursula Byrne, Jude Canniffe, Amalia Ciuti, Dorothy Conaghan, Bobby Connolly, Elizabeth Crean, Jane Curtin, Mags Darcy, Tamiris de Costa, Cathriona Devery, Emma Donovan, Mary Doorly, Georgina Dwyer, Daniel Elliot, Orfhlaith Forde, Beth Gormley, Ronan Gough, Helen Graham, Liz Hannon, John Howard, Eleanor Kelly, Caroline Kinsella, Hilary Minch, Sheila Morris, Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Theresa O'Leary, Melanie Pape, Miceal Whelan.

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In the compilation of this publication, every care has been taken to ensure accuracy. Any errors or omissions should be brought to the attention of UCD University Relations (ucdtoday@ucd.ie). We also welcome your suggestions for articles in future editions.

Cover image: *The Flourishing*



EIB President Dr Werner Hoyer with Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President, addressing Economics masters and PhD students.

UCD secures €350m from European Investment Bank

The University will double its faculty numbers and increase its student population by 25% over the decade through a series of capital investment projects facilitated by a €350 million loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB). Representing the EIB's largest ever financing of third-level education in Ireland, the funds will be invested in the Belfield campus as part of the University's 'Strategy 2020-2024', a five year plan aimed at increasing faculty and student numbers, building world-class academic facilities and student amenities, and advance services to support this growth.

Among the projects earmarked for development are: the new Centre for Creativity, a landmark at the main entrance to UCD, this 12,600sqm Centre will foster the collision of ideas across disciplines and engagement between the University and the community; a new extension to the O'Brien Centre for Science: Phase 3 of the upgrading of science at UCD and includes the refurbishment of the Physics and Mathematics, Earth Sciences and Biology wings; the complete refurbishment of the Newman building, which houses Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and the James Joyce Library, some of the oldest teaching buildings at Belfield; new and improved sporting facilities to support student health and well-being through sport participation as well as elite sport, building on the strong tradition of UCD students in the international arena.

The UCD campus development plan exceeds €1billion, and funding will be sourced from the EIB as well as philanthropy, increased student numbers, loans and Government grants.

"We have more students and employees at UCD than ever before," said Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President. "We have planned our campus development to deliver a student experience that represents international best practice. We are guided by our strategic themes to build an accessible, sustainable, healthy and digitally-enabled campus for our University and the wider community."

Dr Werner Hoyer said it represented "transformational investment. The campus development will build on UCD's world-class scientific, engineering and social science strengths and provide even better student health and sporting facilities".

Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris, welcomed the investment. "This project captures what a modern university can and should be – inclusive, innovative and ambitious. This will build on UCD's world-class campus and will importantly deliver for its students and the community it serves."

Housing Minister visits Belfield's student accommodation

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien TD visited Belfield to see phase one of UCD's new purpose-built student accommodation funded by the Housing Finance Agency (HFA).

The development, which comprises of 924 new student beds, is part of a €168 million HFA scheme to provide low-cost, long-term finance for student housing. During his visit to Belfield, Minister O'Brien was joined by Professor Andrew Deeks, UCD President, Professor Michelle Norris, Director, UCD Geary Institute for Public Policy and Chair of the HFA and the HFA Board.

"Reiterating the ongoing significant commitment of this Government to Housing, under Housing for All, we foresee the HFA's role being enhanced in the area of student accommodation by allowing them to expand their remit to the newly created Technological University sector, which is a positive development for students and renters alike," said Minister O'Brien.

The new units will add to UCD's current 3,168 residential accommodation portfolio, bringing the availability of on-campus residences up to 4,147. The residences comprise a mix of 4-14 bed apartments with ensuite study bedrooms and shared living room and kitchen, and 60 studio apartments for single or double occupancy.

UCD's campus residences are allocated to approximately one-third first-year CAO students, one-third continuing and one-third international students, with provision for scholarship students, DAC (disability access certificate) students and Residential Assistants (RAs) who undertake community roles for students living there. The proposed three-phase development will increase student residential accommodation by 3,006 bedspaces, bringing the on-campus population to over 6,000 when it is complete. It will include a village centre with shops, cafes, and social spaces, which is due to open in 2022.



Pictured (l-r) are Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien TD, Prof Michelle Norris and Prof Andrew Deeks

"We are acutely conscious of the difficulty our students have in accessing rental accommodation in Dublin," said Professor Andrew Deeks. "With the support of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's Strategic Housing Development System and the loan facility from the Housing Finance Agency, we see here the first phase of our proposed 3,000-bed village for students on Belfield campus. This development has a double benefit in that it provides a campus community setting for students to live and it relieves some of the pressure on the private rental market, making more homes available for others."

HFA Chief Executive, Barry O'Leary added: "The HFA is delighted to work with UCD on this substantial and important development of student accommodation. We will continue to support the sector, including the Technological Universities as set out under Housing for All, with our long-term fixed rate funding in order to increase the delivery of such urgently required accommodation."

UCD Alumni Awards 2021 Virtual Celebration

The annual UCD Alumni Awards proudly celebrate the success and exceptional achievements of UCD's alumni and recognise their outstanding accomplishments and contribution to society.

On Thursday 18 November 2021, the eighth annual UCD Alumni Awards took place as a virtual celebration of our outstanding UCD Alumni Award winners and their commitment to excellence. The nine inspirational alumni award winners for 2021 are creative and sporting legends, global business leaders, human rights advocates, transformational change-makers and healthcare superheroes. The winners were nominated by their peers, faculty and students and their accomplishments showcase the multidisciplinary and breadth of the programmes at UCD.

It was a wonderful evening of virtual celebration, conversation and reflection, the UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks opened the proceedings and UCD alumnus Pat Kenny, BE 1969, expertly hosted the virtual celebration which was attended by over 650 alumni, supporters, faculty, staff and friends of UCD around the globe.

As is customary at the in-person Gala evening the Choral Scholars of University College Dublin closed the virtual celebrations for 2021, performing *Bó na Leathadhairce*, an arrangement by their Artistic Director, Dr Desmond Earley, with Conor Lyons (bodhrán) and Ciarán O'Donovan (lead vocals)!

UCD Alumni Awards 2021 can be watched back at [UCD Alumni Awards 2021 Virtual Celebration](#).



The 2021 UCD Alumni Award winners



UCD Alumni Award for Arts and Humanities, Neil Jordan BA, 1972

Born in 1950 in Sligo, Neil Jordan began his career as a writer. His first book of stories, *Night In Tunisia* (1976) won the Guardian Fiction Prize. Since then he has published eight novels, *The Past* (1979), *The Dream Of A Beast* (1983), *Sunrise With Seamonster* (1994), *Shade* (2005), *Mistaken* (2011), *The Drowned Detective* (2015), *Carnavalesque* (2017), and most recently *The Ballad of Lord Edward* and *Citizen Small*. In 1982 Jordan wrote and directed his first feature film *Angel* and has written, directed and produced more than fifteen films, including *Company of Wolves* (1984), *Mona Lisa* (1986), *The Crying Game* (1992), *Interview With The Vampire* (1994), *Michael Collins* (1996), *The Butcher Boy* (1997), *The End Of The Affair* (1999), *In Dreams* (1999), *Breakfast On Pluto* (2005), *Ondine* (2009), *Byzantium* (2013) and *Greta* (2018). He has also

written, directed and produced the two-time Emmy winning television series *The Borgias* (2011 – 2013). His films have been honoured with numerous awards worldwide, including an Oscar (Best Original Screenplay – *The Crying Game*), BAFTAs, Golden Globes, A Golden Lion from The Venice Film Festival (*Michael Collins*) and a Silver Bear from the Berlinale.

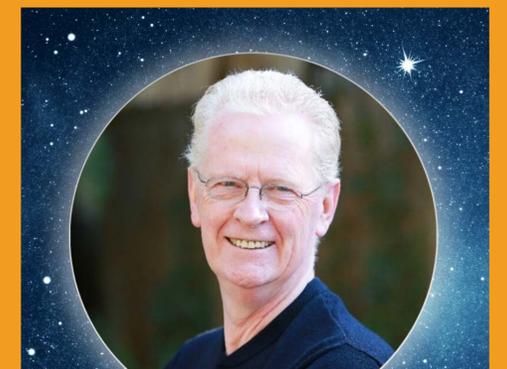


UCD Alumni Award in Business, Olivia Maguire BComm 1997 MBS 1998

Olivia is a portfolio manager at J.P. Morgan Asset Management (JPMAM) in London. She joined the firm on the technology graduate programme in 1998, moving to Asset Management in 2004 and is a CFA Charterholder. An expert in short-term fixed income markets, she is currently a member of the Bank of England Money Market Committee as well as the Bank of England SONIA Stakeholder

Advisory Group and chaired the Investment Committee of the Institutional Money Market Fund Association. Olivia has a passion for social responsibility, both from a business and a personal perspective; she sits on the JPMAM Sustainable Investment Leadership Team, the JPMAM Philanthropy & Employee Engagement and Volunteering Committee, and is current Chair of the CFA UK Inclusion & Diversity Committee. Olivia has also worked with organisations and charities across the globe to champion equity and improve opportunities for people and communities including in the UK, Detroit and her own home neighbourhood on the northside of Dublin.

In 2019 she was a recipient of Investment Week's Women in Investment Fund Manager of the Year, and in 2020 was named Women in Finance Wealth Manager of the Year, and #16 on Yahoo Finance's HERoes Women Future Leaders List.



UCD Alumni Award in Engineering and Architecture, Liam Madden BE, 1979

Liam Madden is Executive Vice-President and General Manager of the Wired and Wireless Group at Xilinx, currently focused on 5G products. He leads a world-wide organisation of engineering, sales and marketing professionals, including teams in Dublin and Cork. He has spent more than 35 years in the US semiconductor industry where he has contributed to a range of industry leading products and technologies. Based in Silicon Valley, he has worked with established companies and start-ups, including a leadership role in a successful IPO. Liam has extensive experience incubating novel technologies, including commercialising the industry's first 3-D stacked computer chip for which he received the 2013 Semi Award. He holds five patents in semiconductor technology



The 2021 UCD Alumni Award winners

and is a regular keynote speaker at international conferences. He graduated with a BE from UCD, an MEng from Cornell University, is a Board member of Science Foundation Ireland, a Fellow of the IEI and an Adjunct Professor at UCD.



UCD Alumni Award in Health and Agricultural Sciences, Dr Mike Ryan MPH, 1992

Dr Mike Ryan has been at the forefront of managing acute risks to global health for nearly 25 years. He served as Assistant Director-General for Emergency Preparedness and Response in the World Health Organisation's Health Emergencies Programme from 2017 to 2019.

Dr Ryan first joined WHO in 1996, with the newly established unit to respond to emerging and epidemic disease threats. He has worked in conflict-affected countries and led many responses to high-impact epidemics. He is a founding member of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response

Network (GOARN), which has aided the response to hundreds of disease outbreaks around the world. He served as Coordinator of Epidemic Response (2000-2003), Operational Coordinator of WHO's response to the SARS outbreak (2003), and as WHO's Director of Global Alert and Response (2005-2011).

He was a Senior Advisor on Polio Eradication for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative from 2013 to 2017, deploying to countries in the Middle East.

He completed medical training at the National University of Ireland, Galway, a Masters in Public Health at UCD, and specialist training in communicable disease control at the Health Protection Agency in London and the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training.



UCD Alumni Award in Law, Fiona McEntee BCL, 2005

Fiona McEntee is an award-winning, nationally recognised immigration attorney. She is the Founder and

Managing Attorney of McEntee Law Group in Chicago. Fiona and her team of passionate advocates represent individuals and families, as well as the world's leading musicians, artists, athletes, innovative entrepreneurs/start-ups, multinational and US companies.

Fiona is also the Chair of the Media & Advocacy Committee for AILA National, the bar association with over 15,000 immigration lawyer members. She regularly appears on national/international media including MSNBC, CNN, The New York Times, BBC, and RTÉ. She also counsels other immigration attorneys about leveraging the media to fiercely advocate for clients.

Fiona has particular expertise with the "extraordinary ability" O-1 visa and with immigration options for start-ups. Fiona was recently asked to submit a statement to Congress – the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship – on the need for a start-up visa and how the outdated U.S. immigration policies push entrepreneurs and start-ups to other countries.

Fiona has won many awards including the ISBA Elmer Gertz Award and the Chicago-Kent College of Law Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award (O'Hare Airport Attorneys - Muslim Travel Ban). In 2019, Fiona was inducted into the Irish American Hall

of Fame in the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago.

Last year, Fiona wrote and published her first book – Our American Dream – a children's book on immigration. As a mom of two young children, an immigrant, and an immigration lawyer who fights for justice every day, she wrote Our American Dream to explain the importance of a diverse and welcoming America.



UCD Alumni Award in Science, Professor Teresa Lambe BSc 1997 PhD 2002

Teresa Lambe is an Associate Professor and Principal Investigator in the Medical Sciences Division at the University of Oxford. She completed her graduate studies at UCD before continuing her postdoctoral training in 2002 under the guidance of Professor Richard Cornall and Professor Sir John Bell at the University of Oxford, moving to the Jenner Institute in 2009.

Her chief research interests involve collaborative 'team science'

approaches to move from basic insights to globally impactful healthcare interventions against emerging and outbreak pathogens, in the shortest possible time. Her specific areas of expertise include zoonotic disease description and clinical trial assessment of interventions, and she continues to work on vaccines against globally important diseases including Ebola, Influenza, Nipah, MERS, and Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever.

She is one of the Principal Investigators overseeing the University's COVID-19 vaccine programme. In January 2020, she co-designed the vaccine before leading the pivotal pre-clinical studies required to allow clinical trials to commence in April 2020. She then played an integral role during the clinical trials overseeing the immunological assessment of vaccine responses and supporting regulatory approval of the vaccine in late 2020. The vaccine has now been delivered to nearly half a billion people worldwide and has played a pivotal role in the fight against the virus.



The 2021 UCD Alumni Award winners



UCD Alumni Award in Social Sciences, Caitriona Palmer BA, 1993

Caitriona Palmer is the author of two bestselling books, the memoir *An Affair with my Mother: A Story of Adoption, Secrecy and Love* (Penguin, 2016) and *Climate Justice* (Bloomsbury, 2018), co-written with former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson. A human rights investigator, advocate, journalist, and author, Caitriona has drawn attention to the plight of people overlooked and marginalised through her work with survivors of the Srebrenica massacre, survivors of historical abuse in Ireland and in documenting the effects of climate change. An adoptee, Caitriona is a frequent commentator on national and international media on the legacy of secrecy and shame generated by Ireland's closed adoption system. She is currently a Senior Consultant on Climate at the World Bank and formerly Deputy-Director, Physicians for Human Rights (USA, Bosnia); Special Assistant, Office of Prosecutor

at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and a correspondent for the Irish Times (Iran) and the Irish Independent (USA). A native of Dublin, Caitriona graduated from UCD with a BA in History and Politics '93 and holds an MA in International Relations from Boston College '97. She is the recipient of a Fulbright award, a KPMG John F Kennedy Scholar award and was the 2017 Ireland Fund Writer in Residence at the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco. She lives in Washington, DC with her husband Dan and their three children.



UCD Alumni Award in Research, Innovation and Impact, Ann O'Dea BA 1990 MA 1992

Ann O'Dea is CEO and co-founder of Silicon Republic, one of Europe's leading technology and innovation news services, reporting online since 2001. Ann was also the founder of the award-winning international event, Inspirefest, which celebrated

its fifth year in 2019. In October 2020, the event took place in a new hybrid format and under its new name, Future Human, showcasing the people and enterprises shaping the next phase of human existence.

Ann is a fellow of the Institute of Art, Technology and Design, a fellow of the Irish Computer Society, and has been named 'Media Woman of the Year' at the Irish Tatler Women of the Year Awards. In 2015, she was the first and only woman to be inducted into the Irish Internet Association's Hall of Fame. In March 2013 she launched the Women Invent initiative on Silicon Republic, which has seen a remarkable woman in STEM profiled on the site every week for the past eight years.

In 2018 she won the Outstanding Contribution to the Digital Sector award from ITAG. Ann sits on the Advisory Board of Teen Turn which empowers under-represented young women through internships in major tech companies. Ann is a former board member of the Irish International Business Network, the Digital Youth Council and of the Royal Irish Academy's Scientific and Mathematics Council. A long career in journalism saw her interview luminaries from Steve Wozniak (co-founder, Apple) to Richard Branson, from Mark Benioff to Gary Hamel.



UCD Alumni Award in Sport, Leo Cullen BA 1999

Former Leinster captain Leo Cullen first appeared in blue in 1995 but made his senior debut during the interprovincial and Heineken Cup matches of the 1998/99 season.

In 2001/02 the Celtic League appeared on the scene and it coincided with one of the best seasons in Cullen's fledgling career and a fantastic year for Leinster that saw them capture the title. That summer he was included in the Ireland squad to tour New Zealand, appearing for the national side in June against the All Blacks.

The Wicklow man gained 32 Irish caps during his career and had the honour of captaining his side during the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

His final two seasons as a player saw Cullen lift three more trophies with Leinster. The Amlin Challenge Cup and RaboDirect PRO12 titles were won on two consecutive weekends at the end of May in 2013 and in Cullen's final appearance for the province

he lifted the RaboDirect PRO12 title for a second season in succession, alongside fellow departee Brian O'Driscoll.

With his years of experience in the game, Cullen was asked to join the Leinster backroom staff by head coach Matt O'Connor after his retirement and he became the Leinster forwards coach in July 2014.

Cullen was appointed Leinster Rugby Head Coach in August 2015 and led the province to the top of the Guinness PRO12 table and to the PRO12 Final. Having reached the semi-finals of both the Guinness PRO12 and the Champions Cup, a year later in 2018, in his third season, Cullen became the first man to win a Champions Cup title as a player and as a head coach as he presided over a first ever Guinness PRO14 and Champions Cup double for Leinster.

He was awarded the Guinness PRO14 Coach of the Year Award in recognition of the team's achievements that season.

Since then Leinster Rugby, under his stewardship, have added further titles and have won a record fourth Guinness PRO14 title in succession.



Professor
Joe Carthy



IN PROFILE: PROFESSOR JOE CARTHY

Professor Joe Carthy has more worked for more than 30 years in the UCD School of Computer Science, and he has recently finished a 10-year term as College Principal.

Prior to his term as College Principal, Joe served as Head of UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics for four years. Throughout his career, Joe has won more than €5.4 million in funding for research projects. He is also the founding director of the UCD Centre for Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Investigation.

■ An interview with...

Q What was your entry route into computer science and how did you come to work at UCD?

A I came to UCD in 1977 to study science. In second year, I chose Psychology, Computer Science and Maths as my subjects. I had intended pursuing Psychology but found the freedom to choose in psychology a little bit too challenging! So I stayed in Computer Science. I went on then to do a PhD. In 1984, I was offered a position in the School of Computer Science, and I've been in UCD ever since.

Q What has it been like serving as College Principal – what were the defining moments in your ten years there?

A Busy is the first word that comes to mind. The most memorable thing for me was working with people who get things done – student recruitment was one of those things. Through working with people like Orla Donoghue we developed a really effective way of building the brand while also making sure we were attracting students who wanted to study Science. We succeeded in that. The points have transformed over the years – Science is now one of the highest preference courses in UCD.

There was also UCD Online. We started it in the early years of my deanship. There was quite a lot of pushback to online programmes at that time, which is interesting to reflect on now when we look at the last two years, where the whole University effectively went online. The programmes we started with UCD Online are still running, and very successfully so.

