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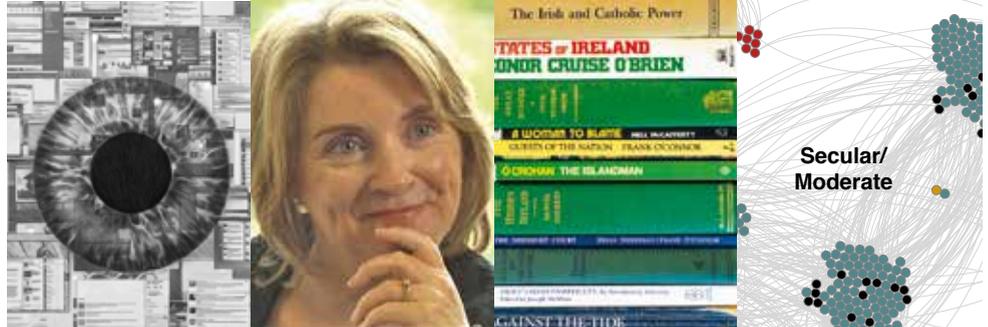
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Expertise and impact – a great combination



EILIS O'BRIEN
Director of
Communication

Just as the cherry blossoms begin to carpet the grass, a quiet descends on campus as students focus on their end of semester exams. For final year students – both our own and at other universities, this study effort is combined with decisions around future careers: graduate studies or the hunt for the first real job. Addressing the issues behind these decisions, our graduate studies marketing campaign aims to explain the advantages of a taught masters from UCD. The core component is “expertise”. You learn from the expert in order to become one yourself. The message is strong, consistent and credible.

This year we feature Professor Alan Renwick, expert in agricultural economics, Dr Madeleine Lowery, expert in biomedical engineering and Dr TJ McIntyre, expert in Data Protection and IT law. In each case, their work is having an impact on society, whether on the globalisation of the food chain, on interventions in relation to brain function or on taking legal action to protect online privacy. Research-informed teaching is a very attractive attribute for prospective graduate students. It is seen by them as a measure to discern quality. The question “do you want to learn from those who write the books or those who recommend a reading list?” prompts a similar reaction.

Good marketing campaigns should always be contemporary and topical. TJ McIntyre’s story was such that we had to record two versions of the radio ad while waiting for the verdict of the European Court of Justice on the case taken by TJ on behalf of Digital Rights Ireland over the Government’s retention of internet and phone records for 2 years for the entire population. And, given the Court found in his favour, it would be fair to say that more than our students could learn a great deal from TJ’s expertise. You can read more about TJ and this case on page five.

The campaign can be seen on the homepage until early June, as well as on the graduate studies page.

UCD thanks...

Contributors: Suzanne Bailey, Marie Boran, Rose Cotter, Pádraig Cunningham, Elaine Cregg, Jo Day, Damien Dempsey, Deborah Dignam, Kevin Doherty, Maureen Doyle, David Dumin, Georgina Dwyer, Desmond Earley, Bryan Fanning, Evelyn Flanagan, Bairbre Fleming, Andrew Fogarty, Brid Foley, Karen Griffin, Vincent Hoban, Olivia Jackman, Aoife Joyce, Olive Keogh, Sinead Kelly, Tamara Lewis, Claire Mac Evilly, Peter McGuire, Gerardine Meaney, Lynda Mulvin, Phyllis Murphy, Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Wolfgang Marx, Juno McEnroe, TJ McIntyre, Carmel Mooney, Ailbhe Ní Chonghaile, Brian Nolan, Valerie Norton, Eilis O'Brien, Rosalind Pan, Siofra Pierse, Elaine Quinn, Bernadette Rafter, Vera Regan, Eugene Roche, Grainne Rothery, Mark Simpson, Craig Slattry, Cathy Timlin, Ben Tonra, Elizabeth Varley, Aoife Whelan, Mícaél Whelan, Orla Wrynn

Produced by: Eilis O'Brien, Lisa Flannery, Dominic Martella

Design: Loman Cusack Design

Print: Fine Print

Thanks to: Diarmaid Ferriter, Pat Guiry, Ann Lavan, Damien McLoughlin, Diane Sonnenwald, Regina Ui Chollatain

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 (communications@ucd.ie). We also welcome your suggestions for articles in future editions.

This publication is also available online at www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday

Cover image: An illustration to represent web surveillance; taken from the UCD 2014 Graduate Studies marketing campaign. For more see: <http://www.ucd.ie/graduatestudies/?int=law>



Boyle Higgins Gold Medal for Professor Pat Guiry

Professor Pat Guiry, Head of School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, has been awarded the Boyle-Higgins Gold Medal of the

Institute of Chemistry of Ireland. The award is in recognition of his outstanding and internationally recognised research contribution to the advancement of chemistry. The Award, founded in 1985 in order to encourage the advancement of Chemistry in Ireland, is for research work carried out in the areas of Pure Chemistry, Applied and Industrial Chemistry or Chemical Education. Professor Guiry and his group develop new catalysts and synthetic methodologies to prepare biologically interesting compounds. The group has supervised 36 PhDs to date and has 123 publications, including 12 book chapters.



Albie Sachs pictured with the UCD Ulysses Medal, which he was recently awarded in recognition of his global contribution to human rights

UCD Ulysses Medal awarded to Albie Sachs

Anti-apartheid campaigner and former judge of the first constitutional court in South Africa, Albie Sachs, was awarded the UCD Ulysses Medal in March. The award, which is the highest honour that the university can bestow, recognises his global contribution to human rights. The UCD Ulysses Medal is awarded to those whose work has made an outstanding global contribution. The Medal was inaugurated as part of UCD's sesquicentennial celebrations in 2004 and celebrates the creative brilliance of our alumnus James Joyce.

In 1988, South African security agents targeted Sachs in a car bomb in Mozambique. He lost his right arm and was blinded in his left eye. He survived and saw apartheid end. After recuperating in the UK, Sachs returned to South Africa and played a central role in drafting its democratic constitution. In 1994, Nelson Mandela appointed him a judge in the new constitutional court where he made several landmark rulings.

"With this medal we honour those whose work has made an outstanding global contribution," said UCD Professor Imelda Maher, Sutherland Chair in European Law, who delivered the official citation for the award.

At the event, Albie Sachs spoke about the design of the Constitutional Court of South Africa. He outlined how the building has come to symbolise the new constitutional democracy in South Africa. It is situated where an old fort prison once stood, and acts to remove the negativity of the area and to replace it with a positive symbol of South Africa's future.

"This you did in the dark days of apartheid when you were a soldier for liberation – as your father had wished for you as a small child, when recovering from a botched but devastating car bomb, when whistling in solitary confinement and hearing your tune completed for you by another prisoner elsewhere within those prison walls. You did not lose sight of the promise of law, and, now with creative brilliance have given expression to that through the constitution, the court and its building," she said.



Professor Mary Daly, who was recently elected the 55th president of the Royal Irish Academy

Professor Mary E. Daly elected President of Royal Irish Academy

The Royal Irish Academy (RIA) elected Professor Mary E. Daly the 55th president of Ireland's leading academic institution, with her three-year post beginning in March.

Professor Daly, School of History and Archives, is one of Ireland's most prominent senior historians and is a member of the government's Expert Advisory Group on Commemorations. She served for seven years as Principal of UCD College of Arts and Celtic Studies and has also held visiting positions at Harvard University and Boston College. She has served on the National Archives Advisory Council and the Irish Manuscripts Commission. From 2000 to 2004 Professor Daly was Secretary of the RIA and vice-chair of the Academy's Working Group on Higher Education.

Professor Daly was involved in the commemoration of the sesquicentenary of the great famine 1995-97, and with Dr Margaret O'Callaghan she directed a research project on the Golden Jubilee of the 1916 Rising, resulting in the publication of a major edited work: *1916 in 1966: commemorating the Easter Rising* (2007).

Over the course of her distinguished career, Professor Daly has researched widely and published prolifically, notably: *Dublin, the Deposed Capital: A Social and Economic History, 1860-1914* (1984); *Women and Work in Ireland* (1997); *The Slow Failure: Population Decline and Independent Ireland, 1920-1973* (2006); and, with Theo Hoppen, *Gladstone: Ireland and Beyond* (2011).

Professor Daly said that she was looking forward to taking up her new role in the Academy, "It is a place of great ideas and energy".

Others who have held the position of President of the Royal Irish Academy include: Eoin MacNeill (1940-3), T.K. Whittaker (1985-7) and James Dooge (1987-90).

UCD Professor Imelda Maher, who holds the Sutherland Chair in European Law at UCD Sutherland School of Law, was elected as the Royal Irish Academy's Honorary Secretary (Humanities and Social Sciences).



Attending the launch of the UCD Lyons Dairy Research and Education Facility in March, (l-r): Dr Finbar Mulligan, School of Veterinary Medicine; Charles Gallagher, Irish Holstein Friesian Association; Dr Karina Pierce, School of Agriculture & Food Science; Pat Ryan, Glanbia; Edmund Harty, Dairymaster; Prof. Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact; Prof. Michael Monaghan, Principal, College of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine; Pat Mulvehill, Munster Cattle Breeding Group; Brendan Scanlon, Progressive Genetics; Morgan Sheehy, Devenish Nutrition and Denis Herlihy, Glanbia

Over €2 million investment into UCD's Lyons Research Farm

UCD is constructing a new Dairy Research and Education Facility at Lyons research farm to support research programmes in dairy production including genetics, nutrition and herd health management.