Outside of Science, UCD in the Community is something I've been involved in. That shines a light on the great work so many people across the University do working with community organisations, whether it's in Ireland or overseas. I've also been able to mentor a number of exceptional women through the Aurora Champions programme. That's allowed me to use my experience to help others progress their careers.

Q How did you keep up with your research while serving as College Principal?

A When you take up the job of College Principal you have to look at your priorities. I reduced my research to a tiny fraction of what it was before. There's only so much you can get done, so I took a strategic decision that I'd have to step back so I could continue teaching and that I could do an effective job as College Principal.

Q You're the founding director of the UCD Centre for Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Investigation – how did this project come to fruition and what has its impact been?

A We established the centre about 15 years ago. We had a very good relationship with An Garda Síochána's cybercrime unit and they needed help from a training perspective, and we were in a position to provide that training. That led to introductions with Europol and Interpol, and we launched the first online masters programme in cybercrime investigation in the world. To date, hundreds of law enforcement officers from 70 countries in the world have graduated from that programme. That's been very influential and we're delighted we're making a contribution in the fight against cybercrime.

Q There's a strong philanthropic and charitable thread running closely alongside your academic life – why is this important to you?

A I suppose it's because I'm a Catholic and I believe in Catholic values. I'm squirming in my chair as I say that because it's tough to say you're Christian but it's even worse to say you're Catholic in the current times! I would put it down to my Catholic upbringing and the idea from my parents that being charitable and doing good was part of my duty as a citizen.

Q You've done incredible work in the charitable sphere through Camara, a charity that refurbishes and sends computers to educational institutions that need them, and through CyberSafeKids, which helps children navigate the internet safely. What made you want to get involved in these areas?

A The founder of Camara, Cormac Lynch, is an inspirational character. He travelled to Africa and saw the needs on the ground. My assistance to Camara was from the comfort of my South Dublin home, so I never had to do any of the hard work going out seeing the conditions children and teachers were working under. Cormac came up with the idea and asked if I could help, so I became chair of the board for a while. But the success of Camara is down to Cormac and his inspirational work – I was a mere supporter.

With CyberSafeKids, Alex Cooney and Cliona Curley came up with the idea of setting up this charity because there's so much awful stuff on the internet that affects children. I'm still on the board of directors. It's going from strength to strength – they go out and give courses in schools all across Ireland and they create resources for schools, teachers and parents. It's a brilliant organisation.

Q You finished your 10-year term as College Principal in August – what's next for you?

A I'm back to being a Computer Science academic and I'm back to teaching. I've increased my teaching load, I've taken on an extra module already this year. UCD has an access programme for mature students and I've taken over as director of that programme and I'm teaching a module on it too. I'll be teaching some cybersecurity modules and supporting a new masters in cybersecurity that the School of Computer Science is introducing next year.

Q What advice would you give to an incoming College Principal?

A The most important thing is to figure out your priorities. I'm an email addict, and email addiction is dangerous because you can end up being problem led. It's important to help people, but you also have to be vision led as a leader. My advice to anyone in that role is, yes, deal with the problems, but don't take your eye off what you're trying to achieve, remembering that you can only achieve in collaboration with the people you work with..

Professor Joe Carthy was in conversation with Patrick Kelleher (BA 2015, MA 2017), a freelance journalist

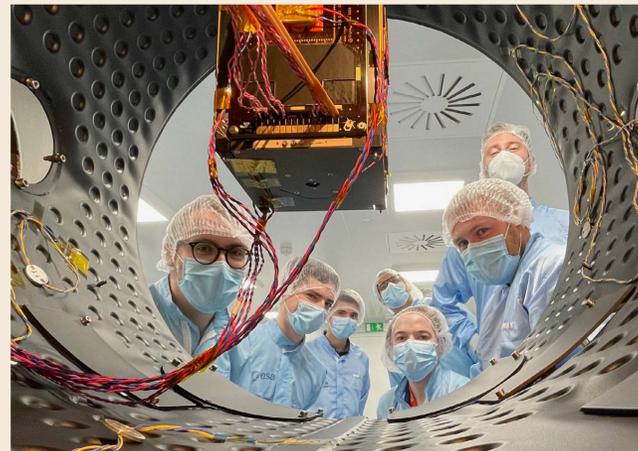


Ireland's first satellite measuring up at ESA for Space Week

During Space Week (4-10 October) UCD's space team was in the European Space Agency (ESA) Education Centre CubeSat Support Facility in Belgium, running crucial environmental tests on Ireland's first satellite. The EIRSAT-1 project is to build, test, launch and operate Ireland's first satellite which will perform in-orbit demonstrations of three novel payloads developed in UCD.

The team has already developed space systems skills that did not previously exist in Irish industry or academia and their work will position Ireland to benefit from global space industry growth expected in the coming decades and inspire the next generation of students.

Speaking from the ESA Education Centre in Redu, Belgium, researcher and EIRSAT-1 Systems Engineer Dr David Murphy said: "It's exciting to be at ESA Education's CubeSat Support Facility during Space Week with EIRSAT-1's environmental qualification model. The team is spending five weeks here to perform important environmental testing on the spacecraft. It has been shaken to simulate launch on a rocket



and it is now being tested in the thermal vacuum chamber which subjects it to extreme hot and cold temperatures in a vacuum environment, just as it will experience during spaceflight. It's incredible to see the project reach this very important milestone and to think about how far we have come since we first imagined EIRSAT-1."

While in space, EIRSAT-1 will detect and record bursts of gamma-rays using a detector developed by UCD's Space Science group. It will also test a novel 'attitude' (spacecraft's orientation in space) control system developed

by the Dynamics and Control Group in UCD, and test the performance in space of protective coatings made by Irish space tech firm ENBIO Ltd.

Director of UCD Centre for Space Research (C-Space), Professor Lorraine Hanlon said: "This exhaustive test campaign is the most important milestone for the EIRSAT-1 project so far. We knew that all the parts of the spacecraft could survive the launch and space environment, but the enormous effort put in by the EIRSAT-1 team and ESA Fly Your Satellite! team has now given us confidence in the spacecraft as a whole.

It means we have a solid, robust and capable design for the first Irish spacecraft. We now enter the build phase for the Flight Model with extremely high confidence."

UCD –C-Space member and Academic Lead on the gamma-ray detector module, Associate Professor Sheila McBreen said: "The gamma-ray detector was developed in-house from an idea and is now a payload in a qualified satellite. We look forward to measuring bursts of radiation from the deaths of stars in orbit with the flight model."

Ireland joins leading European group to contribute to social science research data

The Irish Research Council announced Ireland's membership of CESSDA, the European consortium for promoting the results of social science research and supporting international research cooperation in November. Ireland joins 21 other countries who will work together to improve European research in the social sciences and expand easy access to data across borders.

Funded by the [Irish Research Council](#), the [Irish Social Science Data Archive \(ISSDA\)](#), based at

UCD, will act as the Irish national service provider for the consortium. It will lead on integrating data generated in Ireland into the overall research infrastructure of CESSDA. ISSDA will also play a significant outreach role in publicising data sets, providing training nationally to the research community on data visualisation, and promoting literacy regarding quantitative data.

Commenting today, Peter Brown, Director of the Irish Research Council said: "Ireland's membership of CESSDA is significant as it ensures we are contributing to high-quality research on a European stage and facilitating collaboration and the sharing of ideas between our social science researchers here in Ireland and their peers across Europe. Ireland is a leader in high quality research in the social sciences, and in the age of open research it is vitally important that this work is recognised and accessible not just nationally, but internationally."

Recent publications arising from the use of data made available through ISSDA, include estimating the public service cost of poverty in Ireland; the gendered impact of taxation relief on private pensions; physical activity and emotional-behavioural difficulties in young people; and consumption of free sugar intake in three-year-old Irish preschool children.

In its next phase of development, ISSDA will work towards greater European integration, enabling broader access to quantitative studies of Irish social issues while also facilitating access by Irish researchers to similar data from across the European Union.

Welcoming the announcement, Dr John Howard, UCD Librarian said: "With funding for ISSDA as Ireland's national service provider for CESSDA, and myself named as National Coordinator, ISSDA is now poised to expand its services, to integrate its technical systems

Creating Our Future

UCD hosted the 'Creating Our Future' roadshow on campus in November, when faculty, staff and students flocked to the coffee truck and pop-up café outside the UCD Research building to share their big ideas. An initiative of the Government of Ireland, the #CreatingOurFuture campaign was rolled out nationwide by Science Foundation Ireland in 2021 to bring 'Ireland's Biggest Brainstorm' to every county, encouraging people from all walks of life to submit ideas for research, to create a better future for all.

On the same day, C-Space, the UCD Centre for Space Research held the #UCDSpaceStorm space-themed research brainstorm with academics, students and space industry partners, to generate ideas for where Ireland's research and innovation focus should be in the field of space science and technology. Earlier in the week, UCD AI Healthcare Hub and Thrombosis Ireland hosted #StopTheClot public brainstorming session for all, on thrombotic disorders and women's health, outside James Joyce Library in UCD – with free coffee and buns!

The ideas generated from the brainstorms and pop-up café at UCD were submitted to the Creating Our Future campaign, which will be evaluated by panels of experts and presented to Government next March.



Pictured are (l-r) Peter Brown, Director of the Irish Research Council, Prof Orla Feely, Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact and Dr John Howard.

with those of CESSDA, and facilitate broader engagement of Irish social scientists with the vast universe of European social sciences data. I am grateful to the Irish Research Council for its role in supporting ISSDA in the past and into the future."

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST CYBERCRIME



Dr Cormac Doherty

OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE SUSPICIOUS PHONE CALLS, TEXT MESSAGES AND EMAILS HAVE GONE FROM A STEADY STREAM TO A FLOOD. IT'S BECOME HARDER THAN EVER TO TELL THE OBVIOUS SCAMS FROM LEGITIMATE COMMUNICATIONS BY BANKS, COURIERS AND OTHER BUSINESSES.

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST CYBERCRIME (CONTINUED)

At UCD, Dr Cormac Doherty, cybersecurity programme manager at the UCD Centre for Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Investigation (CCI), has been investigating cybercrime and cybersecurity since its establishment in 2006.

Dr Doherty, who studied computer science at UCD, says that online criminals are usually out to make money or prestige among other hackers or criminals, putting states, companies and individuals at risk. "When the CCI came into formal existence, it was established with the aim of supporting law enforcement in the fight against cybercrime," he explains. "Our initial efforts were in developing training material and teaching law enforcement officers how to carry out forensic investigations on devices including servers and PCs and has gone from the early Nokia mobiles to smartphones. We also offered an operational support element on active investigations."

With forensic software often quite expensive, CCI has turned to open-source software for digital forensics investigations. "We have provided training to law enforcement on this basis," says Dr Doherty. "This has been well regarded within the EU, and we have worked with the European Cybercrime Education and Training Group to develop training."

As well as hackings, ransoms and fraud, criminal investigations now routinely involve a cyber element: finding evidence in text messages or email conversations, searching computers for evidence, and using cell tower data to pinpoint locations.

"Our training has helped investigators to forensically examine phones and request call data and cell tower records, and a strong Garda Computer Crime Investigation Unit has grown out of that," says Dr Doherty. "We draw a distinction between the two halves of our work: criminal investigation but also crime prevention. I focus on the cybersecurity side, which initially involved working with the Department of Communications, then establishing the national CSIRT (Computer Security Incident Response Team) as well as the National Cyber Security Centre, where I was embedded until 2019." The need for CSIRTs grew in the aftermath of the

Stuxnet attack on Iran's nuclear enrichment programme, which involved a malicious computer worm that subtly modified the nuclear centrifuge. Widely believed to be an attack by the US and Israel - although neither country has ever admitted responsibility - it may be the first time one nation state has been attacked by another. The EU and US issued directives and established agencies to protect Critical Infrastructure, and in particular Critical Information Infrastructure.

"It brought to the fore the need to take cybersecurity seriously, and one of the EU responses was to promote CSIRTs, with every member state obliged to have one in order to serve as a national point of contact for other member states to receive reports of malice originating within their borders. This means, for instance, that if an Irish computer had been hijacked and was being used to attack a French bank in a DDoS (denial of service) attack, authorities could attempt to get it stopped. My work with the Department of Communications was to establish this capability here, and this involved the Government, Garda, defence forces and financial services sector."

Dr Doherty says, however, that the State needs to take the threat more seriously by increasing the role and remit of the National Cyber Security Centre, with weaknesses so harshly exposed by the HSE cyberattack. He has also served as Technical Adviser to the BPF's (Banking and Payments Federation of Ireland) High-Tech Crime Forum for more than a decade. Over that time, attacks on physical hardware such as ATMs and cash-in-transit vans have decreased due to improvements in operational security but, at the same time, cybercrime and crime with a digital footprint has increased.

"Because of the speed at which these attacks take place, we use automated exchanges of threat intelligence and these are shared between financial institutions who would, in the normal course, be competing with each other. Those rivalries are put aside when it comes to cybersecurity."

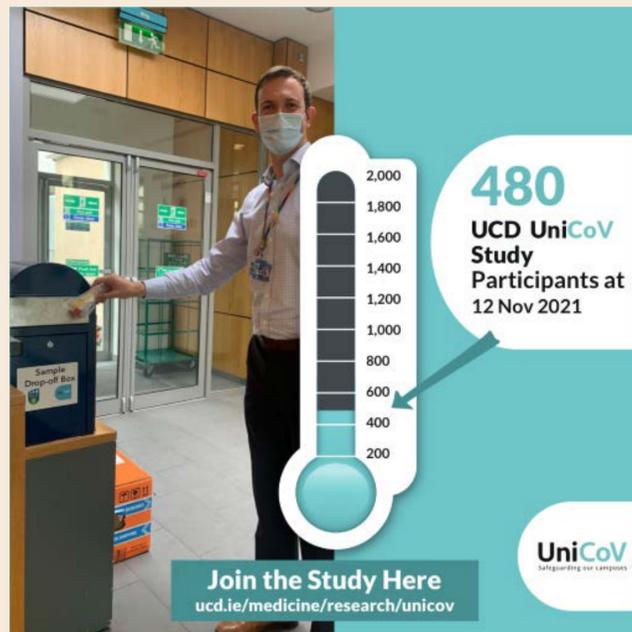
While organisations and states are very aware of the need for improved online security, individuals are also at risk. "It is very difficult to

stay on top of every single technical loophole an attacker might be able to use to access your systems," he says. "DDoS attacks, vulnerability exploits, phishing, smishing (where fraudsters use mobile phone messages to trick you into opening a malicious attachment or link, often purporting to be from your bank, phone company or a government department such as Revenue) and other 'social engineering' attacks that lure victims into a false sense of security are among the tools that criminals may use."

"There is great value to a compromised account and everything on the internet has a value," he says. "It is frightening how much information is available about you online that you're not aware of. There are so many opportunities to exploit, but this is not readily understood by people who are not au fait with cybercrime. If your data is hacked, information can be dumped on the net which is then collected by hackers who may have access to passwords that you use across multiple sites, which is why I always advise people to use password managers and two-factor authentication which can check that it is really you logging in or authorising a payment. You'd also be surprised at the most common password people use on their accounts: password or password1234. Millions of attempts at hacking may be made every second, but if the hackers even achieve a one per cent success rate, that is a worthwhile return for them."

Has your data been compromised? Check at HavelBeenPwned.com

Dr Cormac Doherty was in conversation with Peter McGuire, BA (2002), MLitt (2007), freelance journalist and regular contributor to The Irish Times.



UniCoV Study

To facilitate the safe, continual return to on-campus learning and teaching for University students and staff, UniCoV will explore effective rapid testing and surveillance systems within third-level institutions to assist with the early identification of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2. Findings will inform the development of early warning systems and expedite future outbreak prevention and control.

UniCoV is a multi-site, randomised controlled clinical study led by NUIG, in partnership with UCD, TCD and UCC. Funded by Science Foundation Ireland, the four universities and the HSE and supported by the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research Innovation and Science and Department of Health, UniCoV will further develop and apply testing, screening and surveillance strategies, proven tools used by Public Health to assist with early warning systems for disease, in the context of SARS-CoV-2 infection in Ireland. Involving both students and staff, the UniCoV study explores the feasibility and acceptability of self-reporting, self-testing and biosamples surveillance systems to assist with the safe and sustainable re-opening of Higher Education Institution (HEI) campuses, and society more broadly.

If you would like to take part, you will find more information [here](#).

Building and Leading High-Performing Teams

Smurfit Executive Development in collaboration with Leinster Rugby created a new three-day course 'Building and Leading High-Performing Teams'. Through the integration of examples from the sports and business worlds, this unique, intensive and highly interactive short course will equip executives with insights and skills to build their leadership strengths and prepare them for greater challenges.

The dynamics of teamwork are too complex to be mastered through classroom work alone. Working with Leinster Rugby's leadership team, Building and Leading High-Performing Teams provides a distinct combination of classroom and



case work, along with experiential exercises in a dynamic, interactive environment. It builds upon years of combined expertise, on and off the pitch, in providing strategic insights to help participants build and nurture performance-driven teams.

Through cross-functional team building and helping participants to develop an enhanced ability to build, lead, inspire and sustain high-performing

teams, this three-day course places executives in settings and contexts that will change the way they experience leadership. Each day participants test new strategies and practical tools through hands-on experiences with instant feedback and participate in integrated sessions that connect course content to real-world issues.

Irish Soil Moisture Monitoring Network launched

A new Irish Soil Moisture Monitoring Network (ISMON) has been launched. The announcement was made this week by AGMET, the Joint Working Group on Applied Agricultural Meteorology. Funding has been provided by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) under the national Carbon Tax Fund.

The network consists of 10 sites equipped with state-of-the-art technology to monitor soil moisture conditions in real time and over the long term. These sites will cover the major soil types, land uses and climatic regimes in Ireland. This project is being jointly led by UCD, Met Éireann and Teagasc.