With a capacity for 200 cows, the facility is part of a 2 million plus investment supported by Dairymaster, Devenish Nutrition, Glanbia, Munster Cattle Breeding Group, Progressive Genetics and the Irish Holstein Friesian Breeders Association.

Continuing investment in research is critical to the success of the Irish dairy industry and to the quality of the education of the student population.

The herd will be comprised of spring calving and autumn calving groups and the emphasis will initially be on maximizing the potential for milk production from grass, while also investigating the economic potential for concentrate supplementation at different milk price levels.

The research outputs from the new facility will be made available through publications, a dedicated website and Open Days on the farm. The facility will serve as an international showcase for the best in Irish dairy technology. The development will also provide new facilities for teaching students in Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine.

Construction will commence in May and will finish in early 2015, to enable the planned herd expansion to coincide with the abolition of milk quotas in April 2015.

Lyons Research Farm consists of over 580 acres located near the village of Newcastle in Co Kildare. It is used for teaching and research field activities by the UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine, University College Dublin.



Pictured at the 'European Democracy in Crisis' symposium at which the Dublin European Institute was re-launched were UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks and the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, with UCD School of Politics and International Relations lecturers and DEI co-directors Dr Aidan Regan (far left) and Dr James Cross (far right)

DEI event explores 'European Democracy in Crisis'

The Dublin European Institute (DEI) at UCD was re-launched on March 20th with the hosting of an event on 'European Democracy in Crisis'. The symposium took place in UCD Newman House and opened with a keynote address by the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins. This was followed by three contributions from leading public intellectuals with diverse scholarly backgrounds; Professor Kevin O'Rourke, Oxford University; Professor Brigid Laffan, European University Institute and Professor Linda Senden, Utrecht University.

The symposium opened up wide-ranging discussions on issues relating to various aspects of the governance and operation of the EU. It was argued that many of the issues in the EU are due to the tension between EU level identity, governance, decision-making and budget, and the autonomous needs of the member States. The overwhelming view, however, appeared to be that despite its faults,

having a European Union is better than not having one.

The event, attended by UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks, was designed to engage with as many citizens as possible. It was live-streamed at www.europedebate.ie, and all participants were invited to use social media to share their reflections, with the designated twitter hashtag #EUDemocracy.

Surveillance of Society:



Dr TJ McIntyre

Digital Rights Ireland fights our case in the European Court of Justice

Not many internet or mobile phone users know that their personal data is being stored and can be accessed by the authorities for up to two years. Details of internet use, texts, emails, who you call, when and from where are stored and accessible by Gardaí, irrespective of whether you are suspected of a crime or not.

This data retention directive, however, has now been declared invalid by the European Court of Justice, following a campaign and case taken by civil liberties group Digital Rights Ireland (DRI).

DRI began its case in 2006 and now wants the European ruling applied in the Irish courts, so that phone companies, internet suppliers and Gardaí no longer have such access and a hold on people's personal data. Organisation chairman Dr TJ McIntyre is a lecturer at UCD Sutherland School of Law, where he specialises in issues involving information technology law and civil liberties.

He explains how the European ruling had huge ramifications not just for Irish internet and mobile phone users but also for users in other member states. "Data retention laws have been pushed by states from the early part of the new century onwards, and have been probably the single greatest threat to internet privacy and freedom of expression that we have ever seen.

"They involved mass surveillance of the entire population without any prior suspicion, without any warrant, without any effective controls."

DRI's eight year case came to a head earlier this year when the European Court of Justice found the data directive was a "serious interference with the fundamental rights to respect for private life and to the protection of personal data."

It overturned the directive for member states and found the directive had left a feeling in people "that their private lives are the subject of constant surveillance."

So what's next and how will the ruling from Luxembourg translate into Irish law?

Dr McIntyre points out that abuses of the current law have taken place and mass surveillance needs to be ended as soon as possible. He cites one case which came before

the courts of a middle-ranking Garda who abused the system by using it to spy on her ex-boyfriend. The case was highlighted in a report to the Dail by a High Court judge monitoring state-sanctioned surveillance; however there is no evidence of changes being made to prevent similar abuses in future.

Furthermore, following efforts of former American whistleblower and computer specialist Edward Snowden, we now know of the existence of global surveillance programs which have had the cooperation of telecommunication companies.

DRI are awaiting a court date here to determine how and when the Irish Government will now implement the European ruling.

"It's a two stage process. You have the directive, which is now invalidated and we now have to return to the High Court in Dublin to have that reflected in national law.

"We're waiting. It could take a while. But ultimately we're confident that national laws will have to be rewritten in a way that protects privacy."

For the ordinary person then, this form of surveillance will continue, until the Irish courts quash the domestic law on the matter. "It means that everyone is a criminal suspect. Everyone has their internet use, their mobile phone use, their location at all times tracked and put into a database, which is then accessible and as we see has been abused. That database then stores that information for up to two years," added Dr McIntyre.

But there are security reasons why Gardaí and others defend the use of this surveillance. The logging of telephone calls and usage, including when and where, has helped prosecute criminal cases. This was evident in the Rachel O'Reilly murder trial, which heard evidence of a technological paper trail. The prosecution argued this proved that husband Joe O'Reilly was guilty.

The surveillance of phones and emails is also carried out by Gardaí to thwart terrorist activities. Dr McIntyre says a less intrusive system could suit both sides. This could see Gardaí having to make specific requests for data, which would be decided on by a judge. Phone and email data should only be stored for a much shorter period of time, as opposed to two years, he suggested.

Teaching about digital rights and the law while at the same time watching how the case has proceeded has been fascinating, added the law lecturer. His courses include topical issues such as digital investigations and how employees' internet usage is monitored by employers. "It's very challenging because things can change overnight. I was teaching a class on the very day

that

we got the judgement,

so I was able to give an impromptu class on data retention and the history of mass surveillance on the internet," explains Dr McIntyre.

Data surveillance is now a global issue. Following the Snowden revelations, other cases have emerged in Europe and elsewhere of how authorities have misused the monitoring of ordinary people's personal information. It's not just high profile government or military figures under surveillance. In fact the episodic nature of cases is worrying, suggests Dr McIntyre.

Ordinary Muslims in America have been pressurised by the FBI to spy on their contacts, following monitoring of their phonecalls and emails, or face being added to airline no-fly lists, explained Dr McIntyre. He also added:

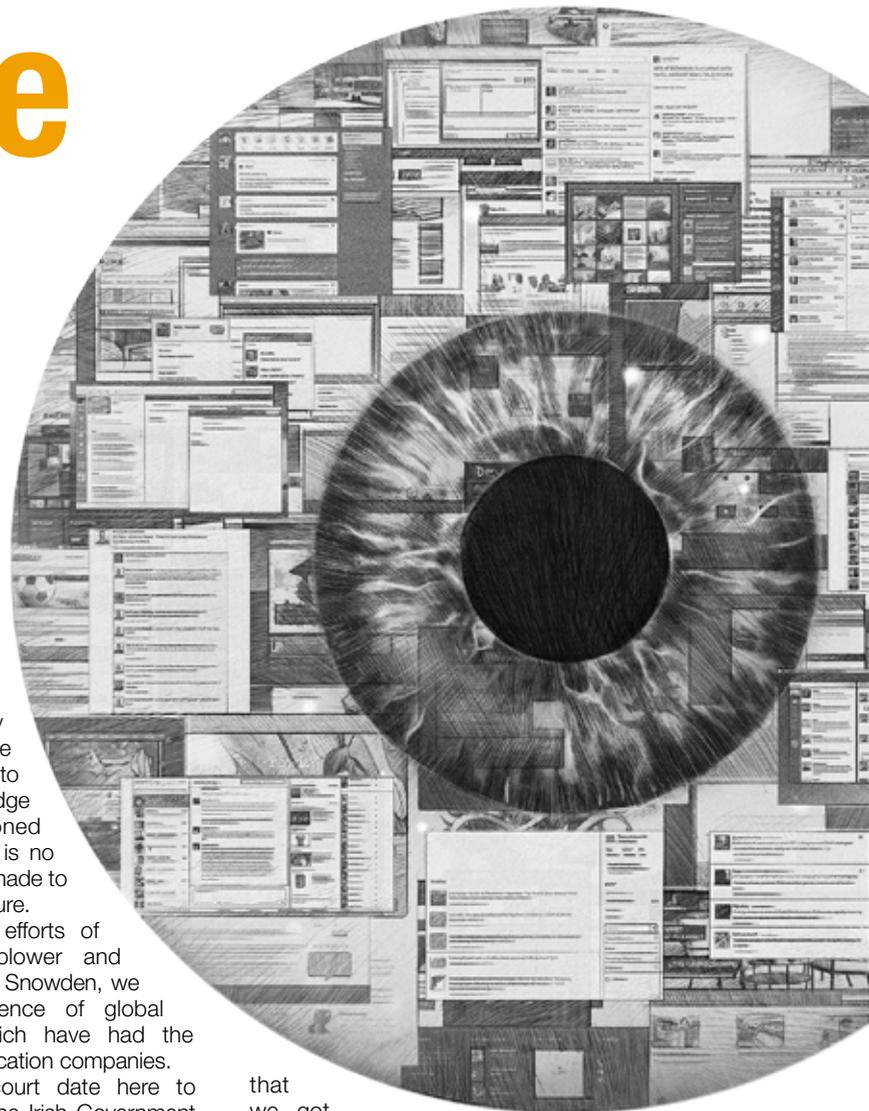
"In a recent case a Canadian woman found herself denied entry to the US and it transpired that she had been admitted to the emergency room after a suspected overdose in Canada. That information was shared with US authorities, who refused her entry because of her mental health".

Indeed, the abuse of data monitoring by authorities in America when it comes to monitoring spouses or exes even has a nickname: 'loveint', as in love intelligence.

For the moment DRI and other civil liberties campaigners await a court date, so that the European Court of Justice ruling against data retention can be applied in Ireland. Other countries – particularly Sweden and Slovakia – have been quicker off the mark and have already ended this type of surveillance.

It will not be long before Ireland follows course and people will be free to make calls and send emails without the worry that someone, somewhere is monitoring their actions

Dr TJ McIntyre was in conversation with Juno McEnroe, a journalist with The Irish Examiner



Gradaim Bhord na Gaeilge agus Bonn Óir an Chumainn Ghaelaigh 2014

Gradaim Bhord na Gaeilge 2014 celebrated the many innovative projects initiated by UCD students, staff and alumni in the promotion of the Irish language and recognised those who made an outstanding contribution to the language throughout the 2013-2014 academic year. The awards were presented by Professor Michael Doherty, Bord na Gaeilge UCD Chairman, and included an award for excellence within the wider Irish language community. The event was attended by students, staff, alumni and their families, including UCD Registrar, Professor Mark Rogers and An Taoiseach Enda Kenny.

Rinne mic léinn Theach na Gaeilge cuir i láthair ar obair na bliana agus ba léir go raibh said thar a bheith gníomhach i bpobal na hollscoile i réimsí an cheoil, an spóirt, na díospóireachta, na drámaíochta agus na craoltóireachta. Rinneadh tagairt speisialta do chomórtas Gael Linn, Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh – a bhuaigh mic léinn UCD – don chomórtas ‘Gnó le Gaeilge’ a d’eagraigh an Cumann



An Taoiseach Éanna Ó Ciannaigh ag déanamh comhghairdis le Liam Ó Maoladha, Stiúrthóir Oireachtas na Gaeilge. Ar dheis tá an tOllamh Micheál Ó Dochartaigh, Cathaoirleach Bhord na Gaeilge UCD agus ar chlé Clár Ní Bhuaichalla, Oifigeach Gaeilge UCD

Gaelach agus do chuairt an Choimisinéara Eorpaigh chun na hOllscoile. Ba é an malartán le Taigh na Gàidhlig in Ollscoil Ghlaschú buaicphointe na bliana do mhuintir Theach na Gaeilge, turas a d’eagraigh Bord na Gaeilge le tacaíocht na heagraíochta Colmille. Bhí ardmholadh ag dul don bheirt Léachtóirí le Taibhiú, an Dr Desmond Earley agus an Dr Ciarán Crilly as an nGaeilge a chur chun cinn trín gceol, agus bronnadh príomhghradam na hoíche, ‘Sioladóir na Teanga’ ar Liam Ó Maoladha atá ina Stiúrthóir ar Oireachtas na

Gaeilge (antoireachtas.ie) ó 1996, a bunaíodh in 1896.

Winners/Buaiteoirí 2014: Jamie Ó Flannúra: Ambasadóir Theach na Gaeilge, Audrey de Faoite: Gradam do Chlub/Chumann, Seán Mac Conchoille: Bonn Óir an Chumainn Ghaelaigh, Joan Birch: Teastas an Chumainn Ghaelaigh do ‘Gnó le Gaeilge’, an Dr Desmond Earley: Gradam Foirne, an Dr Ciarán Crilly: Gradam Foirne, Gradam Sioladóir na Teanga: Liam Ó Maoladha, Stiúrthóir Oireachtas na Gaeilge.

Bronnadh an Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach

Bronnadh Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach ar 20 mac léinn ag searmanas in Institiúid Clinton don Léann Meiriceánach ar 15 Eanáir 2014. Reachtáladh an cúrsa oíche seo go páirt-aimseartha thar dhá bhliain. Ghlac Ms Eimhear Ní Dhuinn, MA, H.Dip. (Stiúrthóir an Chúrsa) agus Dr Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith (Ceann na Nua-Ghaeilge) le cúram an tí ar an oíche. Is í an tOllamh Máire Ní Annracháin (Ceann Scoil na Gaeilge, an Léinn Cheiltigh, Bhéaloideas Éireann agus na Teangeolaíochta) a bhronn teastais ar na mic léinn.

On January 15th, certificates were presented to 20 students who completed the Diploma in Applied Irish (Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach) on a part-time basis over the past two years. The ceremony took place in the UCD Clinton Institute for American Studies, with Ms Eimhear Ní Dhuinn, MA, H.Dip. (Course Director) and Dr Caoimhín Mac Giolla Léith (Head of Modern Irish) officiating. Professor Máire Ní Annracháin (Head of School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore and Linguistics) presented the awards.

Lifetime Achievement Honours for UCD Emeritus Professor of Geography

Anne Buttimer, Emeritus Professor of Geography at UCD has been awarded the Association of American Geographers (AAG) 2014 Lifetime Achievement Honours. The award recognises her five decades of distinguished and prolific scholarship as well as extraordinary dedication, service, and perseverance in the name of the geographic profession.

Julie Winkler, AAG President, presented the award at the 2014 AAG Annual Meeting in Tampa, Florida on April 12th.

AAG Honors are the highest awards offered by the Association of American Geographers. They are offered annually to recognise outstanding accomplishments by members in research & scholarship, teaching, education, service to the discipline, public service outside academe and for lifetime achievement.

Although the AAG and its specialty groups make other important awards, AAG Honors remains among the most prestigious awards in American geography and have been awarded since 1951.

Previous recipients of the AAG Lifetime Achievement Honours include: Edward Soja and Sallie Marston (2013); Kevin Cox and James C. Knox (2012); and Susan Cutter (2011).

“I’ve wandered through many spaces, often as the only geographer, mostly the only woman, saying what I think, doing what I do, and people have asked “Is that how geographers think?” But it has always been wonderful to return home and to share ideas in a setting where applause or critique would be virtually assured. For its

cordiality, encouragement and challenge, the AAG remains my cherished extended family and I am deeply grateful for this honour,” said UCD Emeritus Professor, Anne Buttimer.



Julie Winkler, AAG President, presented the AAG 2014 Lifetime Achievement Honours to UCD Emeritus Professor of Geography, Anne Buttimer, at the 2014 AAG Annual Meeting in Florida on April 12th

There is nothing new about people taking issue with how language changes. They have been complaining about it since Cicero's time, says sociolinguist, Professor Vera Regan.



Professor Vera Regan

Language has a life of its own

'like!'

'choosin'

"There is no way you can corral people about language. Language has a life of its own," says Regan who is Associate Professor of Sociolinguistics and Head of French in the School of Languages & Literatures at UCD. "But what might surprise the traditionalists is that the seemingly casual way people speak today is actually highly systematic, even when it comes to casual stuff such as the use of 'like.' There is nothing right or wrong in language, it is just the way people talk," she says.

Professor Regan's special area of research interest is variation in language and over the last number of years she has completed three back-to-back studies funded by the Irish Research Council on language variation, migration and identity. Her subject group for these studies has been the Polish communities in Ireland, France and Canada.

"Language seemed to be a huge issue for Polish people who came to Ireland during the boom years. Many felt they were held back because of poor language skills yet they couldn't get the educational support they needed to change this," she says. "We started looking at the problem through the whole lens of language and specifically from within the paradigm of variation. This was novel as the concept of variation in second language acquisition is very new. From studying variation you can get a huge amount of information about language, about people, about language in society, about both together and ultimately about universals in language.

"Linguistics in the twentieth century tended to focus on the invariant and variation was considered a marginal issue," Regan adds. "Now, however, the focus is increasingly shifting towards variation in linguistic studies. Language is inherently variable; this applies whether we are talking about a speaker's first, second or third language."

Variation is an important aspect of all language use. However, Regan's research shows that variation in L2 or second language use is quite

“Recent research on variation has taken an interesting direction with linguistic analysis of speech being combined with ethnographic research to produce rich accounts of second language (L2) acquisition”

different to variation in single language use. "Generally speaking, variation refers to differences in linguistic form, or to two or more ways of saying the same thing. Researchers then find correlations between these forms and social facts. Any point where speakers can make a choice in discourse is a potential site for a linguistic variable. For example, choosing -in over -ing," Regan says.

Before research began into variation in its own right, the widely held view was that variation was random. Subsequent studies have shown that it is systematic and affected by a range of factors from age, sex and social class to style of speech, ethnicity and context.