Soil moisture (the amount of water in the soil) is a key driver of many soil processes influencing both agricultural and environmental outcomes. For example, plant growth (crop yield) is often

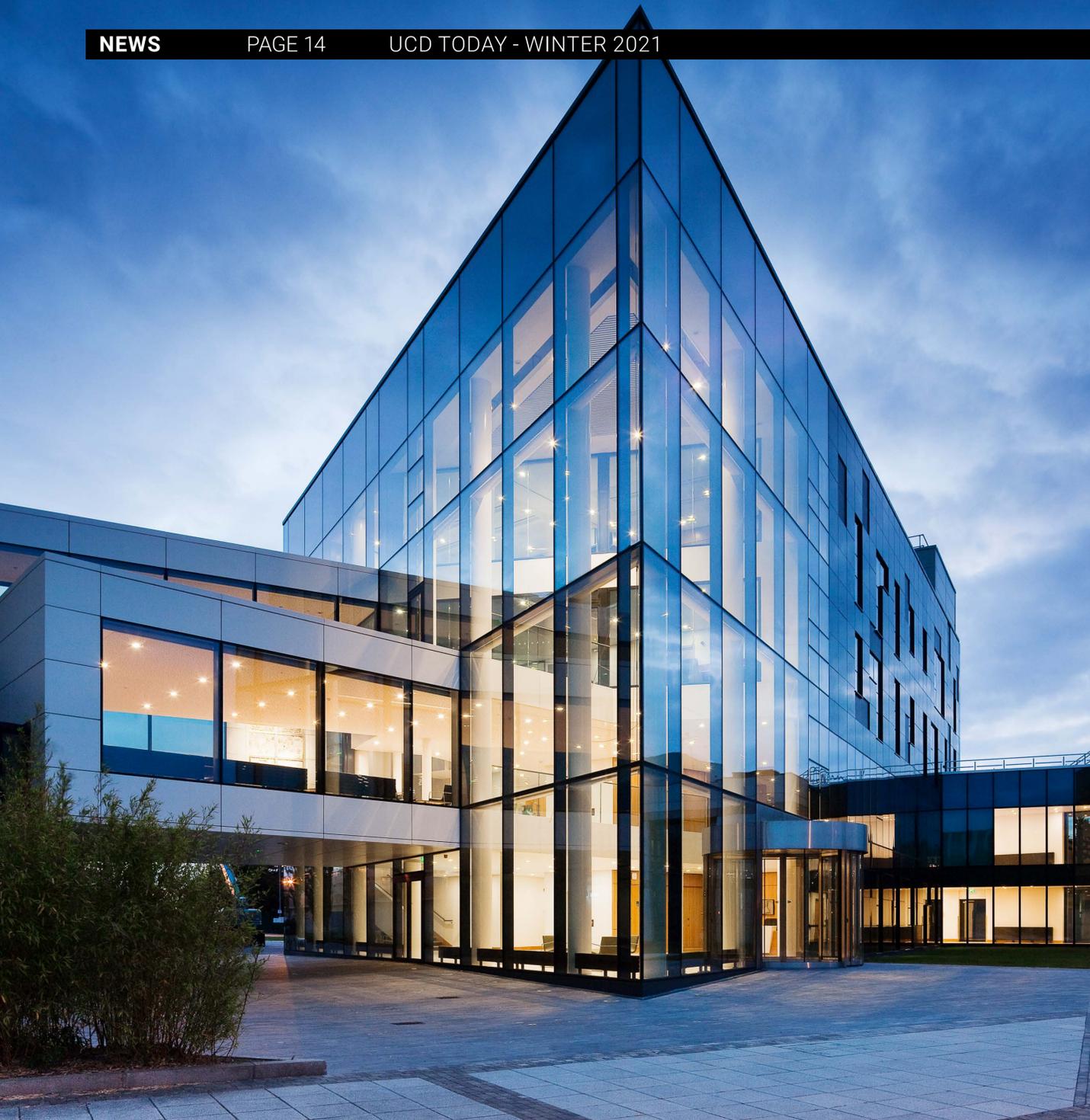


strongly correlated with soil moisture conditions during both wet and dry periods. The risk of greenhouse gas emission or nutrient losses to water associated with fertiliser application is strongly influenced by soil moisture conditions. Soil moisture conditions will also strongly influence the processes of accumulation or loss of carbon in soils.

Dr Paul Murphy, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science, said: "With climate change in

Ireland expected to bring increasing variability and extremes, it will be increasingly important to have an improved understanding and forecasting of soil moisture conditions specific to Irish soils and climate. Recent 'fodder crises' have highlighted the vulnerability of Irish farming systems to some of these predicted climate changes. It is imperative, therefore, to improve our understanding of soil moisture dynamics to both mitigate and adapt to future climate change."

Dr Tamara Hochstrasser, UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science, said: "Driving collaboration between universities, Teagasc, Met Éireann and DAFM made ISMON possible. The new data will allow us to understand ecosystems and farmlands in ways we could not to this day and manage them more effectively through a changing climate."



UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology

UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology marked its 10th anniversary this year. Named in honour of Dr Andrew Charles, founder of the City of Dublin Skin and Cancer Hospital (CDSCHC), the Institute was established via a philanthropic donation of €12 million from the CDSCHC and €6 million from UCD. As the only dedicated academic centre for dermatology research and education on the island of Ireland, the Institute works together with academic, industrial,

and clinical partners in Ireland and beyond. Under the direction of Professor Des Tobin, the Institute engages in research in skin health and disease and offers two education courses. To date the Institute has attracted almost €13 million in research funding, published over 200 publications, trained almost 50 PhD students, and has graduated 285 students from its Professional Certificate in Clinical Dermatology.

Newman Fellowship Donor Board

Such is the success of the Newman Fellowship Programme that there are on average 10 Fellowships awarded on an annual basis and to acknowledge donor support of the programme, UCD engraves the names of each supporter on the Donor Wall in UCD O'Reilly Hall along with the Newman Fellow and their research discipline.

As UCD O'Reilly Hall is the premier event venue at UCD with a large footfall, the Newman Fellowship donor board truly has pride of place on campus!

With approximately 250 names engraved on individual wooden lattices that wrap around the walls in the entrance foyer, the designer tasked with the job had to figure out a way to create more room, and with some careful reorganisation we have made room for another 50 names at least.

Órfhlaith Ford, Programme Director, UCD Foundation said: "For the Programme, that means room for 50 new opportunities for companies, private donors and organisations to support the Newman Fellowship Programme and after that we might have to go digital!"



UCD Chaplaincy Welcomes Back Students on Campus

Fr. Eamonn Bourke, a member of the UCD Chaplaincy team, asked an international student recently what he thought of the chaplaincy, he said: *'I feel so incredibly lucky to have found the chaplaincy here in UCD, and I have been welcomed into this family sincerely and lovingly.'*

"It does my heart good to hear this because at the core of what the chaplaincy endeavours to do in UCD is to bring students from all backgrounds and nationalities together to befriend and learn from each other.

"We strive to put student support and care at the essence of what we do. Ultimately, we facilitate an adaptive, non-judgemental, caring environment where one day we are offering human or spiritual support, the next providing

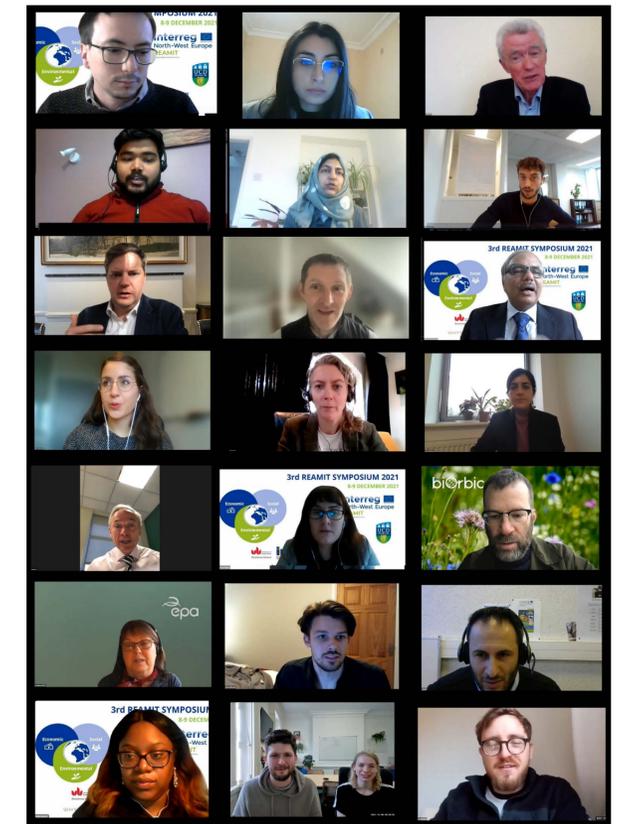


Students attending the surfing retreat.

a debriefing space to students mourning the death of a loved one.

"Since September, we have welcomed back our students to campus and established new connections over Orientation through the medium of hot chocolate, 250 litres to be precise! We celebrated the wedding of two architecture alumni and a number of memorial

Masses for deceased staff and students. Most recently, a magnificent group of 50 students attended our surfing retreat in Rossnowlagh, Donegal. And our ongoing bereavement support groups and Inner life Mental Health Talks have been warmly received throughout the entire trimester."



REAMIT Symposium

On 8 and 9 December, UCD hosted the 3rd REAMIT Symposium in collaboration with the University of Bedfordshire (BED) and Nottingham Trent University.

On this occasion, it explored food waste challenges and solutions to achieve more sustainable food systems. The REAMIT partners and external speakers presented insights on the topic, divided into three main sustainability sections: environmental, social and economic.

A total of 310 registrations were received, with a final 124 participants actually attending the Symposium. The Symposium presentations were kicked off by food producers, food supply chain companies, local authorities, academics and digital technology providers with broad expertise in the area of sustainable food systems.

The Symposium was organised by Dr Tamaris deCosta, postdoctoral researcher at UCD School of Biosystems and Food Engineering who gave the opening remarks and introduced the three sessions.



Welcome to Inclusive UCD 2021

UCD is pioneering **University for All** – an institution-wide systemic change initiative to embed access and inclusion ensuring an inclusive educational experience for all students. This initiative is grounded in UCD Strategy 2020-2024: **Rising to the Future**, the EDI Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2020-2025, and the Education and Student Success Strategy (UCD 2021). Its implementation is overseen by the UMT Education Group, directed by the University Widening Participation Committee (WP), and is enabled by UCD Access and Lifelong Learning (UCD ALL).

As part of this initiative, two new components have been developed: 'Welcome to Inclusive UCD' and a seminar series, which you will read about on page 27.

'Welcome to Inclusive UCD' an interactive module, developed by UCD Access and Lifelong Learning, in collaboration with UCD Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. This pioneering development is a first in higher education and is

designed to enable students to learn about their role and contribution to an inclusive university. It was offered to all incoming undergraduate and graduate students. Almost 2,000 undergraduate students, and almost 1,700 graduate students, completed it in 2021.

Our photo shows UCD students Anu Bode Favours, Amy Hassett and Tobias Gunning at the University for All seminar.

URBAN CLIMATES

Associate
Professor
Gerald Mills



One of the positives arising from COP26, the 26th United Nations Climate Change conference, was an increased focus on climate change at the city level. With the presence of C40, a global network of mayors from large cities around the world, climate action is being discussed in terms of urban planning and governance, something Associate Professor Gerald Mills, UCD School of Geography is eager to see.

URBAN CLIMATES (CONTINUED)

As a renowned physical geographer who has contributed crucial research to the field of urban climatology over the past few decades, Associate Professor Mills is looking to the next stage of global climate change models.

“These models have largely ignored cities up until this point but considering half the planet’s population live inside them, if you want to deal with exposure hazards, risk, etc, you need to be focused on cities. I just don’t see any way around it,” he explains.

“London and New York are part of C40 and they are now talking about managing their own emissions. Decisions are being made at the city level rather than national and that’s a big deal.”

What does the author of *Urban Climates*, a cornerstone text in the field of urban climatology, think of cities in Ireland adopting this approach?

“I don’t think Dublin is too small to apply this thinking,” he says and goes on to explain that Dublin, in terms of climate action, has the unique position of playing host to many datacentres for large global technology companies. In fact, it is now the largest data centre hub in Europe. There are a lot of discussions about these data centres as a big source of energy demand, big drawdowns of electricity. But energy is required to cool them which is exactly the opposite of what most energy is needed for in Ireland – to heat houses.

“One way of dealing with this is to look at district heating schemes to make the system more efficient. The waste energy from these datacentres - which they don’t need - could be transferred to nearby housing. It’s going to take reconfiguration at a city scale but this is about decarbonising the electric system,” he notes.

In fact, Associate Professor Mills’ own research includes the urban climate of Dublin, which involves measuring and modelling of energy exchanges between the city and overlying air, creating geographic databases of trees and

building types, and simulating the energy demands of buildings.

As part of this he has worked closely with Maynooth University colleagues on a series of climate projects including the Terrain AI project in association with Microsoft and Science Foundation Ireland. This interdisciplinary project uses machine learning and other forms of big data analysis to better understand everything from grassland and forests to urban areas of Ireland for sustainable approaches to farming, public transport and everything in between.

“I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE URBAN LANDSCAPE, AND I AM WORKING WITH RESEARCHERS TO DEVELOP AND APPLY THE WEATHER RESEARCH FORECASTING (WRF) MODEL TO STUDY THE EMISSION AND TRANSFER OF GREENHOUSE GASES AT A DETAILED TEMPORAL AND SPATIAL SCALE ACROSS DUBLIN”

With this kind of big picture thinking, it comes as no surprise that Associate Professor Mills recently won the 2021 Luke Howard Award for Outstanding Contributions to the field of Urban Climatology. This was awarded to him by the International Association for Urban Climates (IAUC) for lifetime achievements in the field encompassing original research, largescale collaborations, valuable citizen science projects and contributions to the history of urban climatology.

This history goes back to the IAUC award, which is named after Luke Howard because he is recognised as the father of urban climatology, something Associate Professor Mills knows well through his work to bring this 19th century pioneer to a modern scientific audience.

“Luke Howard was an amateur scientist. He was a gifted observer of the skies and developed a classification of clouds (cirrus, cumulus, stratus, etc) that is used to this day; this work was important as it created a language for describing clouds that could be used for near-term forecasting,” says Associate Professor Mills.

But it was Howard’s work on taking daily measurements of what was then the countryside around London, comparing these to Royal Society measurements, and observing the temperature differences, that led to the birth of urban climatology.

“He hypothesised the reasons as to why temperatures should be warmer in cities: the fact that there was no vegetation, meaning no evaporation was occurring leading to heat going up into the air, that buildings were close together, and that they blocked ventilation.”

“This was proposed in the 1800s and only in the last fifty years has there really been any comprehensive understanding of how the system functions, putting Howard’s ideas into place,” Associate Professor Mills notes.

The evolution of the field was what led to the formation of the IAUC in 2000 and, while serving as president, saw Associate Professor Mills bring the organisation’s conference to Ireland, hosted at UCD in 2012. With 500 researchers in attendance, it was the largest congregation of meteorologists and climatologists the country has ever seen, not to mention other invested disciplines including architects, urban designers and planners.

And in the true nature of scientific research an idea was born when Mills began looking through the abstracts submitted to the conference, thinking that all of the contained information could have bigger value. It became the basis for WUDAPT (World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools) a bottom-up, community-based project looking to gather as much relevant information as possible about cities around the world and organise this

into coherent datasets that can be queried by researchers.

“IF YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE YOU NEED PRECISE INFORMATION ABOUT CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS. HOWEVER, WE KNOW PRACTICALLY NOTHING ABOUT MOST CITIES ON THE PLANET INCLUDING SOME HUGE CITIES LIKE MUMBAI WHICH HAS A POPULATION OF 20 MILLION PEOPLE AND IS GOING TO BE ON THE FRONT LINE OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS.”

“We have these extremely sophisticated models that can be used to look at projections, to offer advice, to give warnings, but cannot be used in practicality because of a lack of data. This is where the WUDAPT project has proved to be very successful. It is now very close to being a global map of all the cities in the world.”

Meanwhile, back in Dublin, Professor Mills has been counting trees! The Mapping Green Dublin project, led by UCD School of Geography, is a community-focused, citizen science project to involve Dublin residents in mapping green areas in the city.

The idea is to look at everything from diversity of tree species to noting areas deprived of natural greenery leading to ‘greening’ projects that could create more play areas, add biodiversity and spots for walking and cycling. I’m sure Howard would have approved.

Associate Professor Gerald Mills was in conversation with Marie Boran, Freelance Science and Technology Journalist (UCD BSc 2002, DCU MSc 2012, MSc by research (Insight Centre for Data Analytics, NUIG) 2015).





UCDVO volunteers at Welcome Day, 27 November 2021

■ A warm welcome to UCDVO's new volunteers

UCD Volunteers Overseas welcomed a new intake of students, staff, faculty and alumni for the 2021/22 volunteering and global citizenship programme on a chilly November morning. UCDVO is combining the best of in-person global citizenship education, volunteering training and preparation, with remote volunteering projects in Uganda, Tanzania and India.

This year's volunteers are drawn from across the UCD Community, including over 20 postgraduate students and is the most multicultural group yet, with international students from China, the United States, India, Jordan and South Africa.

Since its foundation in 2003, UCDVO has continuously evolved and dedicated itself to high quality, responsible international volunteering.

In 2021, UCDVO commissioned the first ever independent evaluation of the charity to help learn from the past and chart its future direction in very unpredictable times. Among the key findings of the evaluation, the consultants noted that the programme has had a transformative impact on the lives of many volunteers, including understanding of global justice issues, personal growth and self-awareness, and intercultural engagement.

The UCDVO team and board will engage with stakeholders across UCD in the coming months to co-create this future, where UCDVO will continue to make a valuable contribution to Rising to the Future.

UCDVO challenges participants to foster an open mind, think critically and explore multiple perspectives. Ultimately, UCDVO aims to nurture active global citizenship and encourage participants to channel their UCDVO experience into society to tackle global poverty and inequality.

UCDVO's other global citizenship education programmes in UCD include Skills in Development Education; Solidarity in Action; the Annual Forum and the Development Film Series. More information on www.ucdvo.org.

■ Bringing Blood to Life

Professor Jason Last, Dean of Students, UCD and member of 'The Blood Project' The Blood Project (TBP) Advisory Board based out of Harvard Medical School has launched a freely accessible, not-for-profit learning resource that is targeted at medical students, physicians-in-training and practicing physicians of all types - haematologists and non-haematologists alike. The primary aim of TBP is to change the way medical students and physicians think and learn about blood and, by extension, to improve patient care.

The unique platform, which has been developed over several years in consultation with internationally recognised medical educators, addresses an unmet need created by the emergence of evidence-based medicine as the leading model of clinical care.

"We recognize and respect the importance of evidence-based medicine or EBM in clinical decision making," says Dr William Aird, MD, Executive Director of TBP, Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and attending physician at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. "However, EBM has been referred to as 'cookbook medicine' for a reason. It has the unintended effect of devaluing and deskilling physicians. We want to recalibrate the pendulum between blindly following recipes at the bedside and improvising in the kitchen when it matters." To that end, TBP promotes critical thinking and an appreciation of the humanities, with the goal of bridging the gap between the "wall of evidence" and individualized patient care.

TBP provides a wide menu of learning assets, including micro-courses, infographics, quizzes, case studies, and videos. The content includes fun, engaging, and inspirational perspectives such as history of medicine, comparative



physiology, and evolutionary medicine – just enough to whet the user's appetite and help build conceptual frameworks. There is also a section dedicated to humanities that includes essays, poetry, creative writing, and art interpretation.

Dr Aird is joined by more than 20 Advisory Board members, including Professor Jason Last, Dean of Students, all leaders in their fields, including haematology, medical education, history of medicine, comparative and evolutionary medicine, art and medicine, literature in medicine, health literacy, and medical training in under-represented minorities.

■ Taoiseach Officially Opens €6.7 million Expansion of NovaUCD

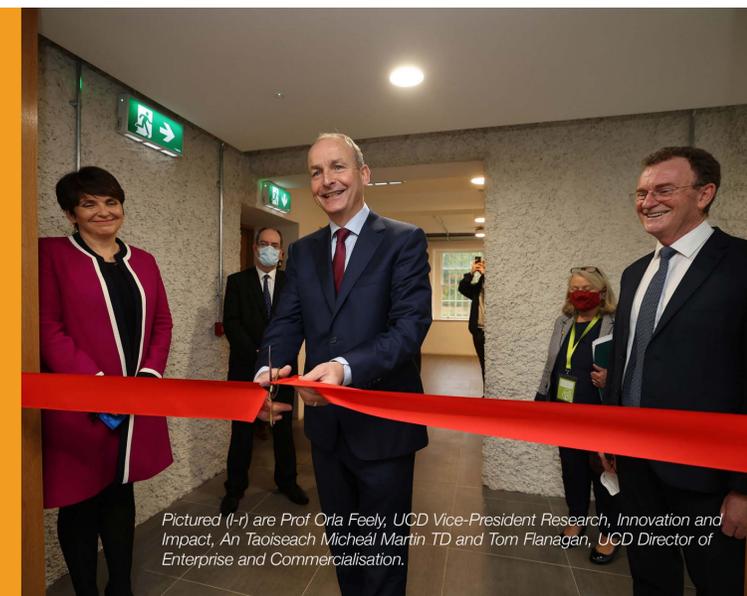
Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD officially opened a €6.7 million expansion of NovaUCD during a visit to the University

The project involved the renovation and expansion of NovaUCD's East Courtyard and has resulted in 800m² of additional licensable space enabling NovaUCD to increase its capacity to house high-tech start-ups with global ambitions by over 50%. The new facility includes 20+ business units and laboratories and a new co-working space and NovaUCD can now support over 450 founders and their teams.

Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD said, "Since opening in 2003 NovaUCD has become one of the leading hubs in Ireland's start-up ecosystem supporting ambitious entrepreneurs and innovative high-tech companies. With NovaUCD's strong track record, and now with its significant increase in capacity, I am sure it will continue to flourish in the future as it continues to assist entrepreneurs who want to locate at NovaUCD and leverage

its excellent facilities, accelerator programmes, expertise and network to help them to grow and scale their start-ups on the global stage."

During a tour of the expanded facility the Taoiseach received technology demonstrations from a number of start-ups already located in the new East Courtyard including, Equal1 Laboratories, Manna, Output Sports and PlasmaBound, all UCD spin-out companies.



Pictured (l-r) are Prof Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President Research, Innovation and Impact, An Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD and Tom Flanagan, UCD Director of Enterprise and Commercialisation.

PEARlabs wins at Enterprise Ireland's Big Ideas Showcase

PEARlabs, a UCD spin-out company supported by NovaUCD, was named winner of the 'Viewers' Choice Award' at Enterprise Ireland's 2021 Big Ideas event.

PEARlabs has developed a novel photonic chip which enables ultra-high spatial resolution at video rates in optical microscopy, far beyond the diffraction limit of visible light. The PEARlabs technology aims to transform the understanding of processes such as cell signalling and cell proliferation in cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

The patented technology has the potential to aid early diagnostics, precision medicine and the delivery of improved drug treatments. It also has the potential to be used as an add-on to conventional optical microscopes opening up access to 'nm resolution imaging' for many fields of science.

The company was founded by Professor Dominic Zerulla as a spin-out from UCD School of Physics. Jürgen Osing, who recently joined PEARlabs as a commercialisation expert, pitched PEARlabs at the Big Ideas event.

The aim of Big Ideas, which this year took place virtually and included 12 start-up pitches, is to empower the front runners in Irish research to take centre stage and pitch their technology solutions and business propositions, to an audience comprised of the Irish research and investment communities.



Pictured are Jürgen Osing, PEARlabs and Stephen Creaner, Executive Director, Food, Industrial, Life Sciences and Innovation, Enterprise Ireland.

CAOs and UCD Health Affairs welcome Announcement of National Irish COVID-19 Biobank

The Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) across the seven hospital groups and UCD Health Affairs welcome the announcement from the Minister for Health on the €2 million investment in National Irish COVID-19 Biobank (NICB).

Since June 2020, the seven CAOs from Ireland East Hospital Group, Children's Health Ireland, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group, RCSI Hospital Group, Saolta Hospital Group, South/Southwest Hospital Group and UL Hospital Group proposed the idea of a NICB and have actively engaged with other international biological biobanks, the Department of Health, the HSE, and the HRB from concept to application and on to the firm establishment of the Biobank.

NICB is an essential component of Ireland's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Established by the Health Research Board at the

request of the Department of Health, this valuable national asset will ensure that COVID-19 samples/data are collected in a coordinated and harmonised manner, and that a mechanism is established to ensure easy and fair access for researchers. This will create greater opportunity for research and innovation to increase our understanding of COVID-19, inform new treatment and management strategies, improve outcomes for patients, and better prepare us for future emergencies.

Biobanks are key to the ongoing fight against COVID-19 as they provide researchers with the material necessary to accelerate scientific discovery and collaboration. For example, without biobanked samples from patients with COVID-19, vaccines would never have been developed in record time nor would we be able to track vaccine response over time or their effectiveness against emerging variants.

The NICB team comprises a collaboration across six academic institutions and 13 hospitals, spanning adult, paediatric, maternity and community clinical services. It will be maintained by UCD and TCD on behalf of a national consortium of partners, and led by joint Principal Investigators Professor Colm Bergin, Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases, St James's Hospital and Professor Patrick Mallon, Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases at St Vincent's University Hospital and UCD School of Medicine.

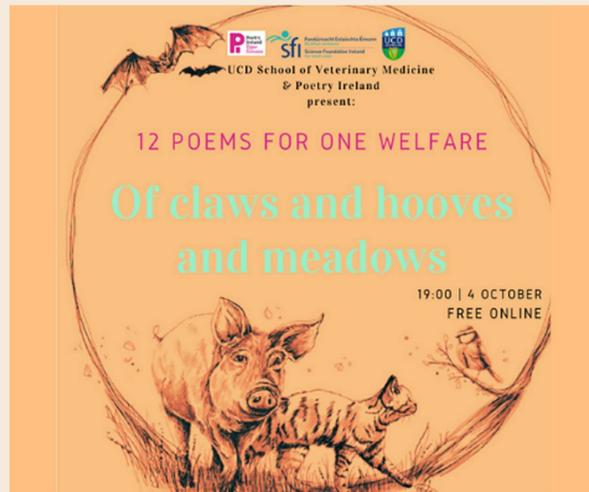
UCD in the Community Volunteering Awards

UCD in the Community were delighted to host their inaugural volunteering awards for UCD students on 10 November 2021. The awards serve to highlight the positive contribution student volunteers play within our University, as well as in the wider community. Student volunteers play a key role in the life of UCD, running our sports clubs, societies, class rep and peer mentorship programmes and much more. Our student volunteers also contribute significantly to the wider community, volunteering with community organisations like the Irish Cancer Society, the Order of Malta and Team Hope Ireland, and have contributed significantly to the fight against COVID-19 through their volunteering.

Joe Carthy highlighted the many personal benefits derived from volunteering, including how it contributes to student well-being, develops skills like teamwork, communication and time management, and supports the vital work of our community organisations and charities. He also encouraged the awardees to continue their volunteering when they leave UCD.

Guest speaker Patrick O'Neill, UCD alumnus and Chairperson of the charity Solèy Haiti, spoke to the students about how volunteering during his time in UCD dramatically changed the course of his career and personal life. A volunteering trip to Haiti with UCD Volunteers Overseas in 2006 started his life-long commitment to supporting the people of Haiti, where he has travelled 19 times over the past 15 years. Patrick highlighted how volunteering can provide you with a feeling of fulfilment, purpose and sense of belonging. He thanked UCD for providing him with the opportunity to volunteer during his time in university and encouraged the student volunteers to continue saying yes to the volunteer opportunities provided to them during their time in UCD.

On the night of the awards, the stories of three student volunteers were showcased through three short videos and UCD in the Community would like to thank Shauna Harris, Jennifer Tuffy and Sanghamitra Mukherjee for kindly sharing their volunteer journey. The awards ceremony is available to view on the UCD in the Community YouTube channel and current UCD students are encouraged to apply for the 2021/22 UCD in the Community Volunteering Awards, details can be found on the UCD in the Community website.



One Welfare Event on World Animal Day

With support from the Science Foundation Ireland Discover Programme, Professor Alison Hanlon, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine, and Poetry Ireland were delighted to present the online launch of 'Of Claws and Hooves and Meadows: 12 Poems for One Welfare' on World Animal Day, 4 October. One Welfare recognises the interconnection between the well-being of humans, animals and the environment. The event featured four newly commissioned poems each on a One Welfare theme: Caged, Kinship, Wildlife and Beloved. The poets were introduced by scientists from UCD and Queens University Belfast working in animal welfare, to create a bridge between poetry and science.

Poets Moya Cannon, Conor Cleary, Martin Dyar and Roxanna Nic Liam read their specially commissioned poems at the online event and were joined by scientists Professor Siobhan Mullan (UCD), Dr Gareth Arnott (Queen's University Belfast), Laura Griffin (PhD student, UCD) and Dr Grace Carroll (Queen's University Belfast) who provided broader reflections on animal welfare science. Together, the poets and scientists explored the ways in which the COVID-19 pandemic has shed new light on the relationship between human beings and the clawed and hooved creatures with whom we share the earth.

UCD launches Ireland's First Multidisciplinary MakerSpace Elective

As world leaders gathered in Glasgow in October for COP26, UCD Innovation Academy played its part in our move towards a sustainable future by launching Ireland's first multidisciplinary undergraduate MakerSpace elective. Designing the Future provides a supportive environment for students from any discipline to learn hands-on skills with a range of technologies that will be vital for a circular economy - keeping products and materials in use and moving away from our existing take-make-waste extractive industrial model.

"If we are to truly tackle the problems our planet faces, we need to reconnect with the world around us, understand the make-up and life cycle of objects, break down boundaries, and work together," said Professor Suzi Jarvis, founding director of UCD Innovation Academy. "Designing the Future offers a unique opportunity for students to get hands-on, to learn by doing and to discover skills essential to a more sustainable future".

The inaugural class of 10 began on 27 October, the same week the climate summit COP26 started in Glasgow. The class included students from medicine, politics and international relations, computer science, sociology, engineering, law and food science. UCD is Ireland's first university to offer an accredited undergraduate elective to students across all disciplines centred on MakerSpace skills and philosophy. UCD Innovation Academy's MakerSpace includes a range of 3D printers, plastics recycling and repurposing equipment, vacuum forming and mould making equipment, laser cutters and virtual reality headsets.

Designing the Future is run by William Davis, founder of one of the first commercial MakerSpaces in the US and founding member of 'The Nation of Makers', a US initiative spearheaded by President Obama in 2014 to bring manufacturing innovation back to America.

Designing the Future will run again in January and interested students can find out more by

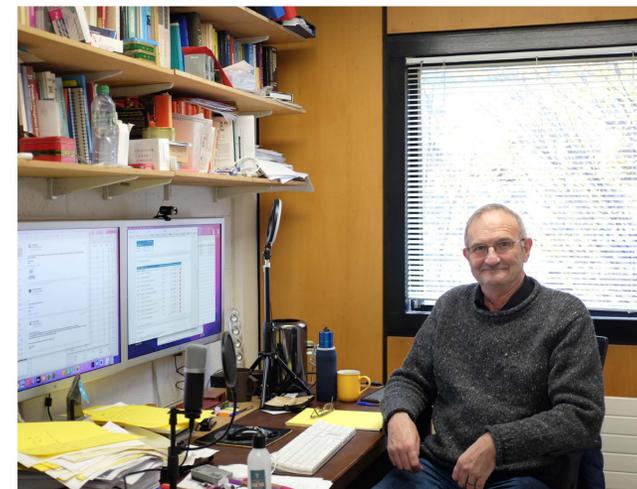


contacting Mary Saunders at UCD Innovation Academy.

The Innovation Academy's MakerSpace has been made possible through Convene, a Human Capital Initiative collaboration between UCD Innovation Academy and TU Dublin that seeks to transform university and enterprise engagement

UCD Academic awarded the 2021 Beijing Great Wall Friendship Award

Associate Professor Henry McLoughlin, UCD School of Computer Science was one of 15 international recipients of one of China's most prestigious awards, the Beijing Great Wall Friendship Award. The award is the highest honour given by the Beijing Municipal Government to foreign experts working in Beijing, and was awarded to Henry "in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Beijing-Dublin International College of Beijing University of Technology and Beijing's educational development".



Speaking about the honour, Henry said: "This is a significant honour to receive, and I am quite humbled by it. It recognises some of the small contributions I have been able to make to Beijing but also reflects so well on the BDIC and how it is viewed within the city. Hopefully we can build upon this when we return to Beijing in the Spring and further enhance our reputation."

Henry is the Programme Coordinator for

Software Engineering in BDIC. Henry was part of the initial team who were charged with the establishment of the college and has taught in Beijing since the creation of the programme. Each year, COVID-19 notwithstanding, a team of UCD faculty live in Beijing and teach a full semester. Teaching is delivered through English and the structure of the programme is modelled on western universities. The fruits of the programme can be seen in the number of BDIC graduates who go on to postgraduate training in China and abroad. A significant number of students continue on to PhD programmes in UCD.

He was in excellent company with the other recipients this year, which included a Nobel Laureate professor, the chief scientist at the Beijing Academy of Quantum Information Sciences, the CEOs of Mercedes's and BMW's China operations, and the Vice-President of the Bank of Beijing. As well as recognising Henry's personal contribution, the award is a reflection of the esteem with which BDIC is held, and the contribution it makes to social progress in Beijing.

Dr Micheál Collins
UCD School of Social Policy, Social
Work and Social Justice



THE HIDDEN COST OF POVERTY

NEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
HOW POVERTY CARRIES A HUGE
COST NOT JUST FOR THOSE
DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY IT IN
THEIR DAILY LIVES BUT FOR
SOCIETY AT LARGE



The statistics around poverty in Ireland are stark. Around 630,000 people across the state exist on a poverty income and poverty affects approximately one in seven adults and one in six children living here.

The human cost of poverty is well documented. Far less is known about its cost to the state. Now, however, new research by Dr Micheál Collins, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice has lifted the lid on the financial burden poverty puts on the public purse and the statistics make equally stark reading.

“The aim of the research was to establish, for the first time, an accurate benchmark for the costs associated with poverty which are rarely considered cumulatively,” Dr Collins says. “From the research we now know that the consequences of poverty cost the state somewhere between €3 billion and €7.2 billion every year. It is difficult to be absolutely precise which is why we have pitched the estimates between a conservative low of €3 billion and a high of over €7 billion with the main estimate coming in at around €4.5 billion. This is more than the annual budgets for the Departments of housing, justice, transport, and agriculture combined. Intriguingly, very little of the cost arises in the Department of Social Protection. The really big expenditure is in healthcare.”

The Hidden Cost of Poverty was commissioned by the Society of St Vincent de Paul and, using the standard definition of poverty as those living below a ‘poverty line’ set at 60% of median equivalised disposable income (the total income of a household, after tax and welfare payments, divided by the number of household members converted into equalised adults), it shows that over the last decade between 13% and 17% of the population here has been living on an income below that line.

The report looks at the public service costs involved in dealing with poverty under six main headings: healthcare, children and families, education and training, housing, justice and certain welfare supports.

Healthcare accounts for almost a third of the additional spending with the report

estimating the cost of dealing with the poor health outcomes associated with poverty at over €1.2 billion per annum. The additional costs for education are put at almost €550 million while over €900 million is spent on housing and a further €900 million on emergency services and the justice system, highlighting the association between social and economic disadvantage, exclusion, marginalisation, and crime.

“When the recurring costs of poverty are combined we estimate the annual cost to each household at around €2,600 or €913 per person. Put another way, €1 in every €20 collected from taxes, social insurance and charges ends up being allocated to pay for how poverty damages people’s lives. Poverty has an impact on everyone living in Ireland. This is why a coherent national strategy to address and successfully reduce poverty and its consequences would be of significant benefit to all,” Dr Collins says.

“Secondly, the results of the research point towards the potential for a new suite of public policies focused on addressing and reducing current experiences of poverty and their past consequences. For example, increasing welfare payments for certain cohorts, reducing educational disadvantage and running public health initiatives. Such actions have the potential to create a virtuous circle for society, where the lives of the least well off are improved while simultaneously freeing up government resources to focus on other public policy priorities.”

Dr Collins adds that for many years Ireland was an international leader in the adoption of national anti-poverty strategies targeted at addressing exactly the challenges highlighted in his report. “Regrettably, in recent years this focus has slipped,” he says. “Most of those who are in poverty record a depth of poverty in and around €56 per week and unsurprisingly, their overall financial well-being is weak.”

Meeting day-to-day commitments is a recurring challenge for those living in poverty

Poverty Stats

- About 30% of those living in poverty are aged 17 and under, adding up to around 200,000 children affected by poverty each year
- Roughly 55,000 pensioners live on an income below the poverty line
- Almost 70,000 of those living in poverty are long-term ill or disabled
- 100,000 people living in poverty are at work (the working poor), 70,000 are unemployed and 85,000 work in the home, predominantly in caring roles
- Two-thirds of those experiencing poverty live in urban areas

and around 85% live in households that have difficulty making ends meet. Three-quarters live in households that could not afford to pay for an unexpected expense without borrowing or looking for assistance from family, friends or a charity.

“The reality is that poverty will never completely disappear. There will always be legacy effects such as the one in six children whose damaged educational outcomes as a result of poverty will remain a problem into the future. But we need to get closer to developing a solution for those on low incomes in a broader and more holistic way,” Dr Collins says. “Our approach has tended to be siloed, with part of it being dealt with by the Department of Social Protection and part by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, whereas we

need an integration of welfare payments and an adequate living wage without which people cannot earn enough to get above the poverty line.”

Dr Collins points out that when the focus on alleviating poverty has been explicit – such as preventing older people from living in poverty – it has been successful and the numbers affected are relatively low. “We need to put the same sort of effort into helping working age adults and children,” he says. “Poverty has a big impact on children that endures for the rest of their lives and as a result represents a long term cost for the state.”

Dr Micheál Collins was in conversation with Olive Keogh MA, contributor to the Irish Times.



Sa phictiúr (clé go deas) Back: Rossa Ni Giolla Seanáin, Theresa Benny, Laoighse Ni Eochagáin, Mary Nic Dhonecha, James Knoblauch agus Justin Ó hAodhagáin. Front: Emily Ni Bhráonáin, Aimee Ni Bhráonáin, Seán Mac Amhlaibh, agus Ray Taylor.

Amuigh faoin Spéir

Bhí gliondar ar mhic léinn na hOllscoile a bheith thar n-ais ar champas an trimeastar seo agus thapaigh siad gach deis a bhí rompu. Is amuigh faoi aer a bhí go leor den spraoi le Gaeltacht UCD; aclaíocht ar ziplíne i Sléibhte Bhaile Átha Cliath agus rothaíocht i bPáirc an Fhionnuisce a bhí ar an sceideal do mhic léinn Theach na Gaeilge, mar aon le ceardlann teicneolaíochta faoin ngrian le Aniar TV. Bhí baill Trad Soc ar bís chun filleadh ar na seisiúin ceoil i Sráid Fhearchair, áit a bhuaileadar le ceoltóirí óga eile na cathrach agus d'eagraíodar seisiúin ceoil bhríomhara faoi aer i mBelfield le siamsaíocht a sholáthar don chuid eile dinn.

Bhí deis ag baill an Chumann Ghaelaigh buaileadh lena gcairde fud fad na tíre ag Comórtas Díospóireachta Oireachtas na Gaeilge, comórtas ina raibh iomaitheoirí ó Scoil Ghnó Uí Chuinn rannpháirteach, agus arís ag Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh Ghael Linn a reachtáladh sna Ceithre Cúirteanna, áit a raibh mic léinn ó Scoil Díl Sutherland in iomaíocht sa chraobh. Bhí cúrsaí sláinte mar thosaíocht ag gach éinne le linn an trimeastair dar ndóigh, ach go speisialta ag ár n-doctúirí agus altraí faoi oiliúint a d'eagraigh teacht le céile le Cumann na Lianna, cumann a thug tacaíocht agus spreagadh ag am cuí.