"Recent research on variation has taken an interesting direction with linguistic analysis of speech being combined with ethnographic research to produce rich accounts of second language (L2) acquisition," Regan says. "Earlier work often focused on quantitative analysis. By

combining the two types of data you get a multilayered representation of the experience of the L2 speaker."

One of Regan's most recent research projects, "Language, identity and interculturalism in Ireland," used sociolinguistic models to provide a detailed analysis of how both migrants and native Irish-English speakers negotiate and construct identities through language and what implications this has for how Irish society manages social and linguistic diversity.

"Ireland has experienced momentous changes in the last 15 years and migrants now make up a significant percentage of the population," Regan says. "The question of participation continues to be pertinent and one indicator of integration is language. In particular the fluency with which an L2 speaker uses words or phrases common among L1 (native speakers). These patterns indicate how integrated he or she is into the local community."

At a practical level the research carried out by Regan and her eight-strong team of PhD students will be used to inform future social policy. In particular it will be used in educational planning and in the development of language policy.

"By doing fine grained analysis of the speech of people moving from country to country we can monitor their ability to participate in their new country. This matters because the real life problems migrants experience are massive," Regan says.

"Some of them can't get jobs or get their kids into school or talk to their teachers. If we don't get in touch with the role that language plays and see how it holds them back (or not) and see how they're using it a lot of people's lives are going to be really badly or positively affected. If we don't make an effort to develop some sort of participation model our economy will suffer. There are very good social reasons why people's lives need to be the best they can be. If they are, then the cohesion of our whole society will be better."

Professor Vera Regan was in conversation with Olive Keogh, MA 1984, a contributor to The Irish Times

Prestigious accolades for UCD Conway Institute

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to translational obesity research, Professor Carel le Roux has received a Science Foundation Ireland President of Ireland Young Researcher award (PIYRA).

President Michael D. Higgins said, "This award recognises the ongoing contribution of Irish scientists to internationally respected research activity in areas of fundamental relevance to society and the economy."

In an effort to address the increasing mortality and morbidity associated with obesity and its related diseases, Professor le Roux focuses on achieving a better mechanistic understanding of appetite control.

"If we can learn more about how the gut 'talks' to the brain to generate fullness, we can develop safer and more effective treatments for patients. The role of metabolic surgery, gut hormones, bile acids and changes in food preference are important areas of research focus in this quest", says Professor Carel le Roux, the Chair of Pathology in UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science and Fellow of UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research.

Professor le Roux said: "Receiving the PIYRA has allowed me to expand our work and establish within the UCD Diabetes Complications Research Centre, the first group in the world focusing on how changing the anatomy and physiology of the gut with surgery can be used to reverse organ damage such as diabetic kidney disease, which previously was thought of to be permanent."



Pictured at the SFI President of Ireland Young Researcher Awards was Prof. Carel le Roux (far left), chair of Pathology, UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science and UCD Conway Institute fellow; with Prof. Valeria Nicolosi (TCD), President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins; Dr Matthew Campbell (TCD) and Prof Mark Ferguson, SFI Director General

Early career researchers at UCD Conway Institute have also been recognised for their outstanding research. For the first time, the Wellcome Trust has awarded the Sir Henry Wellcome postdoctoral fellowship to an Irish early career researcher, Dr Colm Ryan. He will work with Professor Walter Kolch, Director of Systems Biology Ireland and Professor Alan Ashworth, Institute of Cancer Research, London to investigate how genetic changes impact on a targeted approach to cancer treatment.

The 11th St Luke's Young Investigator award was won by Irish Cancer Society research fellow, Dr Maria Prencipe for her work to find a new molecular target for castration resistant prostate cancer (CRPC). PhD student, Oisín Gough was selected as an ICON Gaelic Players Association (GPA) Life Sciences Ambassador. This enhanced postgraduate scholarship will enable him to carry out his research within the UCD Diabetes Complications Research Centre as well as being a role model for the life sciences sector.

UCD hosts Ireland East cancer open house

UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research and Systems Biology Ireland (SBI) in January hosted the first UCD Ireland East cancer open house for cancer survivors and patient advocacy groups to meet academics, clinicians and scientists involved in cancer research.

The event provided a window to the myriad of stakeholders embroiled in the battle against cancer and the opportunity to personalise the contributions each are making. It emphasised the requirement for connectivity and engagement among all players in the fight against cancer in order to achieve improved outcomes for patients.

Participants in the cancer open house tours on January 23rd were given insights into the

projects and technologies within the research pipeline by postdoctoral researchers and PhD graduates working at the coal-face of cancer research.

There were tours on topics such as 'How do cancer cells survive low oxygen?', 'How cancers change during treatment' and 'Cancer cells cycling'.

Professor John Crown, UCD Newman Clinical Professor and consultant oncologist at St Vincent's University Hospital, spoke to participants about the future of drug treatments, as therapies become both personalised and targeted.

Professor Walter Kolch, SBI Director, said, "As a scientist, you often become engrossed in the complexities and painstaking detail of the experimental process, losing sight of the wider perspective. This cancer open house event provides a unique opportunity to connect with

and be inspired by the people I hope will ultimately benefit from our fundamental research programmes."

Clinicians and academic partners met the following day to discuss the potential for advancing the scientific programme of cancer research within the Ireland East Hospital network; a catchment population of 1.7 million people.

This critical mass of clinicians and researchers within this network provides opportunities for enriched basic research collaboration and crucially will enhance interactions with the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

UCD Ireland East cancer open house was organised by UCD Conway Institute Fellow, Dr Amanda McCann, along with colleagues in the UCD Translational Oncology research group and UCD Medicine Research.

UCD Professor advises on the development of Chinese education

Professor Liming Wang, Director of the UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland, was invited as an overseas delegate to attend the second session of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the National People's Congress (NPC) in March. As the top legislative and advisory bodies in China, the NPC & CPPCC annual sessions address the national policies, review the report on the work of the government and make national-level decisions.

The 2014 NPC & CPPCC annual sessions invited 35 overseas delegates from 21 countries to attend the conferences.

In the group discussion, Professor Wang made two proposals. The first related to proposed institutional structural changes to enhance the education in Chinese language and culture overseas.

His second proposal concerned the innovation of educational ideals. Professor Wang argued that a nation cannot develop without innovation and innovation will not happen unless it has innovative talents. Innovation in educational ideals is the prerequisite for all of these. The new educational ideal should be able to draw on the essence of both eastern and western culture. It should tackle challenges from the rapidly developing world of information communication technology, masses of on-line information, and the era of

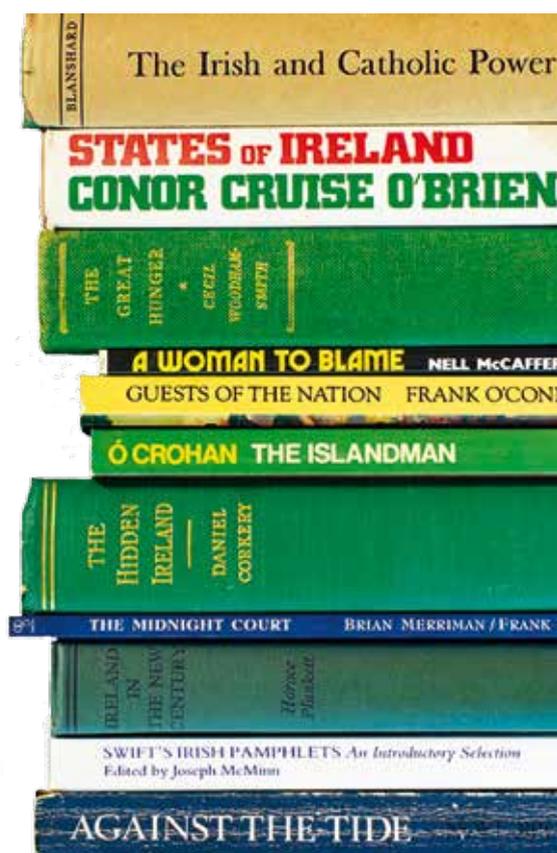


Professor Liming Wang, Director of the UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland, appeared on Chinese television station People.cn to speak about the promotion of Chinese education overseas, while attending as a delegate of the CPPCC and NPC events in March

big data. These two proposals were both published in Bulletin 51 of the CPPCC.

During the meeting, Professor Wang was interviewed by People.cn about the promotion of Chinese education overseas, and attended a press conference about the development of Confucius Institutes.

THE BOOKS THAT DEFINE IRELAND



Prof Bryan Fanning

Ask anyone to name the key books that define Ireland, and chances are a work or two of

James Joyce will feature. Beckett and Shaw might show up. Maeve Binchy's take on Ireland, which resonated deeply here and throughout the world, could very justifiably warrant an inclusion.

Two UCD academics – Professor Bryan Fanning, Head of the UCD School of Applied Social Science and Professor Emeritus Tom Garvin, School of Politics and International Relations – have taken a different tack.

In *The Books That Define Ireland*, these eminent social scientists and bestselling authors look at the works that capture the social and political debates that shaped the nation since the early 17th century. This approach brings us a selection that includes Conor Cruise O'Brien's *States of Ireland*, Wolfe Tone's autobiography, Jonathan Swift's *A Modest Proposal*, and Mary Raftery and Eoin O'Sullivan's *Suffer The Little Children: The Inside Story of Ireland's Industrial Schools*, alongside Noel Browne's *Against The Tide* and Fintan O'Toole's *Meanwhile Back At the Ranch: The Politics of Irish Beef*. In a list of 31 books, only five are works of fiction. In all, over 50 books from across three centuries are touched on.

"Debates on Irish literature have tended to focus on poetry, great Irish novels, and writers like Joyce and Yeats," explains Fanning. "The idea of writing this came gradually during conversations we had about underappreciated books. We were interested in the books which captured debates that defined Ireland at different times in its history. This selection gives an insight into the dilemmas, debates, and issues of the day."

The choices of each author are sometimes controversial, sometimes obvious, and sometimes relatively unknown. Each chapter is a personal choice of either Fanning or Garvin, and the debate between the two men is perhaps a microcosm of the big debate that has already begun to surround the book itself, primarily around its omissions and inclusions. Much of the public debate has addressed Fanning and Garvin's omission of some major novels: "We are mapping out some of the intellectual conflicts and battles that take place and relate to the mainstream issues which defined Irish society, including nationalism, politics, sexuality, and corruption," says Fanning. "The fiction we did choose is there for its social impact, and how it captured social issues and changes in Ireland. Edna O'Brien's first novel *The Country Girls* – which was banned by the Irish censors – is there because it addressed repression and social and sexual issues; the family's own parish priest publicly burned the novel. *The Dark* by John McGahern – perhaps the last great banned book – is there because it has such an impact with its themes of sexuality and sexual abuse. And we don't include Joyce because much of his writing was from the outside and only appreciated many decades after the fact."

Most of the chosen works address quite a broad range of themes, but they also stand for a moment in Ireland when history could potentially have taken a different turn. Geoffrey Keating's *The History of Ireland* – the first inclusion in Fanning and Garvin's work – is chosen because it continues to find an audience today, because it became the template for so many nationalist histories that followed, and because it was so influential on major political figures from Wolfe Tone to Pearse and Connolly.

Fanning and Garvin include both Daniel Corkery's 1924 work *The Hidden Ireland*, which gave an account of an idealised and vanquished Gaelic past, and Sean O'Faolain and Frank O'Connor's works, which railed against Corkery's vision, claiming it fuelled post-independence isolationism, puritanism, and censorship. One of the most interesting inclusions is academic and journalist Elaine Byrne's *Political Corruption in Ireland: A Crooked Harp*; remarkably, it is the first scholarly work to explore political corruption in Ireland.

Professor Fanning recognises that someone else may think to add to, or indeed take from, this list. But anyone who wants to understand the history of Irish social, political and cultural debates could make a good start by reading the books they suggest have defined Ireland. Time to clear some space on your bookshelf.

Professor Bryan Fanning was in conversation with Peter McGuire (BA 2002, MLitt 2007), a journalist with *The Irish Times*

60 second interview: Professor Bryan Fanning

Why only 31 books?

This was always going to be a 70,000 word work, and we wanted a tight selection – we could of course have kept adding.

Is there a single book that defines Ireland?

Probably not, but *The Penny Catechism* may have been a worthwhile inclusion. Catholics in Ireland were not encouraged to read The Bible, but they were encouraged to read catechisms which were widely used in education and were a major building block in the creation of modern Ireland.

What surprised you the most when researching this book?

John Mitchell, author of *The Jail Journal* (1861), jumped out. It is an amazing piece of literature which deserves to be understood. Mitchell was a hero to later nationalists such as Pearse and Connolly, but he was also a supporter of slavery in America; Connolly largely glosses over this troublesome fact.

What book – perhaps influential if not necessarily a work of social or political thought – might you have included?

Bungalow Blitz by Jack Fitzsimons, which told people how to build a bungalow without an architect, was used by tens of thousands of people to construct homes and shaped the Irish landscape.

New director of UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology

Following an international selection process Professor Martin Steinhoff has been appointed Director of UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology and the Professorial Chair of Dermatology. Professor Steinhoff joined UCD in early 2014 from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) where he held the position of Professor in Residence in the Departments of Dermatology and Surgery.

Professor Steinhoff is an established laboratory scientist who studies the substances and their receptors that cause inflammation, autoimmune disease or cancer of the skin. His research focus is on gaining a better understanding of the cross-communication between two important body systems: the neural and immune system. In particular, he is interested in the role of the sensory nervous system in skin inflammation (atopic dermatitis, rosacea) and itch (pruritus).

His vision is to establish the UCD Charles Institute and clinic as a centre of excellence for translational dermatology research. This will enable PhD students to expand their basic science to applied human research and to test their hypotheses in human disease. A key goal of the UCD Charles Institute, together with the dermatology university clinics and the UCD Clinical Research Centre, is to develop new treatments and to perform innovative clinical trials for patients with recalcitrant skin diseases.

Professor Steinhoff received his MD and MSc as well as PhD from the University of Marburg, Germany. He has received several prestigious scientific awards for his research in Germany. To date, his group has published more than 200 articles, reviews and book chapters spanning basic science as well as clinical dermatology.



UCD and international experts attended the 1st International Symposium: Update on Rosacea 2014 including (l-r) Prof. Michael P. Schoen and Dr Margarete Schoen, Georg-August Universität, Göttingen; Prof. Martin Steinhoff, Director of the UCD Charles Institute; Prof. Frank Powell, UCD Charles Institute and Prof. Thomas Luger, Universität Münster

International experts discuss future treatment of rosacea

As celebrations got underway around the world for St Patrick's Festival, international experts gathered in UCD to discuss a skin disorder typically seen in people of Celtic origin. Rosacea is most frequently seen in people who have fair, sun-sensitive skin, especially those of Celtic origin. It is a common skin disorder that causes redness, and later pimples of the skin that can lead to disfiguration of the face. The cause of rosacea is poorly understood and the management of this common condition with its chronic and recurring symptoms can be a challenge.

The 1st International Symposium: Update on Rosacea 2014 took place in the UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology on March 14th and 15th.

Leading clinical, academic and pharmaceutical specialists from across Europe, the United States and Asia gathered to discuss the latest clinical and research findings on rosacea as well as current approaches to diagnosis, management and future prospects for improved treatment.

Professor Martin Steinhoff, director of UCD Charles Institute and the Charles clinic at St. Vincent's University Hospital said, "We believe

that facial erythema arises when the factors controlling the diameter of blood vessels in the skin go awry causing more blood to flow into the area and giving rise to the stereotypical redness associated with rosacea. This flow is prolonged in rosacea patients. We have seen positive responses in clinical studies for the treatment of moderate to severe erythema of rosacea using a once-daily topical application of brimonidine tartrate gel (0.5%), as early as 30 minutes after application. Commonly used to treat glaucoma, the active ingredient has potent vasoconstrictive activity and has now been shown to reduce erythema of rosacea."

UCD Library displays historic 1909 theatre programme

UCD Library Special Collections has recently received the very generous donation of an important theatre programme from the early 20th century. The programme is currently on display in the Special Collections Reading Room on Level 1 of the James Joyce library. The significance of the item is described below by Joseph Hassett; a UCD alumnus, a Yeats scholar and former owner of the programme.

"This programme from the Abbey Theatre Company's December 1909 performance of George Bernard Shaw's *The Shewing-Up of Blanco Posnet*, W.B. Yeats's, Cathleen Ni Houlihan, and Lady Augusta Gregory's *The Workhouse Ward* in the Aldwych Theatre London is signed by Shaw on one side and Gregory on the other. This production was made possible by the courageous staging of the same plays at the Abbey in Dublin the preceding August in defiance of the British Viceroy's threat to revoke the Abbey's patent if it produced Shaw's play, which had been barred by the censor in England. Gregory and Yeats resisted the threat, with Gregory asserting, "We must not by accepting

the English censor's ruling give away anything of the liberty of the Irish theatre of the future." The play was a great success. Yeats and Gregory telegraphed Shaw: "GLORIOUS RECEPTION SPLENDID VICTORY. WHERE IS THE CENSOR NOW."

Once the spell of the censor had been broken by the Abbey performance in Dublin, Shaw was able to arrange production by the same Abbey cast at the Aldwych under the protection of the Incorporated Stage Society. The signatures of Gregory and Shaw are a reminder of an important alliance in which Dublin courage led to a London performance memorialized in the programme on display.



The 1909 theatre programme from the Abbey Theatre Company's December 1909 performance of George Bernard Shaw's *The Shewing-Up of Blanco Posnet*, W.B. Yeats's *Cathleen Ni Houlihan*, and Lady Augusta Gregory's *The Workhouse Ward* in the Aldwych Theatre London, which is signed by Shaw on one side and Gregory on the other and is currently on display in the Special Collections Reading Room on Level 1 of the James Joyce library

■ Changing Inequalities and Societal Impacts in Rich Countries

Increases in income inequality and the long-term impacts of inequalities on social, political, cultural and economic aspects of life in advanced societies are a major source of concern and both political and scholarly debate. Two volumes based on the findings of a major research project in which UCD was a core participant have just been published by Oxford University Press.