Congratulations to this year's awardees: top row (l-r): Peter Kilgannon, Molly Gray, Nithin Sathish Rao, Amy Slattery, Carl Winkler and Tara Middleton. Bottom row (l-r) Laura Nagle, Hung Nguyen Ngoc Anh, Ciara Burke, Adam Blaq, Bláithín Lane and Peter Brogan.

Intel Scholarship Awards Nov 2021

The 6th annual Intel Masters Scholarship Award Ceremony was held on 3 Nov 2021. UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks and Eamonn Sinnott, Vice-President Technology and Manufacturing Group and General Manager, Intel Ireland awarded 12 outstanding UCD scholars from across the fields of science and engineering with bursary awards. For the second year the awards ceremony was held online due to COVID-19 restrictions. The awards ceremony celebrated the talent and hard work on the part of the students. It also acknowledged the dedication of the Intel and UCD Talent Development teams who work tirelessly each year to promote, support and produce this event.

Professor Deeks remarked: "This event epitomises the spirit of the strategic partnership between Intel and UCD which continues to expand and strengthen. Here at UCD we are justifiably proud of the excellence of our students and alumni. It is worth noting that CAO entry requirements for engineering and science degrees in UCD are amongst the highest nationally, with students in these disciplines being some of the brightest and best in the country. Today's awards ceremony with Intel underpins our core objective to continue to build our engagement locally, nationally and internationally."



Pictured (l-r) at NovaUCD are BioSimulytics team members; Phuc Le Khac, Mohammad Reza Ghaani, Peter Doyle (CEO & co-founder), Mozhdeh Shiranirad, Alan Cueva Mora, Professor Niall English (co-founder) and Christian Burnham (co-founder).

BioSimulytics secures €595k in Seed Funding

BioSimulytics, a UCD spin-out, has secured €595k in initial seed funding from a number of strategic angel investors and Enterprise Ireland. The NovaUCD-headquartered company is focused on using artificial intelligence (AI) to digitise key steps in how new drug molecules are designed and developed.

BioSimulytics has developed a novel software solution, using a powerful combination of AI, machine learning, computational chemistry, quantum physics and high-performance

computing (HPC), to drive smarter, faster, and more cost-effective R&D processes in the design and development of new drugs. The company's software enables the pharma industry to advance potential molecules to approved medicines quicker and with a much greater probability of success.

BioSimulytics, which has already secured its first commercial contract with a major pharma company in Europe, and signed evaluation agreements with several others for industrial evaluation, will use the funding to support the growth of its product development team and client base and plans to complete a Series A funding round within the next 18-24 months.

BioSimulytics was founded in 2019 by Professor Niall English, Dr Christian Burnham, and Peter Doyle as a spin-out from the UCD School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering following the completion of Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Funding.



Dr Husvinee Sundaramurthi

UCD Conway Festival of Research and Innovation Gold Medal Award

Congratulations to Dr Husvinee Sundaramurthi, who won the 2021 UCD Conway Festival Gold Medal award for her early-stage research on treatment for the rare eye cancer Uveal Melanoma.

Dr Sundaramurthi is a postdoctoral researcher and part of a research team led by Professor Breandán Kennedy, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and UCD Conway Institute.

Husvinee won the 2021 UCD Conway Festival gold medal in October for her research showing how new anti-cancer compounds provide promising results in laboratory tests for treating metastatic uveal melanoma. Uveal melanoma is a rare form of adult eye cancer, with Ireland having one of the highest incidence rates per capita. Every year, approximately 50-60 people in Ireland are diagnosed with this cancer. Approximately 50% of patients diagnosed will develop metastatic disease, which has poor survival prognosis.

UCD Conferrings

For the first time since the pandemic began, the University was able to hold in-person indoor conferrings in their usual venue at UCD O'Reilly Hall during the first week of December. Over the course of five days and 13 ceremonies, almost 3,500 students were conferred with certificates, diplomas, undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and PhDs. Professor Andrew Deeks attended his final conferring ceremonies in the University, and he was assisted by College Principals and faculty from across all six Colleges.

Storm Barra took its toll and Tuesday's ceremonies had to be postponed until Monday 13 December. While this was hugely disappointing to the students involved, some of whom could not make the rescheduled date, the rescheduled events were very well attended.

Graduates and their guests were delighted to be in-person and attendance was very good despite the ongoing challenges. Among other COVID-19 counter-measures, the procedure of the ceremonies was altered to minimise mixing of students and guests. CO2 levels were monitored in O'Reilly Hall, guests were masked and all UCD faculty and staff at the event underwent rapid antigen tests each day.



Prof Andrew Deeks, UCD President and Prof Anthony Brabazon, Principal and Dean, UCD College of Business congratulate graduates at a conferring ceremony.

Housing Policy in Ireland



HOUSING FOR ALL (CONTINUED)



Michelle Norris is Professor of Social Policy and Director of UCD Geary Institute for Public Policy and her research focuses on teaching on housing policy and urban regeneration.

Professor Norris's ten-year term as Chairperson of the Housing Finance Agency – the main government agency that finances social housing will finish at the end of 2021. She believes that the cuts to funding for social housing made after the last recession led to waiting lists lengthening but this is just the latest manifestation of a much longer pattern.

Social Housing

“Funding for social housing has risen and fallen after every recession since the 1970s. Funding has been cut and then has risen again, it's not the simple issue that the Government stopped funding it. The bigger issue has been a 'boom-bust' cycle of funding and that's very problematic from the point of view of trying to run the sector,” says Professor Norris.

She believes that there have been a couple of problems when it comes to social housing provision historically in Ireland. Part of the route to solving these problems, she says, is that Ireland needs to have an 'honest conversation' about how we got there in the first place. “In my opinion we certainly need more social housing, because I can see no other way how low-to-middle income earners can access housing, but we also need to look at the funding model and how this has contributed to the system we are in.

“The reason we are short of social housing is because we haven't managed the sector as a public asset. A portion of the housing stock over the last century here in Ireland has been built by local authorities but we have chosen to sell it off at a relatively low price and therefore we have a shortage. That policy continues and is supported

by all political parties right across the political spectrum,” she notes.

Professor Norris points to the much-championed 'Vienna model' for affordable housing. In Vienna, around 45% of housing is classified as 'social or affordable', people can earn as much as €53,000 a year and qualify for city-owned and subsidised apartments. In this case there is very low privatisation of this housing, so for example the investment made in Vienna in social housing in the 1960s is still delivering social houses now. Whereas in the Irish model, one generation spends a lot of money on social housing and then that money seeps out of the system through sales which forces the next generation to reinvest in providing more social housing.

Housing For All

Professor Norris says that in terms of the Housing For All plan launched by the Department of Housing earlier this year, the funding package was “very welcome”.

“The funding of €20 billion is extremely welcome and will provide certainty for the next five years. A concern of mine is the investment seeping out of the system still through sales of social housing and other mechanisms. I think there is still a need for longer term thinking about how we can have a more sustainable funding model and I am hoping that the proposed Housing Commission which will be established in the new year will contribute to that.”

“One of the challenges is whether or not we are delivering the right types of social housing and the right locations. The level of output in Dublin and Cork city, and Galway city to a lesser extent, is well below the level of need. One of the biggest challenges is to deliver the housing where it is most needed.

“There is a very fractious public debate now on the role of investment funds in private rented accommodation. People raise perfectly legitimate concerns about investment funds' activities, the level of rent they charge and their potential to dominate the market, but it is unfortunate that the debate seems to have

focused mainly on the size of dwellings they are delivering. Our household size is way above the European average, but this is falling rapidly, and the biggest need is for units that will meet the needs of single person households and two person households and in terms of social housing that need is even more acute,” adds Professor Norris.

Social Housing Stock

As numbers living in emergency accommodation continue to rise, over 9,000 men, women and children were recorded as homeless in October. One of the areas which Professor Norris is keen to highlight is the number of single men who are on social housing waiting lists and their chances of exiting homelessness.

“About 30% of the housing lists are single people and mainly single men. Some of those will have children and they will need a dwelling that will allow for children to visit. A very large portion of the waiting lists are lone parents. The latest homeless figures show nearly 800 homeless families are in Dublin while 79 are in the west, 68 are in the south-west, 55 are in the mid-east and 36 are in the mid-west.

“Around 60% of the social housing stock is three-bedroom houses and bigger – of the remaining percentage the vast majority is reserved for sheltered accommodation for older people. If you are a single man who becomes homeless, and this is by far the biggest group in homelessness, your chances of getting social housing and getting out of homelessness diminish. Less than 1% of single men who are homeless, leave homelessness to go into social housing,” Professor Norris adds.

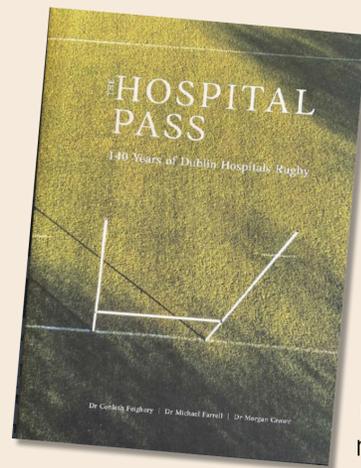
As she prepares to step down from her current role as Chairperson of the Housing Finance Agency, she hopes that more social housing will be found in the system to alleviate the current pressure.

Professor Michelle Norris was in conversation with Seán Dunne, TV Producer, The Tonight Show, Virgin Media and MA Politics and International Relations.



Hospital Pass

In a recently published book titled the Hospital Pass, the history of the Dublin Hospitals Cup, one of the oldest world rugby competitions, is celebrated. The competition has now taken place for some 140 years with the only interruptions caused by WW1 and the recent Covid pandemic. The contest remains a dynamic sporting and social event in the life of Dublin's hospitals. Five teams - the Mater, St Vincent's, Beaumont, Trinity hospitals (the Feds) and the Vets compete in a round-robin format with the two best sides playing in a final in Anglesea Road. The three authors, Con Feighery, Michael Farrell and Morgan Crowe, all played in the competition and later contributed to its organisation.



The university rugby clubs, University College Dublin RFC, Dublin University Football Club (Trinity) and The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland continue to be the source of the majority of players in the competition. The strength of university rugby is clearly evident and although international players no longer feature, the skill and competitiveness of hospital games remains at a high level.

With its long history of characters, anecdotes and controversies, as described in the Hospital Pass, a window on the evolution of Irish rugby and the changing face of Dublin medicine is provided. The book is beautifully illustrated with many photographs dating over the 140 years of the competition.

The book recalls the important contribution the medical profession has made to rugby in Ireland over the years. Dublin Hospitals rugby with its long history of characters, anecdotes and controversies, through the Hospital Pass offers a window on the evolution of Irish rugby and the changing face of Dublin medicine. [Buy the book here.](#)

UCD ESRI Energy Policy Research Conference

UCD Energy Institute hosted the annual UCD ESRI Energy Policy Research Conference on Wednesday 29 September. The theme of this year's workshop was 'Energy and Society in Climate Mitigation'.

Commenting from the event, Professor Andrew Keane, Director of UCD Energy Institute, said: "We are at a critical juncture in Ireland in terms of our energy production and supply. With the ongoing energy crisis across Europe and fuel prices rising, we need to take action now, before it is too late.

"There are a number of steps we can take to address this global issue – many of which we will explore at this event. One solution is to make our own renewable energy by harnessing Ireland's unlocked offshore wind potential. Combined with investment in grid infrastructure and more interconnection with Europe and Great Britain, this will help to decarbonise Ireland's electricity, while also contributing to the energy needs of other countries, bringing us huge economic benefit.

"However, in switching to renewables, we need to ensure nobody gets left behind. We know it is imperative for economic and environmental reasons to transform our energy system, but we need to factor in societal impacts also. For example, areas like the midlands of Ireland – that previously relied heavily on the peat



Panel discussion at the conference: Marie Donnelly, Climate Change Advisory Council; John Melvin, Commission for the Regulation of Utilities; Ellen Diskin, ESB Networks; and moderator Prof Lisa Ryan.

industry – need to be properly supported through the transition to renewable energy sources. Such communities need investment and the creation of new job opportunities to ensure they are not left behind."

Also commenting from the event, Professor Alan Barrett, CEO of the ESRI said: "We need to give careful consideration to carbon taxes. While they are an important measure to reduce our carbon emissions, we must ensure they do not adversely impact on vulnerable households and contribute to fuel poverty. Similarly, we need to provide appropriately targeted supports for household investments in energy efficiency if we are to reach our climate goals and a just transition."

UCD Silicon Quantum Computing Spin-out receives Multimillion Euro Investment

Equal1 Laboratories, a UCD silicon quantum computing spin-out company, has secured a multimillion Euro investment from btov Industrial Technologies, Atlantic Bridge and other investors including 808 Ventures and Enterprise Ireland. The funding, which will accelerate the introduction of the world's most compact and cost-effective quantum computers, brings the initial capital invested in Equal1 to date to over €10 million.

Equal1 is addressing a major challenge for the quantum computing industry, to scale the number of qubits so that a quantum computer can tackle useful, real-world problems.

The company recently announced that it was the first to demonstrate a fully integrated quantum processor unit (QPU) operating at 3.7 kelvin, a major milestone with implications for the trajectory of quantum computing. The QPU has been integrated into a quantum computer demonstrator (Alice) and has been operating continuously for 18 months at the company's sites in Ireland and the US.

The company's third generation QPU chip has been recently produced. This QPU includes the latest patented silicon qubit array as well as hybrid qubit test structures and high-speed input/output communication links used to bring high-speed data into the quantum core.

With its QPU, Equal1 has developed a disruptive, scalable and cost-effective quantum computing technology, based on a commercially available silicon semiconductor process. This technology will enable the company to meet the enormous demand for affordable, functional quantum computers and the company is targeting a first-generation production system within 24 months.

With research and development teams in NovaUCD and Silicon Valley, Equal1 was founded by Dr Dirk Leipold, Mike Asker and Professor R Bogdan Staszewski as a spin-out from the UCD School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

Equal1 has recently appointed a world-renowned scientific advisory board and appointed Declan O'Mahoney, a seasoned tech CEO with multiple exits, as Non-Executive Chairman of its Board of Directors.



Pictured are (l-r) Prof William Gallagher, Dr Dara Stanley and Prof Helen Roche with their SFI Awards.

Science Foundation Awards 2021

Professor William Gallagher, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science was named SFI Researcher of the Year; Dr Dara Stanley, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science was named SFI Early Career Researcher of the Year; Professor Helen Roche, Director of UCD Conway Institute for Biomolecular and Biomedical Research, was awarded the SFI Mentorship Award; and postdoctoral researcher Dr Aileen Doran, UCD School of Earth Sciences was awarded SFI Science Image of the Year at the recently announced prestigious 2021 Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Awards. The awards were announced by Professor Mark Ferguson, SFI Director General and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland, at the annual SFI Science Summit.

The Summit has taken place virtually for the second year running, allowing members of Ireland's research community to come together online to discuss challenges and celebrate the significant contributions made over the past year to science, technology, engineering and maths.

Acknowledging the award winners Professor Ferguson said: "The annual SFI Science Awards is an opportunity to recognise some of the very best outputs and achievements of our research community. I want to congratulate the award winners on their significant achievements, as well as their dedication and determination, in what has been another eventful and challenging year for our research community. I am confident that their success will be a source of inspiration to their peers and, more importantly, to the next generation of researchers in Ireland.

UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, Professor Orla Feely said: "We are immensely proud of all our winners in this year's SFI Awards. We recognise the prestige and significance of this awards scheme in marking our researchers' outstanding contributions to scientific progress and discovery and are delighted to have their exceptional achievements celebrated in this way.

"Professor Liam Gallagher is a highly deserving recipient of the SFI Researcher of the Year award, based on his many outstanding achievements in the field of cancer research that reflect a rounded academic career of the highest quality.

"Dr Dara's Stanley's SFI Early Career Researcher of the Year award recognises both the far-reaching impact of her work on pesticides and pollinators, and also her strong commitment to engaging members of the public.

"SFI Mentorship Award winner Professor Helen Roche is internationally renowned for her research in the field of nutrigenomics and also for her dedication to the development of research talent, including her supervision and mentorship of more than 30 PhD students and a similar number of postdoctoral scientists.

"Postdoctoral researcher Dr Aileen Doran's SFI Science Image of the Year wonderfully highlights the creative relationship between science and art that renders subjects such as mineral and isotopic geochemistry more accessible to broader audiences.

"These recipients together showcase the great research talent that we are fortunate enough to have at all career stages in UCD."

Irish Research Council Awards 2021



Academics and research staff at UCD have been recognised with several accolades from the Irish Research Council, as part of the state funder's 2021 Researcher of the Year Awards scheme.

Receiving one of the top awards, Professor Michelle Norris, Director, UCD Geary Institute for Public Policy received the Impact Award for her proven record of research impact 'beyond academia' in the field of social housing policy.

UCD Chair of Critical Care Medicine, Professor Alistair Nichol received a special commendation for his 'exceptional contribution' in the field of medical research, specifically in critical care clinical trials and especially in the global fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

Postdoctoral researcher Dr Sara Delmedico, UCD School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics was awarded the IRC Maurice J Bric Medal of Excellence, as the top-ranked Postdoctoral Fellow of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences under the Council's 2021 Government of Ireland funding programme.

Postdoctoral researcher Dr Marco Timpanella, UCD School of Mathematics and Statistics was awarded the IRC Thomas Mitchell Medal of Excellence, as the top-ranked Postdoctoral Fellow in the domain of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in the Government of Ireland scheme.

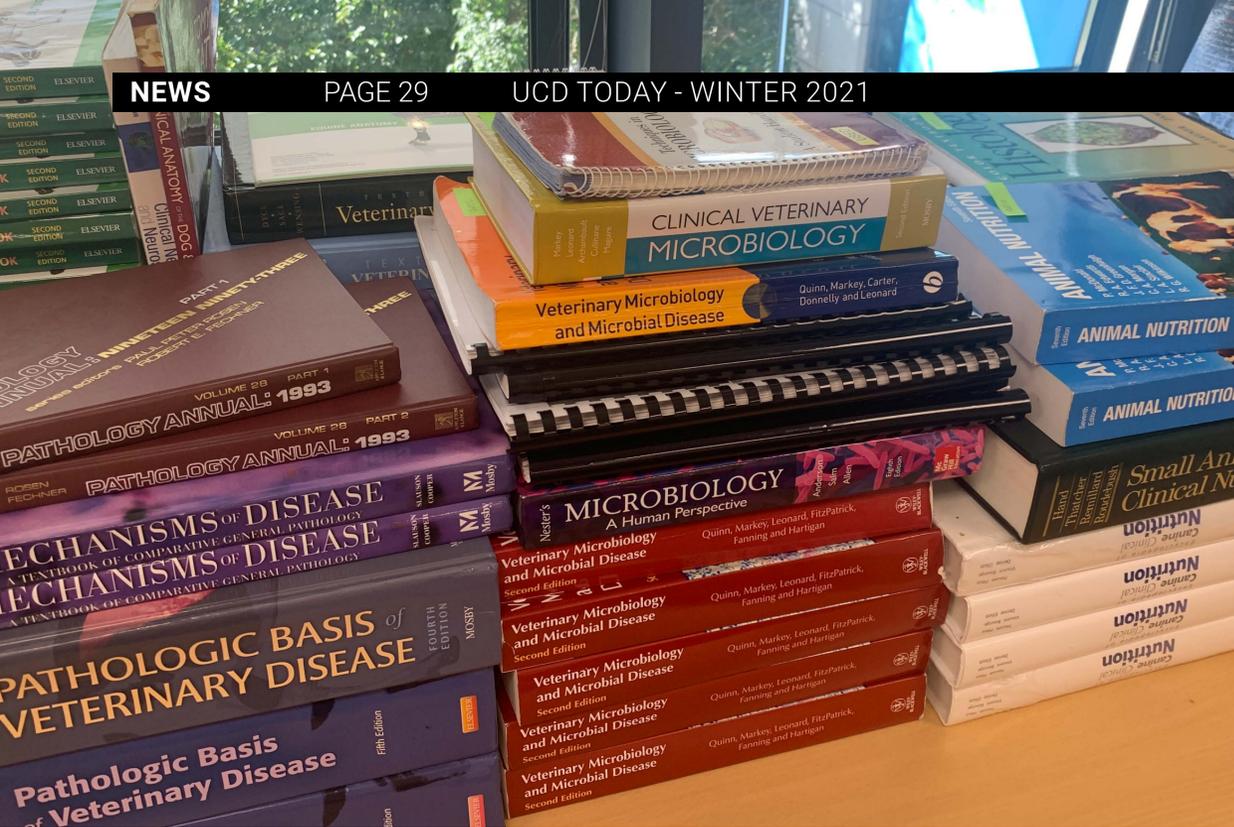
Fifteen UCD supervisors, mentors and research officers were awarded the IRC's new 'Research Ally' prize, out of a total of 72 such awards given, in recognition of the often unsung work of supervising academics and research support staff behind the scenes.