The project *'Growing Inequalities' Impacts* (GINI) was led by Professors Wiemer Salverda at the University of Amsterdam and Brian Nolan, College Principal, UCD College of Human Sciences and funded through the EU FP7 research programme over three years. It involved over 200 researchers and analysed data for 30 rich countries covering a period of over 30 years, involving UCD academics from the Schools of Applied Social Science, Law and Sociology.

Key findings about the sources of increasing income inequality highlight the importance evidence of lower marginal tax rates for high

earners, reductions in taxes on capital and capital income and removal or reductions in inheritance tax, coupled with a reduction in the effectiveness of social protection. This is despite attitudinal data which reveals that people dislike increasing inequality and believe that governments should do more to combat it. However, increases in inequalities have been accompanied by falling political participation, with the greatest falls occurring among the least advantaged.

As far as the impact of inequality on social, cultural and political life is concerned, some areas did seem to show a clear relationship –

for example, political engagement, attitudes, some types of crime and imprisonment. This was not evident in others, for example, marriage and divorce, economic stress, life expectancy, and overall crime rates. Some indicators were found to be more strongly influenced by wider social change and technological advances, and policy plays an important role in weakening the link between inequality, opportunity and outcomes. What did emerge was that in a number of areas income inequality cast a shadow by increasing social gradients (the gaps between the least and most advantaged) in, for example, health and social mobility.



Pictured at the launch of the UCD Student Charter are Dr Barbara Dooley, Chair of Academic Council on Discipline (ACCD); Dr Owen Doyle, Chair of ACCD Student Charter sub-group; Mr Micheál Gallagher, UCDSU President; and UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks

■ UCD Student Charter Launched

The new UCD Student Charter was recently launched with a formal signing by UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks and UCD Students' Union President, Micheál Gallagher. The charter places students firmly at the centre of UCD's endeavours in terms of educational and academic pursuits, physical amenity and personal support. It outlines what students can expect from the University and what the University can expect from its students, by setting out the roles and responsibilities of the various groups within the University community.

Developed under the guidance of the Academic Council Committee on Discipline (ACCD) chaired by Dr Barbara Dooley, School of Psychology; the charter articulates what is expected from students in terms of behaviour and how staff should treat students. It is a positive endorsement of the relationships that form the University community. The core values

engendered by the Charter are those of respect and fairness, which in turn build and maintain a positive and encouraging academic environment, underpinned by regulations and procedures.

Building on work originally undertaken by Professor Gerry Doyle, former Dean of Undergraduate Studies, a sub-group of ACCD chaired by Dr Owen Doyle, School of Agriculture and Food Science, undertook an extensive consultation process across UCD to ensure that there was a shared vision for the Charter.

At the launch, Professor Deeks commented on the involvement UCD students and staff have played and play in the life of the country. "There has always been a discourse and discussion about the role of UCD in the national agenda, but what this charter does is to clearly set out the roles and responsibilities we set for ourselves – here within our own community. I am very proud to be part of such a community".

The UCD Student Charter can be accessed at www.ucd.ie/studentcharter

■ First UCD Humanities Artist in Residence announced

Performance artist Dominic Thorpe has been announced as the first UCD Humanities Artist in Residence. In its pilot year, the programme aims to facilitate a unique collaboration between the artist and the humanities researchers in UCD and is a partnership between the College of Arts and Celtic Studies and Cultúr Lab.

Thorpe is an Irish visual artist who works primarily through the body in performance, drawing, video and photography. His most recent work looks at exploring the potential of art practice to offer an authentic response to the traumatic experiences of others. He has performed extensively at a national and international level and his work has been supported by the Arts Council of Ireland, Culture Ireland, CREATE and Kildare County Council.

As part of the programme the artist will receive a shared studio space, a fee and the opportunity to engage and work with leading humanities researchers in UCD.

Responding to the news of his award, Thorpe said "UCD is an exciting university with very dedicated and interesting researchers. The residency offers great potential for an artist to look for new questions around cultures of commemoration, memory studies, trauma, institutional abuses, monuments and public art. This is an important time in Ireland for questions around these areas."

Speaking on behalf of the UCD College of Arts and Celtic Studies, Dr Porscha Fermanis, Vice Principal for Research, Innovation and Impact said, "We are delighted to welcome an artist of Dominic Thorpe's calibre to the UCD College of Arts and Celtic Studies. The College looks forward to collaborating with him on a range of important research topics relating to trauma, institutional abuses, and memory studies."



The UCD Classical Museum recently hosted two performances of an excerpt from an ancient Greek play, *Agamemnon* by Aeschylus. The performances incorporated ancient Greek text, spoken word and song and featured the role of Cassandra played by a large puppet, framed by shadows inspired by items in the museum's collection

Kassandra Performed in the UCD Classical Museum

The UCD Classical Museum recently hosted two performances of an excerpt from an ancient Greek play, *Agamemnon* by Aeschylus; from the *Oresteia* trilogy, which is the only surviving trilogy from ancient Greece. The *Oresteia* trilogy deals with the fate of the house of Atreus, a family cursed by the gods. *Agamemnon* is the first in the trilogy and focuses on king Agamemnon's return from the Trojan War to his home at Mycenae, where his wife and her lover plot his murder. Accompanying Agamemnon from Troy as part of his spoils of war is the seer Cassandra, who was the star of the performance in the Museum.

The event commenced with a reading of 40 lines of the play in ancient Greek to allow the audience to listen to the ancient words, with the main performance in English. In an unusual take on the ancient drama, the role of Cassandra was played by a large puppet operated by John McCormick (a retired professor of drama from Trinity College Dublin). Shadows inspired by items in the museum's collection were played onto the backdrop; for example, a siren motif (winged female) from a perfume vessel became the winged Furies that swirled around the house of Atreus and Cassandra. Setting the event in the Classical museum allowed the words to be spoken surrounded by artefacts contemporary with the original performance of *Agamemnon*, and the capacity crowd enjoyed touring the display after the show. A specially-composed soundtrack (by Anthony Kelly and UCD Science: Artist in Residence 2014, David Stalling) provided an ethereal atmosphere for the evening. Assistance from student volunteers from the School of Classics and member of the public including Paddy Sammon, Sean McCrum, Anthony Kelly, EL Putnam or Doreen Kennedy ensured that the event ran smoothly, and its success demonstrates that there is an appetite amongst the public for engaging with Classical heritage.

New Irish Language seminar series established

The School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore and Linguistics is currently embarking on an initiative to broaden discussion of the Irish language, with two separate and complementary series of seminars. The *Léann na Teanga* series focuses on linguistic research on the development of the Irish language from the earliest historical period until the

present day, while the *Ó Thrácht go Twitter* series is based on Irish language writing practices and communication studies across a variety of platforms.

On 29th January, Dr John Walsh from NUI Galway delivered the first of the *Ó Thrácht go Twitter* seminars on the practices, identity and ideology regarding new speakers of Irish. The *Léann na Teanga* series began on February 7th with a paper from Dr Siobhán Ní Laoire, DIT, on communities of practice and the language of the broadcast media.

Both seminar series continued throughout the spring semester. It is hoped that these new initiatives will promote academic reflection on the latest research strands in their respective areas and will serve a wide academic and general audience representing the collaborative effort of researchers both within the school and with other agencies.



Caroline McGrotty, Senan Dunne and Geraldine Fitzgerald celebrate after receiving their Certificate in Equality Studies, delivered through Irish Sign Language, from the UCD Equality Studies Centre; at a ceremony in UCD April

Students complete first ever course delivered through Irish Sign Language

The first group of students in Ireland to complete their course through Irish Sign Language were recently awarded a Certificate in Equality Studies from UCD.

The 24 students from Dublin, Meath, Monaghan, Limerick, Kildare and Kerry attended classes on Saturdays during term time over the course of 2 years.

"The UCD Certificate in Equality Studies (30 credit module) delivered through Irish Sign

Language (ISL) is the first of its kind in Ireland," said Phyllis Murphy, Director of Equality Studies Outreach Programme at UCD School of Social Justice.

"ISL is the primary language of the Irish Deaf Community, but is not currently recognised as an official language in Ireland."

"During the course, which is delivered in partnership with the Irish Deaf Society, students examined society's attitude to the Deaf Community in the context of their own experiences. This enabled them to develop a critical view of equality and social justice issues that affect them and other members of the Deaf Community in Ireland."

Eddie Redmond, a presenter who signs for RTE was a student on the course. All 24 students who completed the course attended the award ceremony in Belfield.

UCD Equality Studies Centre is located in the UCD School of Social Justice, University College Dublin, which is widely recognised for its work with minority and marginalised groups in Ireland and other EU countries.



Professor
Pádraig Cunningham

The popularity and widespread adoption of social media platforms like Twitter and YouTube has meant that the activity of people using these services can often reflect real world behaviour, attitudes and interactions. It is an exciting time for data scientists.