Commenting on the awards announcement, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, Professor Orla Feely said: "We wish many congratulations to our recipients in this year's Irish Research Council 'Researcher of the Year' awards, particularly Professor Michelle Norris on winning the IRC Impact Award for her far-reaching work in the field of housing finance and policy. Her work on social housing, welfare states

and counterbalancing housing market cycles has important implications for housing policy in Ireland and internationally. We join the Council in also recognising the work of Professor Alistair Nichol through special commendation, which acknowledgement is thoroughly deserved. His contribution to critical care medicine over the last two decades has been outstanding, especially during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 15 'Research Ally' prize recipients are:

- Associate Professor Elva Johnston (Supervisor), UCD School of History
- Professor Fengzhou Fang (Supervisor), UCD School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering
- Assistant Professor Gráinne O'Donoghue (Supervisor), UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science
- Assistant Professor Jennifer Keenahan (Supervisor), UCD School of Civil Engineering
- Professor Joe Carthy (Supervisor), UCD School of Computer Science
- Professor Judith Harford (Supervisor), UCD School of Education
- Professor Keith Murphy (Supervisor), UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science
- Assistant Professor Madhusanka Liyanage (Supervisor), UCD School of Computer Science
- Associate Professor Philip Cottrell (Supervisor), UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy
- Assistant Professor Ross D Neville (Supervisor), UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science
- Professor Aoife Gowen (Mentor), UCD School of Biosystems and Food Engineering
- Professor William Gallagher (Mentor), UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science
- Ms Hilary McDonald (Research Programme Manager), UCD School of Computer Science
- Ms Máire Coyle (Research Programmes Manager), UCD Research



Just some of the 170+ books donated by the Class of 2021 to our academic book raffle for charity

Academic Book Raffle for Charity

Student Adviser Dr Niamh Nestor, faculty, staff and students in the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine organised an academic book raffle in October to raise money for the ISPCA and for UNICEF's work in Afghanistan. This initiative has been running in the School for several years but was organised as an online fundraiser for the first time this year. As well as contributing funds to both charities, the raffle engages current students who make a small contribution in order to be in with a chance of winning an academic textbook. This year, they raffled more than 170 books, covering over 60 individual titles, spanning subjects from anatomy to histology and from biochemistry to small animal medicine - the books were donated by graduating students.

Over €1,300 was raised for the ISPCA and UNICEF in less than a week - this is the largest amount raised so far through the annual raffle. The project is a great example of sustainability in action and the School hopes to organise more initiatives like this in the future.



Congratulations to Emeritus Professor Gabriel Cooney, UCD School of Archaeology who has been awarded an Honorary OBE in recognition of his services to Heritage as Chair of the Historic Monuments Council for Northern Ireland. This is testament to Emeritus Professor Cooney's immense contribution to the archaeology and heritage of the island of Ireland.



Pictured are Prof Andrew Keane, Dr Paul Cuffe (both UCD Energy Institute) and Charlie Gleeson (Zipp Mobility).

UCD Energy Institute and Zipp Mobility Announce Research Partnership

UCD Energy Institute and Zipp Mobility, the Irish micromobility operator headquartered at NovaUCD, announced a collaborative research partnership to develop accessory technologies to make e-scooters safer in urban environments.

Working in the UCD Energy Institute's IELab, a team from UCD School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering will undertake practical prototyping work on a number of Zipp e-scooters, upgrading them with smart noisemaking and lighting features to ensure the e-scooters can be seen and heard more clearly.

Since its establishment in 2019, Zipp has raised €2.1 million from investors and become a significant player in the European scooter-sharing market with operations in the UK and Poland. Next year the company plans to launch in several Irish cities including Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford. Zipp also plans to begin operations in Portugal and Spain during 2022.

Dr Paul Cuffe, UCD Energy Institute said: "E-scooters are a fun and practical mode of sustainable transport, and I'm delighted to see how popular they're becoming in cities around the world. With this growing popularity, though, we need to ensure that they're safe for all users of city streets. Electric scooters can be rather quiet and

inconspicuous, and pedestrians may not always be aware that they are approaching. In this research collaboration we will work with Zipp to upgrade their e-scooters with smart noisemaking and lighting features, so they are visually and audibly more noticeable."

Charlie Gleeson, CEO and founder, Zipp Mobility said: "We are delighted to be partnering with the UCD Energy Institute on this research collaboration. Zipp's mission is 'mobility done right' and having world-class technology that prioritises safety is a cornerstone of our approach. When we launch our service in Ireland next year, we want it to be as safe as possible and this research follows on from feedback received from our existing customers in the UK and Poland. This partnership reaffirms our commitment to safety and our commitment to R&D activities in Ireland."

Professor Andrew Keane, Director, UCD Energy Institute said: "Choice around low carbon modes of transport will play a big role in reducing emissions from energy use. This collaboration with Zipp strongly aligns with the UCD Energy Institute's strategy to deliver research supporting a net zero energy system in 2050, with transport being an area of increasing focus."

This project is being supported with funding from Enterprise Ireland and Zipp Mobility.



■ Constitutional Futures after Brexit

UCD Institute for British-Irish Studies in collaboration with the Democracy Unit, Queen's University Belfast recently held a launch event presenting the findings from the Mini-Public Deliberation on Constitutional Futures after Brexit project. The event was hosted by Dr Dawn Walsh, UCD School of Politics and International Relations and director of UCD Institute for British-Irish Studies (IBIS). Dr Paul Gillespie, Queens University, the lead investigator on the Constitutional Futures after Brexit project, opened the session outlining the project scope which is concerned with how Irish and UK futures constitutionally and politically intersect in the context of Brexit.

The project team is committed to an outreach programme to publicise research findings and promote their associated

debates and events across three core project pillars of analysis, deliberation and public policy. During the event, the first two sessions featured the core project contributors and authors Professor John Garry, Queens University, Professor Brendan O'Leary, University of Pennsylvania and Dr Roland Gjoni, Newman fellow who presented the main findings from the deliberative project. The third session in the launch event comprised of a panel discussion including Professor David Farrell, UCD School of Politics and International Relations, Dr Jamie Pow, Queens University, Professor Jane Suiter, DCU and Professor Jennifer Todd, UCD Geary Institute for Public Policy fellow with discussion focusing on the potential for greater citizen engagement in all Island constitutional conversations.

■ Eight Start-Ups Selected for UCD's Inaugural Accelerator Programme

Eight start-ups have been selected to participate in UCD's new accelerator programme dedicated to early-stage AgTech and FoodTech start-up companies.

The inaugural AgTechUCD Accelerator Programme is an intensive 12-week virtual programme which includes dedicated business development workshops and investor readiness training, mentoring from AgTech and FoodTech experts and business advisors, guest speakers and facilitated introductions to AgTechUCD's venture capital and business angel networks.

The eight selected start-ups are: Cotter Agritech (Limerick), CropHound (Belfast), FodderBox (Cork), Freshgraze (Westmeath), Izario (Galway), Niskus BioTec (Donegal), ProEye (Dublin) and SmartBeeKeeper (Tunisia). Programme applications were also received from start-ups based in Chile, Croatia, England, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, The Netherlands and Ukraine.

Tom Flanagan, UCD Director of Enterprise and Commercialisation, said: "We are delighted with the calibre and global potential of the start-ups selected to participate in the inaugural programme, which received applications from across

Ireland, and indeed from all around the world. This highlights the demand for this accelerator programme in Ireland and the interest from international start-ups underscores Ireland's leading reputation in the AgTech and FoodTech sectors."

AgTechUCD, based at UCD Lyons Farm and part of NovaUCD, is focused on accelerating the launch and scaling of AgTech and FoodTech start-ups in Ireland and has been funded through the Regional Enterprise Development Fund administered by Enterprise Ireland. Its focus is supporting founding entrepreneurs as they build their innovative businesses into leading enterprises, through the AgTechUCD Accelerator Programme, and by providing access to incubation space and to on-farm testing for new products and services at UCD Lyons Farm.

Niamh Collins, Manager, AgTechUCD Innovation Centre said, "AgTechUCD has already established key relationships with strategic players in the agtech and foodtech sectors in Ireland, across Europe and in the US, which will now leverage to support the participating start-ups to launch their products or services into new territories. We now look forward to working with our first cohort on our inaugural programme."

Partners on the programme include; AIB, The Yield Lab Europe, Bimeda, Devenish, Carbery, Origin Enterprises, Ornuia and HerdWatch who are providing financial and mentoring support. Additional mentoring support will be provided by Greencore, Kubota, Dairymaster, Dawn Farms, the Virtual Vet, IFAC, Finistere, Macra Na Feirme, HBAN and Atlantic Bridge. Participating start-ups will have access to specific supports from AWS Activation, Catalyze, Deloitte and FR Kelly.

■ UCD College of Business Mentoring Programmes see growing success

The UCD Quinn School of Business Mentoring Programme launched the fourth year of the programme welcoming 156 student mentees joined by 156 alumni mentors. The programme is open to all undergraduate business programmes and is comprised of 129 mentors in Ireland and 27 mentors located overseas. Participating mentors are located in eight different countries including the UK, US, Russia, South Africa, Germany, Switzerland and Australia, as well as Ireland.

The UCD Smurfit School Global Leadership Programme (GLP) Mentoring for all MSc and MAcc students launched its second year, and this year has 109 student mentees and 109 alumni mentors participating. The programme boasts 66 alumni mentors based in Ireland and 43 alumni mentors located across 16 countries - Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, UK, US, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United States and Vietnam.

The programmes run from October to May and provide a great opportunity for alumni to connect with current students and to give back to the University.



Pictured are (l-r): Dr Romeu Foz, Assoc Prof Siofra Piersé and HE Miguel de Almeida e Sousa.

Visit of Portuguese Ambassador

The UCD School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics welcomed the Portuguese Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Miguel de Almeida e Sousa to UCD on 19 November 2021. UCD is privileged to enjoy generous support from the Embassy of Portugal and the Camoes Institute, who partly fund the position of Dr Romeu Foz, a Portuguese colleague who is currently coordinating Portuguese language modules in UCD, both in the School and in the Applied Language Centre. Dr Foz's Portuguese (Lusophone) modules in Portuguese language and culture are available as electives to any students interested in studying Lusophone culture within UCD.

The School enjoys a long-standing cultural relationship with Portugal as will be showcased next trimester during Portuguese cinema week and in the cultural exhibitions which will take place at the School (A-D block of the Newman building). Portugal boasts its own rich musical genre called Fado, which is now named as part of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage lists. Fado songs celebrate and incorporate emotion, passion and nostalgia, and the music is said to provide a window into the Portuguese soul. The School is looking forward to future continued and cultural and linguistic collaborations with the Portuguese Embassy in future years, reflecting not just UCD's position as Ireland's Global University, but also the key position of Portuguese as a truly global language which is spoken all over the world.

Chair of the European Food Safety Authority's Scientific Committee

Professor Simon More, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine has been re-elected Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) for a second three-year term. The SC is EFSA's overarching scientific panel, bringing together the Chairs of each of EFSA's ten Scientific Panels (focusing on different areas of the food and feed chain) plus six independent experts. An agency of the European Union, EFSA works to protect European consumers from farm to fork, providing independent scientific advice on current and emerging risks associated with the food chain.

Professor More is Associate Dean for Research, Innovation and Impact in the School, Professor of Veterinary



Professor Simon More

Epidemiology and Risk Analysis and is also Director of the UCD Centre for Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis (CVERA), Ireland's national resource centre for animal disease control. He works at the science-policy interface, providing scientific advice in support of national policymakers, both within government and industry, the latter primarily through Animal Health Ireland.



UCD College of Social Sciences and Law

GLOBAL UNIVERSITY: GLOBAL ETHICS

MONDAY 22 NOV 2021
10AM (GMT)

This webinar will address questions surrounding the ethics of university globalisation in its North-South dimensions.

Q: How is 'internationalisation' seen and experienced from the perspective of colleagues in the Global South?

Q: How can university partnerships, across research and teaching, be better designed to fulfil shared ambitions and respective needs?

Q: What are the implications of heavy student recruitment by institutions of the Global North on their international partners?

Q: What is our shared agenda if 'internationalisation' is to equitably serve the interests of our respective students, staff and wider societies?

PANELLISTS



Dr Elgidius B Ichumbaki
University of Dar es Salaam



Dr Gifty Oforiwa Gyamera
Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration



Dr Susanne Röss
Otto-Friedrich University of Bamberg



Prof Rui Yang
Hong Kong University



Prof Ravindranathan Thampi
University College Dublin

Research interests:

- Focus on monumental ruins and historic buildings and the way these can help us understand socio-cultural transformations that have taken place over the last millennium.
- Projects that aim to raise public awareness on heritage and how to use such assets as alternative ways to deliver outputs toward improved local livelihoods.

Research interests:

- Gender
- Internationalisation of Education
- Postcolonial studies and Curriculum Development
- Challenging marginalization of minorities, and discourses and practices perpetuating colonial ideologies and philosophies particularly in relation to higher education.

Research Interests:

- Intercultural and International Comparative Education
- Education in Post-Colonial Contexts
- Education for Sustainable Development
- University research (focus: internationalization)

Research Interests:

- Comparative and Cross-cultural Analysis of Educational Issues
- Globalization, Internationalization and Educational Reforms
- International Relations in Education
- Education in Chinese Societies
- Higher Education Reforms
- Social, Policy Studies in Education

Research Interests:

- Solar Energy Conversion
- Fuel Cells
- Artificial Photosynthesis
- Solar Fuels
- Heterogeneous Catalysis
- Petroleum Chemistry
- Hydrogen Economy
- Renewable and Sustainable Energy

Global Ethics: University Globalisation in its North-South Dimensions

The second UCD Global Ethics webinar organised by the College of Social Sciences and Law addressed the questions surrounding the ethics of university globalisation in its North-South dimensions. Vice-Principal for Global Engagement, Professor Ben Tonra, UCD School of Politics and International Relations chaired the session and was joined by panellists Dr Elgidius B Ichumbaki, University of Dar es Salaam; Dr Gifty Oforiwa Gyamera, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration; Dr Susanne Röss, Otto-Friedrich University of Bamberg; and Professor Rui Yang, Hong Kong University

The webinar had contributions from panellists who discussed and deliberated the following questions: How 'internationalisation' is seen and experienced from the perspective of colleagues in the Global South? How can university partnerships, across research and teaching, be better designed to fulfil shared ambitions and respective needs? What are the implications of heavy student recruitment by institutions of the Global North on their international partners? What is our shared agenda if 'internationalisation' is equitably to serve the interests of our respective students, staff and wider societies? The Global Ethics webinar series will continue in 2022.

U21 Teaching Excellence Award

Congratulations to Dr Tom Flanagan, Lecturer in Human Anatomy, UCD School of Medicine who won the U21 Health Sciences Teaching Award in Oct 2021. He is only the second lecturer in UCD to win this award and a first for the School of Medicine.

The Teaching Excellence Award was set up to celebrate and reward exceptional educational scholarship, particularly amongst research intensive universities, across the U21 HSG network. The award recognises leaders in this area and shares their areas of good practice across the network.

Dr Flanagan leads the Tissue Engineering Research Group at the School. His major research focus is the use of tissue engineering and materials science to develop living cardiovascular devices for treating children and adults with heart disease and defects. Tom teaches human anatomy to a diverse range of student groups, including medicine, biomedical science and biomedical engineering



students. His teaching focusses on the topics of neuroanatomy, cardiovascular anatomy, histology and embryology, and he is motivated by the challenge of explaining difficult concepts to students using creative strategies underpinned by imagination, invention and innovation. Always striving to enhance his teaching further, he completed the Professional Diploma in University Teaching and Learning at UCD in 2019, and he is currently completing the Professional Diploma in Creativity and Innovation for Education at UCD Innovation Academy.

Irish Academy of Management Fellowship

Professor Niamh Brennan, Michael MacCormac Professor of Management at UCD and Founder/Academic Director of the UCD Centre for Corporate Governance, was conferred with the Irish Academy of Management Fellowship in August.

The Irish Academy of Management (IAM) was formed in 1997 and is the leading professional association for management studies, research and education on the island of Ireland. Its purpose is to promote the advancement of research, knowledge and education in the field of organisation and management studies. The IAM Fellowship



Professor Niamh Brennan

is awarded to an individual who has made a marked and noteworthy contribution to the discipline and/or practice of management in Ireland and to the IAM.

Professor Brennan has published extensively on corporate governance and financial reporting and is an international expert in these disciplines.

The Fellowship is the highest honour the Irish Academy of Management can confer on one of its members.



The Lord Mayor, Vincent Keaveny

UCD Sutherland School of Law alumnus appointed as Lord Mayor of the City of London

On November 13, UCD Sutherland School of Law alumnus, Vincent Keaveny was appointed the 693rd Lord Mayor of the City of London, serving as the elected head of the City of London Corporation and a global ambassador for the UK-based financial and professional services industry.

Keaveny and his wife Amanda have taken up residence in the 18th century Palladian-style Mansion House, in the heart of the City of London. He is the first Irishman to take up the role, and the latest in a line of Lord Mayors stretching back to 1189, with previous post holders including Dick Whittington in the 14th century.

Keaveny, a previous UCD Alumni Awardee in Law has been based in London for most of his professional career and is a partner at DLA Piper

where he specialises in banking services. During his one-year term, Keaveny is set to lead business delegations to key international markets on behalf of the UK's financial and professional services industry. He will meet government representatives from around the world, as well as business leaders and policymakers both in the UK and abroad.

The appointment was marked by the spectacular Lord Mayor's Show, also held on Saturday 13 November. The show included Japanese drummers, the tallest fire engine in Europe and, the Lord Mayor's splendid State Coach, the oldest ceremonial vehicle in the world still in regular use. The parade was attended by a delegation from the UK Alumni Chapter proudly wearing their UCD colours to cheer the new Lord Mayor.

ART OF SURGERY display at Mater Hospital

Navin Hyder has been Artist-in-Residence at the Mater Hospital for the last two years, during which time she has captured through her digital drawings in real time, the intimate 'shared space' of the operating theatre and the skill, dedication and care shown by the staff towards their patients.

A selection of these drawings, which complement and contextualise Navin's work, are now in the form of large visual displays which have been hung along the main Mater Hospital entrance in the Whitty Wing, North Circular Road and so they can be viewed and enjoyed by both the public and the hospital community.

Many of the surgeons pictured have appointments at UCD School of Medicine and teach UCD Medicine students as they rotate through the Mater Hospital or are employed as surgical researchers on UCD related projects at the Mater.



These include Professor Ronan Cahill (Professor of Surgery, Mater Hospital and UCD) Mr Faraz Khan (Specialist Registrar, GI Surgery), Ms Ann Brannigan (Consultant in Colorectal Surgery), Ms Deidre Nally (Specialist Registrar, GI Surgery), Ms Shirley Potter (Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon), Mr Niall McNerney (Surgical SHO), Mr Jeffrey Dalli (General Surgeon, Surgical Research Fellow at UCD

Centre for Precision Surgery) and Mr Niall Hardy (PhD Candidate in Translational Medicine, UCD and Specialist Registrar General Surgery).

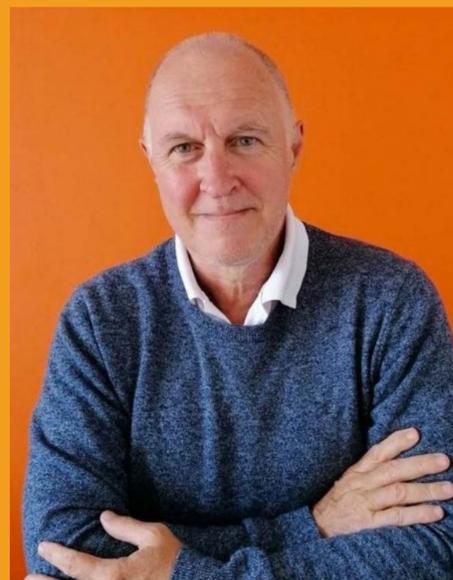
The Artist-in-Residence programme is a collaboration between Mater Transformation, Mater Hospital Department of Surgery, Mater Hospital Clinical Photography Department and UCD School of Medicine.

2021 Luke Howard Award

The International Association for Urban Climate (IAUC) awarded Associate Professor Gerald Mills, UCD School of Geography the 2021 Luke Howard Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of Urban Climatology. His research has had a substantial impact across many areas of urban climatology including the urban heat island, modelling the urban canopy, the surface energy balance at multiple scales, indoor and outdoor climates, the links between cities and global climate change and the importance of sustainable urban design.

He has been instrumental in the World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools (WUDAPT) initiative and is a co-author of the Urban Climates textbook, which has become one of the key texts not only for urban climatologists but also for multiple disciplines interested in the urban environment.

The Luke Howard Award is given annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of urban climatology in a combination of research, teaching, and/or service to the international community of urban climatologists. Gerald is recognised for his genuine passion for the subject and its



history, his generosity as a mentor and his exceptional dedication to the urban climate community.



Dr Ali Ekhtiari.

New research project investigates use of hydrogen in Irish homes

UCD Energy Institute has launched a new research project to investigate the potential use of hydrogen in Irish homes. Led by Liam Nolan, Gas Networks Ireland's Head of Technical Development and Technical Training, and Dr Ali Ekhtiari and Dr Eoin Syron from UCD Energy Institute; the team is testing the operation and performance of household appliances with varying levels of hydrogen and natural gas blends.

Using the testing facilities at both the Institute's Integrated Energy Lab and Gas Networks Ireland's new hydrogen innovation facility in west Dublin, which enables the safe testing of pipelines, meters and appliances off-network; the team is working to understand the full potential of hydrogen and ensure Ireland's gas pipelines are capable of safely transporting and storing this vital carbon free gas.

"The decarbonisation of Ireland's gas network is essential if we are to transition to a net-zero energy system in Ireland by 2050. This project will provide the data needed to understand how adding hydrogen to the gas network will impact the devices and appliances

we use in our homes today to ensure a smooth transition with minimal cost and disruption to consumers," Dr Syron said.

Hydrogen can be produced from renewable electricity and stored until needed, making it an attractive option to decarbonise energy systems and a strong example of how greater integration between gas and electricity systems can drive a cleaner energy future for Ireland.

Embraced in the UK and across Europe, Hydrogen is a critical component of the European Green Deal and recognised by the European Commission as offering "a solution to decarbonise industrial processes and economic sectors where reducing carbon emissions is both urgent and hard to achieve".

By gradually replacing natural gas with renewable, carbon neutral and ultimately zero carbon gases, such as biomethane and hydrogen, Ireland can benefit from a net-zero carbon gas network and reduce emissions across a number of key sectors, including those that are traditionally difficult to decarbonise, such as transport, agriculture, industry, heating and reliable power generation.

UCD Smurfit School Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Thirty years ago on 11 October 1991, UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School opened its doors for the first time to welcome students to Ireland's first campus solely dedicated to graduate business education.

The opening of the Blackrock campus was a key milestone in the long and illustrious history of the UCD College of Business which was already firmly established as Ireland's leading business school, educating students for over 110 years. "The opening of UCD Smurfit School was transformative not only for the University, but for the Irish and global business community," said Professor Anthony Brabazon, Dean of the UCD College of Business. "Our new home facilitated a significant expansion of postgraduate business programmes offered, including the introduction of our full-time MBA programme which also celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

"Since 1991, our graduates have progressed into impactful leadership positions globally. The growth of the School has also created an attractor for many talented international academics and researchers, creating a rich and vibrant centre of global thought-leadership in business, resulting in impact on business practice and policy formulation in Ireland and far beyond," continued Professor Brabazon.

"A key element of the School's success has been its development of a strong community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, industry partners and advisory boards. In addition to receiving an excellent education, our graduates become members of this network which now extends to over 120 countries globally. Our community and their stories and successes are tightly woven into the fabric of the business community in Ireland and overseas," concluded Professor Brabazon.

The day launches a year-long series of events and initiatives that will involve the entire UCD Business community - highlighting collaborations with students, faculty and staff, alumni, advisory board members, donors, University colleagues and our local Blackrock community. Throughout the year, the hashtag #UCDSmurfit30 will be used to capture celebrations, memories and more. We



Our photos shows MBA student Sakshi Jain, Prof Gerardine Doyle, Prof Anthony Brabazon and Prof Niamh Brennan.

invite you to tag your pictures and view others' images so we can extend the celebrations to our community around the globe.

This academic year will also see the launch of a new strategy which will outline key priorities for the College over the next five years, with an emphasis on the importance of networks and community, a global perspective on research, education and engagement and the impact of technology on the way we live, work and learn. Overall, we remain committed to providing a world-leading, transformative, student experience.

"Our story is one of evolutionary adaptation with

clear movement forward," said Professor Gerardine Doyle, Director of UCD Smurfit School and Associate Dean of the UCD College of Business.

"From domestic beginnings to expanding to a highly reputable international leader, we are outward looking and aware of the importance in supporting major societal challenges. We will therefore continue to evolve our offering to prepare our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in a future where bold and audacious challenges await," concluded Professor Doyle.

University for All Seminar Series

On 17 November 2021, UCD Access and Lifelong Learning held the third University for All seminar, titled 'From Consultation to Collaboration: The Student Role in Creating a University for All'. The Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris TD, was the guest speaker. The seminar discussed the power of the student voice in creating systemic change, and explored how students have disrupted and moved the sector's thinking beyond 'opening doors' to university, to participating, informing and shaping higher education. It not only highlighted the potency and potential of the student voice, but also challenged the rhetoric on student support.

Dr Bairbre Fleming, Deputy Director of UCD Access and Lifelong Learning, challenged the perspective of support as an operational function and described it as having the same value and importance as research and teaching. She spoke about the importance of professional staff and the need for their contribution to be valorised and rewarded. The Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Mark Rogers outlined how UCD is uniquely, in Irish higher education, pioneering

institutional transformation to create an inclusive culture and promote system change, where all students belong and are valued, and where the philosophy of 'a student is a student' underpins the development of universally designed mainstream systems, processes and approaches. Simon O'Connor, Director, Museum of Literature, Ireland described democratising culture and the need to design a space that is inclusive and attractive to all groups.



Pictured are Dr Anna Kelly, Simon Harris TD and Prof Mark Rogers.

UCD students, Tobias Gunning, Anu Bode Favours and Amy Hassett spoke eloquently about their experiences of empowerment, highlighting the cost of advocacy, and challenged the institution and the sector to provide a framework of resources and support to enable under-represented students to actively shape and inform policy and practice. The UCD SU President, Ruairí Power urged government and

universities to provide leadership and concrete solutions to the rising cost of living for students, which he said is the single greatest threat to achieving an equitable access pathway for students. Dr Anna Kelly, Director of UCD Access and Lifelong Learning, reflected on the continued need for changing perspectives in order to rise to the evolving challenges to creating equitable access and mainstreaming inclusion.

I go to encounter for the millionth time
the reality of experience and to forge

conscience of my race.

James Joyce BA 1902
A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man



Current Newman Fellows pictured (l-r): Dr Shane Comer, Sanofi Newman Fellow in Haematology; Dr David Doolin, Kevin Brabazon Newman Fellow in the History of Rugby in Leinster; Dr Meera Tandan, Centric Health Newman Fellow in General Practice; Dr Neil O'Moráin, Janssen Newman Fellow in IBD and COVID-19; Dr Jayne Doherty, INITiative Newman Fellow in Inflammatory Bowel Disease; Dr Róisín Stack, Pfizer Newman Fellow in Inflammatory Bowel Disease; and Dr Sarah Cullivan, Janssen Pharmaceuticals Newman Fellow in Pulmonary Hypertension and Translational Medicine.

The UCD Newman Fellowship Programme

Over the past 18 months and despite the pandemic, the UCD Newman Fellowship Programme has welcomed 15 Newman Fellows to UCD

The Newman Fellowship Programme is UCD's long-running prestigious postdoctoral programme for researchers in the humanities, sciences and medical fields. The programme provides a tax efficient charitable donation to UCD Foundation that is awarded to UCD to enable postdoctoral and medical degree students to deepen their research interests, to learn from the experts and develop a body of work leading to publication that contributes to the advancement of new knowledge. The programme is 100% financed via philanthropic donations and is also a key mechanism for building strategic partnerships between UCD and industry.

Órfhlaith Ford, Programme Director, UCD Newman Fellowships explains: "Emeritus President Dr Patrick (Paddy) Masterson developed the idea for

Newman Scholars, as it was then named, during his presidency in the late 80s and he sought charitable support from companies, foundations and private individuals to invest in the programme, reward new talent and develop new research. It is a real testament to him that the Newman Fellowship Programme continues to thrive to this day, well over 30 years later".

There are currently 22 Newman Fellows in post across a range of disciplines and subjects. The range of funded projects includes new studies from the advancement of long COVID to the psychosocial impacts on frontline healthcare workers during the ongoing pandemic. A snapshot of current Fellows and details on their projects are listed below. The full list can be viewed on the UCD Foundation website.

Dr Meera Tandan, Centric Health Newman Fellow in General Practice

Dr Meera Tandan holds a PhD in Medicine from NUIG and has a masters degree in Public Health from B.P Koirala Institute of Health Science in Nepal. Dr Tandan's Fellowship will examine the challenges required to deliver enhanced, team-based healthcare to the Irish population and analyse current general practice team-working and clinical care initiatives to evaluate their impact and seek to develop solutions for healthcare workers.

Dr David Doolin, Kevin Brabazon Newman Fellow in the History of Rugby in Leinster

Dr David Doolin has a primary degree from Manchester Met University, a masters from the University of Glasgow and a PhD from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. David's Fellowship will

comprehensively look at the history of rugby in Leinster incorporating the social and cultural context of Irish history, through which one can better understand both the place of rugby in people's lives and the factors that influenced rugby's development over time.

Dr Róisín Stack, Pfizer Newman Fellow in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Dr Róisín Stack holds a medical degree from NUIG (2011), with a special research interest in gastroenterology. Róisín's Fellowship will investigate the impact of dietary supplements on intestinal microbial diversity and quality of life in patients with inflammatory bowel diseases. There is no known cure for these diseases, but dietary supplements could potentially improve how leaky the gut is, stimulate a more normal variety to gut bacteria and improve patient well-being.

Dr Jonathan Evershed, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Newman Fellow in Constitutional Futures

Dr Jonathan Evershed holds a BA in Politics and Development Studies and an MSc in Violence, Conflict and Development, both from SOAS University of London, and a PhD from Queen's University Belfast. As a political anthropologist with a research interest in postcolonialism, political identity and constitutionalism in the UK and Ireland, Jonathan will use his Fellowship to examine and contribute to debates about post-Brexit constitutional futures for the UK and Ireland, as part of the IBIS Constitutional Futures project.

To find out more about how to support the [Newman Fellowship Programme](#), you can email Órfhlaith Ford: orfhlaith.ford@ucdfoundation.ie



The Flourishing

THROUGH VARIOUS STRANDS OF THE BELFIELD 50 PROJECT, THE UNIVERSITY IS TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE WHAT MAKES OUR CAMPUS SO SPECIAL, ITS FOUNDATIONS, ITS BUILDINGS, ITS MEMORIES AND ITS PEOPLE. OVER FIVE DECADES GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS HAVE SPENT THEIR FORMATIVE YEARS ON THE BELFIELD CAMPUS AND THEIR TIME AT UCD HAS HELPED MOULD THEIR LIFE JOURNEYS.

THE FLOURISHING (CONTINUED)



Paul Brady at UCD Newman House

Tapping into an important aspect of cultural life in Ireland and Belfield over the past 50 years, the Irish Folk Music Revival makes a special connection to musicians who came to UCD as students since 1970. Back in the 1970s, UCD hosted an annual arts festival that included exhibitions, recitals, readings, concerts and film screenings. The theme running through this festival was strongly Irish and many of the students involved have gone on to pursue careers in music and the arts.

While the Irish Literary Revival emerged in the late 19th century, it took until the 1950s for Irish music to explode onto the national and international stage; led by Sean Ó Riada and Mary O'Hara and hugely popularised from the 1970s on by The Chieftains, Planxty, Bill Whelan, Paul Brady, Enya and a slew of traditional and fusion musicians who developed and popularised the genre.

As Associate Professor P.J. Mathews, UCD School of English, Drama and Film points out: "This extraordinary and multifaceted revival of interest transformed the fortunes of Irish folk music. It produced both a wealth of gifted artists of national and international significance, and



Mary Black at UCD Memorial Hall

a grassroots movement of vigour that utterly transformed the music, at home and beyond.

"The University's involvement in the folk music revival is significant: the National Folklore Collection in Belfield was a major source of inspiration; many of the key figures are UCD alumni; and the Belfield campus hosted a number of iconic concerts and gigs—most notably the Planxty concerts in Theatre L."

To celebrate some of the stellar talents in Irish folk music, the University will award a Ulysses Medal (our highest honour) to Paul Brady and honorary doctorates to Mary Bergin, Mary Black,

Finbar Furey, Paddy Glackin, Andy Irvine, Triona Ní Dhomhnaill and Mary O'Hara.

Plans to appropriately celebrate the honours in person were delayed by the pandemic restrictions and in the intervening period, the University, with financial support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Tourism Ireland, commissioned Tyrone Productions to produce a documentary to tell the story. Titled *The Flourishing*, the documentary features a wealth of performance by our stellar honourees and their guests, all filmed at iconic UCD locations in Summer/Autumn 2021. Each one tells their story and performs some of the pieces which have ensured that folk music, its songs and its players retain its significance to the story of Irish music at home and abroad.

Directed by Ruán Magan and produced by Edel Fox for Tyrone Productions, The

Flourishing showcases the origins of and the impetus behind the revival and celebrates the outstanding musicians who defined the Irish folk music revival and brought Irish music to global audiences.

Filmed at Newman House, Theatre L, Memorial Hall, Ardmore House and the O'Brien Centre for Science, the traditional songs and music melded beautifully with the natural staging of our iconic locations. The team at Tyrone Productions have pulled together a fitting tribute to the music and the musicians, and the documentary will be a source of pride for the UCD Community.

The Flourishing will premiere on RTÉ1 on 30 December at 6.30pm.



Assoc Prof P.J. Mathews, UCD School of English, Drama and Film



WaterLANDS

An ambitious project has been launched to tackle largescale restoration of Europe's wetlands, with €23 million of funding from the EU Horizon 2020 Programme Green Deal. WaterLANDS (Water-based solutions for carbon storage, people and wilderness) will restore wetland sites across Europe which have been decimated by human activity and lay the foundations for scalable protection across much wider areas.

WaterLANDS will undertake hands-on restoration of specific wetland sites, covering an initial 10,500ha, and create best practice models that can be applied to wetland restoration at other sites. By engaging with local communities and stakeholders, the project will ensure that wetland restoration results not only in environmental gains, but also social and economic benefits for the communities involved.

The five-year project is led by UCD and brings together 31 other organisations from research, industry, government and non-profit sectors in 14 European countries. Commenting on the project's significance, WaterLANDS project coordinator Dr Craig Bullock, Research Fellow in Planning and Environmental Policy, UCD School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy said:

"Previous attempts at wetland restoration have often been too localised or too fragmented to make a significant difference to the re-establishment of wetland ecosystems and

species. In WaterLANDS, we aim to co-create a more effective means of restoration which captures ecological, social, governance and financial aspects, to connect habitats and communities across Europe, ensuring both thrive for many generations to come."

Comprised of diverse ecosystems including peatlands, fens, riparian marshes and coastal estuaries, wetlands are home to 40% of the world's species. They also store and capture carbon, remove environmental pollutants, and protect communities from flooding. Wetlands are particularly vulnerable to damage from human activities. Europe has already lost up to 90% of its original wetlands, resulting in massive biodiversity loss, water and food shortages, devastating floods and fires, coastal subsidence and erosion. The largescale, integrated approach developed in WaterLANDS will address these challenges to ensure the resilience and health of both wetland habitats and the communities who rely on them.

Mary Lavin Archive at UCD Library Special Collections

UCD Library Special Collections has recently acquired the correspondence archive of Mary Lavin, UCD Alumna (BA English and French, 1934; MA English 1936), one of Ireland's most revered 20th century writers. The acquisition of this very significant archive was made possible through a grant provided via the new UCD Foundation Arts and Humanities support fund.

Lavin's collections include, *Tales from Bective Bridge*, *The Long Ago*, *The Middle of the Fields*, *A Family Likeness* and *In a Café*. This archive consists of an extensive collection of correspondence, both personal and professional. The professional letters include correspondence between Lavin and many of the leading writers of her day, among them Eudora Welty, John McGahern, Pádraig Colum and Michael McLaverty. There is also correspondence with her mentor Lord Dunsany, as well as friends like Benedict Kiely and Tom Kilroy. Lavin had a long association with *The New Yorker* and the archive includes her correspondence with her editor there as well as her extensive correspondence with publishers such as Houghton Mifflin, Constable and Longmans.

The personal correspondence includes letters from both of Lavin's husbands. Mary Lavin's first husband William Walsh, whom she met in UCD and married in 1942, died suddenly in 1954 leaving Mary a widow with three small children. In 1969 Mary Lavin married Michael Scott, a former Jesuit priest whom she had known since her time as an undergraduate in UCD. As much of Lavin's writings were autobiographical, her personal correspondence is invaluable for researchers and forms a vital complement to our existing holdings.