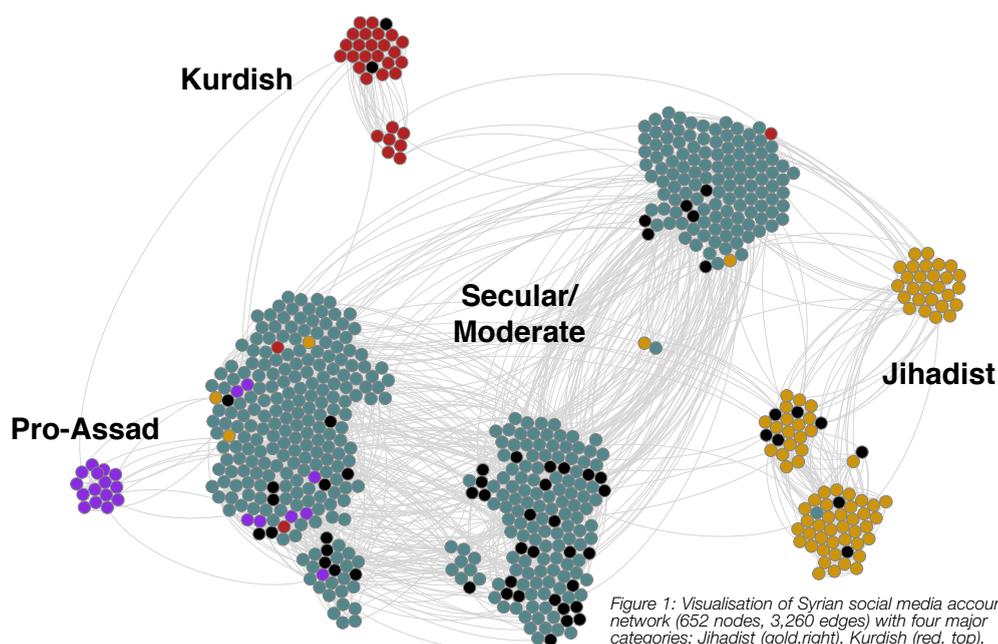


Figure 1: Visualisation of Syrian social media account network (652 nodes, 3,260 edges) with four major categories: Jihadist (gold, right), Kurdish (red, top), Pro-Assad (purple, left), and Secular/Moderate opposition (blue, center). Black nodes are members of multiple communities. Visualisation was performed with the OpenOrd layout in Gephi

Social media and the Syria crisis: Unravelling the nuances of online political activism

The availability of these vast amounts of online data can lead to interesting insights that could not ordinarily be gleaned from traditional research interviews, questionnaires or group observations.

Already, many studies in multidisciplinary fields encompassing data science, politics and social psychology have analysed specific situations, like how US democrats and republicans interact during election time. This begins with well-established “real world” relationships and looks to social media for confirmation - but what happens when this real world situation is rather more complicated or even unknown?

This is the case with the Syria conflict, explains Pádraig Cunningham, Professor of Knowledge and Data Engineering, School of Computer Science and Informatics, and a director of the Insight Centre for Data Analytics at UCD. Professor Cunningham is one of the co-authors of a paper that investigates the online aspect of what has been called the most socially mediated conflict in history.

The research paper, led by first author Derek O’Callaghan, set about exploring the Twitter and YouTube activity of a range of protagonists in the Syrian conflict, looking at their online activity, as well as how this activity reflected real world events. Uniquely, what is known as the Grounded Theory method was applied to identify these communities. “This means we start with the data and work backwards,” explains co-author Dr Derek Greene, Research Fellow, School of Computer Science and Informatics.

“In some ways this is quite different to how others approach the scientific method, because we don’t have the information for an advance hypothesis ahead of gathering data,” he adds.

Another unique aspect of the research that helped with these analyses is that smaller datasets were used; O’Callaghan and the other

researchers used datasets arising from curated lists on Twitter created by users deemed to be authoritative or trustworthy.

These smaller datasets meant that experts in online political activism Nico Prucha, University of Vienna and Dr Maura Conway, Dublin City University, could carry out in-depth qualitative analysis of these interactions and get to the context and relevancy of what was being communicated across these social media platforms.

“We would like to emphasise the importance of collaboration in this study. Insight is a data analytics hub that fosters links to researchers in the life sciences, social sciences and humanities. Data analytics cannot be successful in isolation,” states Cunningham.

This idea of “small data” is new, but gaining traction, says Greene. Although big data is great for high-level insights this study required a closer look at specific communities.

“We wanted to be able to focus in. When you have the human interpretation aspect where political scientists are analysing individual connections and translating individual tweets it needs to be a manageable dataset.”

Using these methods in conjunction with computational analysis and community detection techniques the research team found that there were four major categories; Jihadist, Kurdish, Pro-Assad and Secular/Moderate opposition with actors who were members in multiple communities.

These communities weren’t simply polarized, as was the case with studies of online activism that looked at Republicans and Democrats or Islamists and Secularists in Egypt. It was found that rather than being black and white, there were several shades of grey when it came to how the communities opposed or interacted with each other.

“We feel there are certain alliances and organisations that exist on the ground and that

some of this appears on social media. You can think of social media as a sampling of the main population, but it is important to acknowledge that it is a biased sample,” explains Cunningham.

“For example, the Pro-Assad online community is quite small but this doesn’t reflect the situation on the ground and the anti-regime online community are much more active than the pro-regime community.”

Interestingly, Cunningham notes: “We have carried out related studies and dissenters tend to be more active on social media.”

Insight UCD has previously carried out related studies on social network analytics that has seen them working with Irish crowd-sourcing news organisation Storyful, recently acquired by News Corp for 18 million. The whole idea of citizen journalism using social media was one of the motivators for this research study, says Greene.

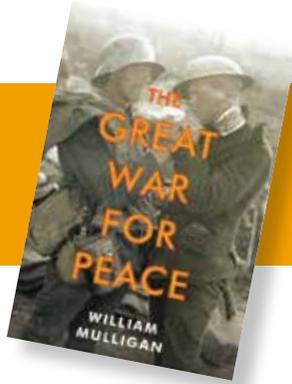
Greene makes reference to UK-based citizen journalist Eliot Higgins aka Brown Moses, who has become known for his data-driven approach to exposing Syrian arm trafficking and has become an expert on the Syrian conflict through gathering and analyzing video footage from YouTube, as well as information from online forums and social networking sites.

“Higgins’ efforts pointed to a more complex and nuanced scenario that was more than just Pro-Assad or Anti-Assad,” says Greene, adding that he feels their paper is hopefully a starting point for more studies on Syria and similar situations.

“We’d like to think that our approach is somewhat novel and we cannot underestimate the importance of having an interdisciplinary team as part of this,” he adds.

Professor Pádraig Cunningham, Derek O’Callaghan and Dr Derek Greene were in conversation with Marie Boran (BSc 2002), a freelance science and technology writer.

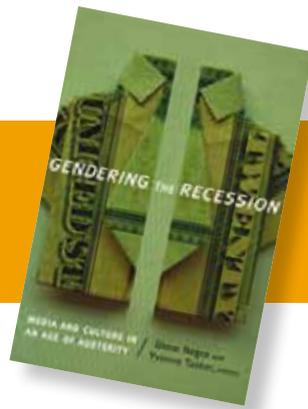
Books



Can war promote peace?

The First World War is often viewed as the seminal catastrophe of the twentieth century; the crucible from which Soviet, Fascist, and Nazi dictatorships emerged. Today's conventional wisdom is that the 'Great War' attuned the world to large-scale slaughter, that post-war efforts directed by the Treaty at Versailles were botched and that unbridled new nationalisms made the Second World War inevitable.

A provocative new book, by Dr William Mulligan, senior lecturer, School of History and Archives, refutes such interpretations. In *The Great War for Peace*, published by Yale University Press, he argues instead that the first two decades of the twentieth century—and the First World War in particular—played an essential part in the construction of a peaceful new order on a global scale. A fresh look is taken at the aspirations of statesmen, soldiers, intellectuals, and civilians who participated in the war and at the new ideas about peace that were forged. While the hope for ultimate peace may have legitimized and even intensified the violence of the war, it also broadened conventional ideas about international politics and led to the emergence of such institutions as the League of Nations and the International Labour Organization. The experience of the First World War reinforced humanitarian concerns in political life and focused attention on building a better and more peaceful world order, Mulligan shows. Such issues resonate still in the political and diplomatic debates of today.



Gender, culture and the Recession

After over a decade of rampant economic activity in the West, the semicollapse of the global financial system in 2007-8 inaugurated a set of profound cultural shifts. A new book of essays examines how a recession impacts the portrayal of gender in mainstream media and popular culture. *Gendering the Recession*, edited by Professor Diane Negra, School of English, Drama & Film and Professor Yvonne Tasker, University of East Anglia, provides feminist analyses of a recession-era media culture; exploring the ways that recessionary culture is inflecting, intensifying and altering postfeminism in complex ways.

Gendering the Recession finds a media culture characterized by the re-emergence and refashioning of familiar gender tropes, including crisis masculinity, coping women, and postfeminist self-renewal. Interpreting media forms as diverse as reality television, financial journalism, novels, lifestyle blogs, popular cinema, and advertising, the contributors reveal gendered narratives that recur across media forms too often considered in isolation from one another. By acknowledging the contradictions between political rhetoric and popular culture, and between diverse screen fantasies and lived realities, *Gendering the Recession*, published by Duke University Press, helps to make sense of this post boom cultural moment.