UCD Special Collections also holds the literary archives of other notable Irish writers such as Patrick Kavanagh, Edna O'Brien, Frank McGuinness and Maeve Binchy. These archives have been integrated into the undergraduate curriculum over recent years. In their core module Primary Source Research, second year BA Humanities students are introduced to archives, including Lavin's, and are tasked with creating a presentation based on these



Evelyn Flanagan, Head of UCD Special Collections is pictured with a portion of the Archive.

sources. Exposure to such material at undergraduate level enhances the learning experience. Moreover, these archives are the raw materials for research in the humanities and draw scholars from around the world to UCD.

It was the wish of Mary Lavin's family that this archive be acquired by UCD. Mary Lavin's three daughters Valdi, Caroline and Elizabeth attended UCD as did six of her eight grandchildren including the author Kathleen MacMahon. Her son-in-law Professor James Ryan lectured until recently in the UCD School of English, Drama and Film. Many of Lavin's most important friendships developed through UCD, notably her friendships with Maurice Harmon and Gus Martin. Mary Lavin bequeathed to UCD her literary manuscripts in her will. This recent acquisition complements and consolidates the Mary Lavin archive in UCD Library Special Collections.

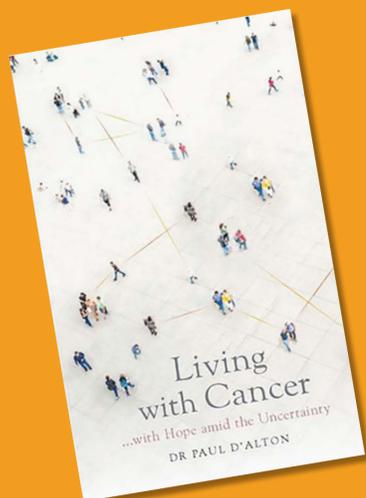
Books

■ Living with Cancer With Hope amid the Uncertainty

**Edited by Dr Paul D'Alton, UCD
School of Psychology**

University College Dublin Press
2021

ISBN: 9781910820865



The stated aim of this publication seeks to address the information overload received at the time of a cancer diagnosis and beyond. Edited by Dr Paul D'Alton, this volume of wide-ranging chapters goes beyond its aim to expertly uncover and address the often hidden and less visible dimensions of the challenges of living with and beyond cancer.

The shock of receiving a diagnosis can and does trigger a range of emotions for the patient and their loved ones. Jettisoned into an emotional space that often neither is prepared or equipped for, this volume provides tools and strategies to adjust to and cope with a wide range of challenges, both physical and psychological.

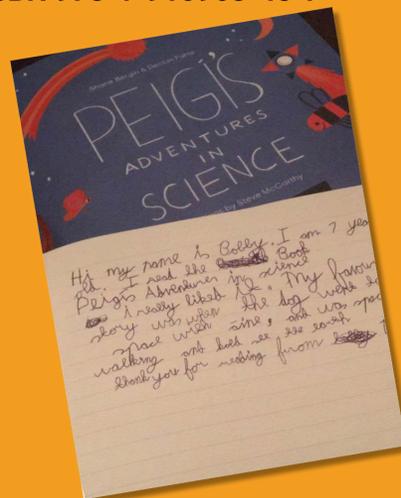
Framed by the physical and emotional impact of a cancer diagnosis and treatment, the authors present easy to read chapters that are clearly titled allowing the reader to choose what is important for them at any given time during their cancer journey and beyond.

Naming and accepting as normal, the various emotions, dispositions, reactions, and thoughts encountered during this journey is a key strength of this volume. Topics addressed include acceptance; what and how to tell children; how cancer cells behave; the health professionals encountered; an A to Z of cancer types and treatments; the role of the clinical trial in cancer research; the impact of thoughts on our emotions; how to prepare for and deal with hospital appointments, living with a changed body and cancer-related fatigue. Listed websites at the end of each chapter provide a welcome and trustworthy resource for all. Skilfully written by a range of authors including patients, psychologists, psychiatrists, oncologists, nurses and cancer researchers, this volume highlights the hidden and often un-named needs and burdens borne by cancer patients and their families, and points to acknowledging the importance of embedding into and providing for a holistic approach for any cancer treatment plan and beyond.

(Reviewer Dr Dorothy Conaghan is an Affiliate Research Fellow at UCD School of Education and is a cancer survivor.).

■ Peigi's Adventures in Science: Dr Shane Bergin and Dr Declan Fahie, UCD School of Education

ISBN 978-1-910963-48-7



Dr Shane Bergin and Dr Declan Fahie, UCD School of Education created curious spaniel Peigi and friends to teach kids about equality, inclusiveness and science.

Peigi's Adventures in Science is specially written for young schoolchildren and follows Peigi and Co as they travel to space, learn to recycle, race a train, and grow a sunflower. Written as four stories, the book provides a creative and age-appropriate way for teachers and parents to introduce young children to science and to the many people who do it.

The first story, Blast Off, Peigi!, gently explores issues of gender (in)equality and (dis)ability in tandem with space and materials. Clean Up, Peigi! introduces the concept of race and caring for our local environment. The third story, Catch Up, Peigi! blends the

concepts of time, speed and forces with (dis)ability. The final story, Grow Up, Peigi! explores plants and animals alongside age.

Dr Bergin said: "We wrote Peigi's Adventures in Science as a way to introduce children to science, inclusion and equality through story. With so many of the science books written for young children focusing on facts and figures, we wished to celebrate the diversity of people who do science and how science is for the benefit of all. We hope our book will lead to lots of rich conversations between children and their teachers and parents."

Dr Fahie said: "Teachers understand the power of story, particularly for young children. Peigi's Adventures in Science, with its colourful illustrations and loveable main character, Peigi, will be a welcome addition for school libraries across the country and is an easy, age-appropriate way of introducing issues of fairness and social justice through science."

A free copy of Peigi's Adventures in Science has been sent to every primary school in Ireland, thanks to funding from Science Foundation Ireland. Copies of the book in English, Irish and Braille, as well as other teaching and learning resources, can be found at peigisadventures.com.

Illustrations are by Steve McCarthy. Book design by Post Studio.

Who better to review the book than two of our younger readers, Amalia and Bobby, here's what they had to say!

"I liked this book so much! The best part was the story 'Clean up Peigi' because I like cleaning up! We have a project in School called 'Picker Pals' and we go to parks and beaches to clean up. Next thing I really liked was 'Grow up, Peigi' because there is a giant flower!!! My favourite character was Granny Ruby because she knows how to grow flowers. I really liked the pictures and colours! I'd love to go to clean up with Peigi!"

Amalia Ciuti, Cabinteely, Dublin, 6 years old.

Amalia's dad, Assistant Professor Simone Ciuti, UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science told us: "I asked Amalia whether she got the message about disabilities, gender and ethnicity differences, and so on. She did not even notice that! For her, everything was usual. So, if the mission of the book was to tell the stories while delivering underlying messages about diversity and inclusion, well, mission accomplished. From an early age, kids would not pick diversity as something anormal, leading to a better inclusive world."

"My name is Bobby and I am 7 years old. I read the book Peigi's Adventures in Science and I really liked it. My favourite part was when the dog went to space with Áine and was space walking and could see the earth. Thank you for reading this."

Bobby Connolly, Donnybrook, Dublin, Aged 7

Bobby's mum, Mary-Beth Jennings, Senior Operations Manager, UCD Conference and Events told us: "Bobby couldn't put the book down. He read it in minutes and has re-read it several times since, picking up on different aspects every time. The book is so multi-layered, it's wonderful for children to learn in this way. Now Bobby wants to take our pooch on similar adventures!"

UCD Soccer

UCD Soccer overcome a tough promotion/relegation campaign to claim a spot in next year's Airtricity League Premier Division.

The first round of the campaign saw UCD shock Limerick's Treaty United in a two-leg playoff. Despite losing the second leg 1-2 at home, UCD put on a show at Marketsfield winning 3-0 away.

UCD then faced Bray Wanderers in Dalymount Park and, as so often the case this season, U21 International Colm Whelan proved the match winner for UCD with a stunning free-kick goal and a sublime assist, UCD won 2-0 on the night and earned a promotion/relegation play-off against Waterford.

Dara Keane and Colm Whelan, who ironically began their careers with Waterford, did the damage on the night, scoring UCD's goals to give Andy Myler his first major win as manager. Andy, who is Head of Customer and Management Services for UCD Estate Services, commented on how proud he was on his team on the night and what a fantastic group of "hungry, grounded, humble young men" he had and it was a wonderful night for the players, their families and the club!

"It's been a long year but everything we did this year was worth it," said UCD AFC captain Jack Keaney after the match. "We just wanted to show what we were made of and thankfully we did. Once we got that first goal, we settled. The boys up front did us wonders and then we defended magically at the end."

UCD: Lorcan Healy; Michael Gallagher; Harvey O'Brien; Sam Todd; Evan Osam; Jack Keaney; Liam Kerrigan; Dara Keane; Sean Brennan; Paul Doyle (Mark Dignam 90'); and Colm Whelan.

Subs: Carl Williams; Luke Boore; Mark Dignam; Danu Kinsella Bishop; Ciarán Behan; Adam Lennon; Eoin Farrell; Adam Verdon; and Evan Caffrey.

Waterford: Brian Murphy; Darragh Power (Niall O'Keefe HT); Kyle Ferguson (Shane Griffin 63'); Eddie Nolan; Jack Stafford (Ronaldo Green 86'); Anthony Wordsworth; Cameron Evans; John Martin; Junior Quitirna; Phoenix Patterson; and Greg Halford.

Subs: Matthew Connor; George Forrest; Shane Griffin; Niall O'Keefe; Jeremie Milambo; Ronaldo Green; Isaac Tshipamba; Callum Stringer; and Jamal Dupree.



Beauden Barrett, New Zealand fly-half at All Blacks Squad Training in UCD Bowl

UCD's State-of-the-Art Sports Facilities play host to International Rugby Stars

Throughout November, UCD Sports Facilities provided a home away from home as a training venue to all three visiting teams for the 2021 Autumn Rugby International Series. Ireland's match fixtures against Japan, New Zealand and

Argentina took place at the Aviva Stadium over a three-week period in November. In preparation, the Brave Blossoms, All Blacks and Pumas utilised UCD's vast suite of sports facilities on offer. The planning, agile event management and

collaboration of staff in UCD Student Services, UCD Estates and UCD Sport & Fitness must be praised for making our visitors feel welcomed and safe.



UCD's Newest Artificial Pitch Arrives

UCD Student Services launched UCD's newest Artificial (3G) pitch surface this September in advance of welcoming students back on campus.

The original 17 year-old pitch surface, which had played host to numerous student sports clubs and community events in UCD throughout its lifespan, was replaced through a co-funding partnership with the Leinster GAA Council.

The new artificial pitch surface at Devlin Park incorporates a high-specification shock pad, sand infill, rubber infill and layer of synthetic turf. The state-of-the-art pitch will allow for a significant increase in participation to assist in the University's efforts of growing

student and community engagement. On hand to launch the redevelopment was Director of Student Services, Dominic O'Keeffe; Leinster Council GAA Secretary, Michael Reynolds; and UCD Student GAA Athletes, Leah Butler (Dublin Camogie), Saoirse Lally (Mayo Ladies Football), Dara Purcell (Dublin Hurling) and Cormac Egan (Offaly Football).

Outdoor pitches in UCD host over 12,000 hours of usage every year and this most recent redevelopment will enable students, staff and the wider community to continue

their activities all year round. The importance of continuously upkeeping playing pitches is vital due to the growth of student usage and demand on our facilities year on year. The UCD GAA Club is a prime example having had significant membership growth over the past 4-5 years, now fielding 19 teams while the UCD Soccer Club's SuperLeague initiative hosts over 110 teams annually, providing students with an opportunity to meet in a socially convivial environment all year round.

UCD Athletics

UCD Claim the IUAAs double for the first time in 31 years

At the Irish Universities Road Relay Championships 2021 hosted on Maynooth University campus, UCD claimed the double Road Relay title for the first time in 31 years!

The men's team made up of Mark Milner, Conor Maguire, Darragh McElhinney, Cian McPhillips and Peter Kilgannon took the win 23 seconds ahead of second place DCU.

The women's team comprised of Kate Nurse, Danielle Donegan, Sarah Healy, Roisin O'Reilly finished a staggering 1 minute 54 seconds ahead of UCC.

As well as incredible team performances, there were some individual highlights on the days including:

- a sub-5 minute mile for Milner, Kilgannon and Aaron Getty
- sub-6 minute mile for O'Reilly, Nurse and Beth Fitzpatrick
- Conor Maguire had the fastest 2 mile of the day
- Olympian Sarah Healy had the fastest time in the women's 2 mile followed by teammate Donegan with the 2nd fastest time
- McElhinney with the fastest 3 mile leg.

At the National Cross Country Championships Olympian Sarah Healy and Sports Scholar Danielle Donegan finished 1st and 3rd respectively in the women's U23 race (finishing 2nd and 18th in the Seniors). Also in the Senior race, Fiona McKenna ran a strong race for UCD finishing 24th.

Darragh McElhinney won the U23 Men's race. McElhinney finished 2nd in the Senior race, ahead of former UCD AC captain Paul O'Donnell who finished 3rd.

From this meet, several of the UCD athletes were selected to represent Ireland at the European Cross-Country Championships being hosted in Finglas in December. These were Sarah Healy and Danielle Donegan in the U23 Women's, Aoife McGreevy in the Women's U20, Darragh McElhinney in the Men's U23, Cian McPhillips Men's U20. Luke McCann joins UCD Alum Ciara Mageean in the mixed relay and alum Paul O'Donnell will also be in action for the Senior Men.

U21 / PWC Innovation Challenge competition

Students Eunice OreOluwa Fasan and Aoife Sheehy were selected to represent UCD in this year's Universitas 21 / PWC Innovation Challenge competition. Congratulations to Eunice on being one of the three overall winners, who will receive career development coaching sessions with the PwC Academy.

This year's challenge invited graduate students from across the U21 network to submit a 3-minute video to suggest initiatives that can be undertaken by governments and/or businesses and/or education providers to help improve and maintain shared and sustainable prosperity. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the global economy and further exposed the inadequacies of current economic structures and highlights a growing mismatch in skills. Using the 'Upskilling for Shared Prosperity' report by the World Economic Forum and PwC as a starting point, students were asked to address how to narrow the widening skills gap.

Sally Jeffrey, Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers Middle East and Co-Founder of the Innovation Challenge competition, said: "This year's applicants to the innovation challenge question deserve special merit; to participate in such a tough ask after such a tough year demonstrates genuine resilience that I am sure will be a tremendous advantage to them as they pursue their careers. Thank you to them and the faculty who encouraged them to apply. We look forward to working with the successful applicants in the weeks ahead."

Eunice OreOluwa Fasan, a graduate from the Masters in Business Analytics (full-time) told UCD Today: "The U21/PwC Innovation Challenge provided me with a wonderful opportunity to not only step out of my comfort zone, but also to truly consider what promoting shared and sustainable prosperity for all could look like, both now and in the future. I was



inspired by many of the real-world examples that I came across regarding upskilling as well transparency within the workplace. It was also great to watch the other participants' videos and hear their unique perspectives and actionable solutions on the subject matter. I am immensely grateful to UCD, U21 and PwC for this entire experience and for giving my voice a platform.

"I really believe in the power of storytelling, so it was something I was keen on incorporating. My video begins with what is somewhat of a modern day take on the Bible's parable of the talents. I thought this story served well to paint a picture of the attitudes towards upskilling at times, while also posing the question of "What could have been done differently?"

"A huge thank you to Dr Niamh Shaw who mentored me throughout this process, and gave me the tools to refine my speech while still keeping it very much a product of my own views and experiences."

Aoife Sheehy, who is completing a Graduate Certificate in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (part-time) told us: "I initially entered my video submission as I saw it as a great opportunity for pitch practice but I ended up getting a lot more out of it. The guidance and support from UCD throughout the process including access to our pitch coach and videographer, experiences I will take with me in presenting to other audiences. I would encourage all students to submit applications to U21 going forward as you never know what you could achieve from it. Thanks to everyone in UCD Careers Network for their support."

More information on the competition can be found here and you can view Eunice's and Aoife's videos here.



U21 Three Minute Thesis® Competition 2021

Congratulations to Morgan Morris, a final year PhD student studying chemistry, working as part of the BiOrbic research centre who is the winner of the highly competitive Universitas 21 3 Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition for his presentation 'Lactose: A Cash Cow for Targeting Tumours', which focuses on how lactose can be used to target cancer drugs to specific cells in the body and reduce side effects from systemic drugs.

The 3MT® competition, developed by the University of Queensland, requires students to explain their research to a non-specialist audience in 3 minutes, which enhances their academic, presentation and communication skills. The competition offers the 3MT® winners from each of the 27 member universities to compete at a global scale and be crowned the network 3MT® champion.

On receiving his award, Morgan commented; "I am so thrilled to have won this year's Universitas 21 3MT® competition among so many outstanding finalists. 3MT® really challenged me to understand my research in a wider context and I hope that my presentation has managed to highlight just some of the incredible work being done in the Irish bioeconomy, as well as globally. Thank you again to U21 for arranging this incredible event and to all the team in University College Dublin and my research centre BiOrbic who have supported me throughout this process. I look forward to continuing our research and developing the next generation of targeted anti-cancer drugs for patients."

[View the 3MT videos here.](#)



Pictured are students Rory Morrin and Hugh O'Gara with Assoc Prof Maeve Houlihan.

UConn International Business Case Challenge Competition

Two UCD Quinn School students were invited by the University of Connecticut to take part in the virtual 2021 University of Connecticut International Business Case Challenge Competition.

Rory Morrin (BComm1) and Hugh O'Gara (BComm3) collaborated with participants from ten other business schools globally, across six time zones, to work as teams on live case projects based in Indonesia and Japan.

Rory was part of team KJR Global Solutions which also welcomed students from UConn, the University of Queensland and Belmont University in Nashville. The project addressed the regeneration opportunities of a Japanese Island with an aging population, for Forum Tauri.

Hugh collaborated with team WJH Consulting which was comprised of students from UConn

and Williams College, Massachusetts. The team took first place in a competition with their focus on sustainable recovery for Rinjani Mountain Coffee in the Philippines. Hugh also participates in UCD's Student Managed Fund and hopes to work in the sustainability space in the future.

The University of Connecticut's International Business Case Challenge brings teams of four undergraduate students from around the world to compete in analysing and presenting an international business case to judges. The UConn IB Case Challenge offers an excellent opportunity for students to gain exposure to international business issues as well as to meet business students from around the globe.

"It's a very special thing to see both first and final year BComm students step up, and compete in this way, particularly amidst this busy term," said Associate Professor Maeve Houlihan, Director of UCD Quinn School of Business. "The competition stretches over three weeks and all competitors are assigned to mixed teams of people they have not met before, and we are truly proud to see our students contribute so strongly on this international stage."

30% Club Master of Public Policy Scholarship Awardee



Rachel Merriman. The School, in partnership with the 30% Club is delighted to offer this scholarship which aims to better equip future female leaders.

UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice was pleased to announce that the 2021 30% Club Master of Public Policy Scholarship was awarded to

Rachel is honoured to receive the 30% Club scholarship and as a neurodiverse person, she believes it is so important to have visibility for women in leadership roles that represent the autistic community.

Education has completely transformed her life, and she feels so appreciative of this opportunity to continue her educational journey following her undergraduate studies. Commenting on the award, Rachel said: "I believe the master of public policy will equip me with the tools to pursue a career within the non-profit or voluntary sector, specifically in the areas of disability and human rights. I am passionate about working in a sector that promotes equality and participation in Irish society". Her ultimate goal is to use the information gained from the Master of Public Policy at UCD to affect real change through public policy development.