Architecture through the ages

Architecture since 1400 by Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty, School of Art History and Cultural Policy, is the first global history of architecture to give equal attention to Western and non-Western structures and built landscapes. The book,

published by University of Minnesota Press, is unprecedented in its range, approach, and insight. From Tenochtitlan's Great Pyramid in Mexico City and the Duomo in Florence to Levittown's suburban tract housing and the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing, its coverage includes the world's most celebrated structures and spaces along with many examples of more humble vernacular buildings.

Illustrated with more than 300 photographs, plans, and interiors, it presents key moments and innovations in architectural modernity around the globe. While integrating architectural and social history, Professor James-Chakraborty pays particular attention to the motivations of client and architect in the design and construction of environments both sacred and secular. The sweeping scale of the book makes clear that visionary architecture has never been the exclusive domain of the West and provides a cross-cultural history of the built environment over six centuries.



The origins of picturesque Ireland

That Ireland is picturesque is a well-worn cliché, but little is understood of how this perception was created, painted, and manipulated during the long 18th century. *Ireland and the Picturesque: Design, Landscape Painting, and Tourism, 1700-1840* positions Ireland at the core of the picturesque's development and argues for a far greater degree of Irish influence on the course of European landscape theory and design.

Positioned off-shore from mainland Europe and America, where better to cultivate the oblique perspective? In this volume, author Dr Finola O'Kane, UCD School of Architecture, provides a scholarly introduction to the cult of the untamed landscape that developed in Europe in the mid-eighteenth century, in reaction to the formalist design aesthetic of the Renaissance. The book, published by Yale University Press, charts the creation of picturesque Ireland, while exploring in detail the role and reach of landscape painting in the planning, publishing, landscaping and design of Ireland's historic landscapes, towns, and tourist routes. Thus it is also a history of the physical shaping of Ireland as a tourist destination, one of the earliest, most calculated, and most successful in the world.

With thanks to the Campus Bookshop

UCD staff explore approaches to 'Working Smarter Together'

The inaugural **Work Smarter Together UCD staff event** took place on **March 13th**, with the purpose of giving UCD staff an opportunity to consider new approaches to the changing landscape of higher education and social media, as well as to explore the various ways that staff can use the huge amount of data being generated by the University to best advantage. The event was coordinated by three support units: **UCD Registry, UCD IT Services and UCD Library**; creating an opportunity for colleagues from administrative, academic, research, and support backgrounds to come together and learn from each other as well as industry leaders.

250 UCD staff from a range of schools and units across the University attended. The programme began with an opening address from UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks, followed by the keynote speaker Lord David Puttnam (film maker and Digital Champion for Ireland) who enlightened the audience with his unique experience and inspirational insights on the future of higher education.

Plenary session speakers included Brian Hipkin, Dean of Students, Regent's University and Vice Chair of AMOSSHE whose talk entitled *Disengagement in an age of Engagement* centred around how technology is now a growing part of human behaviour which in turn is influencing aspects of education.

Dr Brian MacNamee, Lecturer and Researcher from the School of Computing DIT closed with a presentation entitled *Big Data*, offering insights into the inconceivable amounts of data being generated due to the use of technology in our daily lives.

Six breakout sessions took place throughout the day covering a variety of topics which included UCD Online, digital and social media, the Newman Joyce project, using analytics to monitor student engagement, as well as the use of GIS (Geographical Information Systems) to interpret and analyse data sets.

24 posters, showcasing collaborative projects and ways of working smarter together, were displayed. The Judge's choice poster prize was awarded to Ursula Byrne and Rosalind Pan from the Library for their poster entitled *Mainstreaming Social Media* while the People's choice, as voted for by delegates on the day was awarded to Eoin O'Donovan,



UCD staff attending the inaugural 'Work Smarter Together' event in March had a chance to peruse 24 posters showcasing collaborative projects from UCD Registry, UCD IT Services and UCD Library

Andrew Meagher and Michael Kinsella from UCD IT Services for their poster *IT Hero*.

Podcasts of Professor Andrew Deeks opening address, Lord David Puttnam's speech and lecture capture slides of Brian Hipkin and Dr Brian Mac Namee's talk are available on www.ucd.ie/worksmartertogether.ie

New genetic test for muscular dystrophy in the Japanese Spitz

A number of muscular dystrophy diseases are known to affect humans and are recognised as extremely debilitating disorders. In 2004 a group of veterinarians working within the UCD Veterinary Hospital described a series of 7 Japanese Spitz dogs affected with a newly recognised muscular dystrophy characterised by truncated dystrophin.

Only male dogs were affected and it was associated with severe clinical signs necessitating euthanasia before approximately one year of age. Since that date research has continued in this disorder and due to the considerable work of Dr Kay Nolan of the School of Biology and Environmental Science, the causative mutation, a chromosomal translocation, has now been recognised. Both affected males, and more importantly, carrier females, can now be recognised using a simple test involving collection of saliva. It is hoped that with identification of these animals and selected breeding, this debilitating disorder can be eliminated from this breed. This work has been recognised internationally as a breakthrough in investigations into muscular dystrophies in dogs. Further details on this disorder and sampling can be found at <http://www.ucd.ie/vthweb/jst.html>



At the Grand Final of the ENGAGE Seminar series held in the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science in April were (l-r) Will Goodbody, RTE; PhD student Kate Connor; PhD student Jennifer Cassidy; PhD student Nurriza Ab Latif; PhD student and runner up Markus Schroder; PhD student and winner Crystal O'Connor; PhD student Helena Frain; Kathriona Devereux, RTE; Dr Keith Murphy, Head of School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science; and Fiona Coghlan, Ireland Women's Rugby Captain

ENGAGE Seminars Grand Final rewards accessible science

On Tuesday April 15th, six UCD PhD students took part in the Grand Final of the ENGAGE Seminar series in the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science, in front of their colleagues, friends, families and the members of the general public. The ENGAGE Seminars, hosted by the School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science, challenge late-stage PhD students to present their own PhD research to a public, non-specialist audience in an accessible and engaging way. Over twenty PhD students participated in internal heats, adjudicated by lay judges, with six students qualifying for the Grand Final. The final event was hosted by Mr Will Goodbody, RTE Science and Technology Correspondent, who was joined in selecting the winning student by Ms Kathriona Devereux (RTE Consumer Show) and Ms Fiona Coghlan (Irish Women's Rugby Captain).

The six finalists were Nurriza Ab Latif, Kate Connor, Markus Schroder and Helena Frain, from the School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and Jennifer Cassidy and Crystal O'Connor, from the School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology. The judging panel was extremely complimentary of all the contestants, noting the high quality of their presentations. After careful deliberations, Crystal O'Connor was announced as the overall winner (and 'one-to-watch') for her presentation entitled *How not to go BOOM*, in which she described how her research is helping to make hydrogen-based

fuels a safe and viable alternative to petrol in running our cars. The runner up was Markus Schroder who cleverly illustrated the complexities of human genetics by comparing human genes to stories in the pages of a book. Dr Keith Murphy, Head of School at SBBS emphasised the critical importance of communicating scientific research to the public and applauded the students for their excellent efforts. Honoured guests included UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks, Dean of Graduate Studies, Professor Julie Berndsen, and College Principal and Dean of Science, Professor Joe Carthy.



UCD students Robyn Daly, Maurice Walsh and Rachel Duffy point the way to careers in Law and Business at the launch of the McCann FitzGerald Chair of International Law and Business; with McCann FitzGerald Chairman, John Cronin; Professor Andy Prothero, UCD Business; and Professor Colin Scott, Head of the UCD Sutherland School of Law

■ New Chair of International Law and Business created

UCD Sutherland School of Law, together with leading Irish law firm, McCann FitzGerald, have announced the creation of the new McCann FitzGerald Chair of International Law and Business. The sponsorship will enable the creation of a unique Masters Degree in International Law and Business.

The Masters will be offered jointly by the UCD Sutherland School of Law and the UCD Smurfit Graduate School of Business. The Masters course will be the first of its kind in Ireland and one of the very few offered to students internationally.

Professor Colin Scott, Head of the UCD Sutherland School of Law said: "McCann FitzGerald is one of Ireland's premier law firms and we are delighted to announce the establishment of the McCann FitzGerald Chair of International Law and Business. The UCD School of Law and the UCD School of Business have long been aware of the important connections between their two disciplines. We feel the timing is excellent to introduce this specialised and innovative new programme."

McCann FitzGerald Chairman, John Cronin said: "We are very pleased to support UCD and to make this contribution to the

development of legal and business study and thinking at the highest level."

"As a firm, we recognise the importance to today's students and to the legal and business communities that Ireland can offer the very best in legal and business education. Our support of this new Chair and the opportunities it will offer permits us to further this endeavour."

Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, UCD Dean of Business, welcomed the new Masters as an outstanding example of the cross disciplinary cooperation vital to the future of higher education; "This new programme will build on the highly successful collaboration between our two schools at undergraduate level. The international dimension that the McCann FitzGerald Chair of International Business & Law will bring will be an invaluable addition in a country that is so dependent on international trade for its future prosperity."



Pictured at the launch of the President of Ireland Ethics Initiative, with President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, were (clockwise from bottom left) UCD students Alope Das, Daisy Kinahan Murphy, Clay D'Arcy, Joe O'Connor, Ronan Walsh, Paulina Szklanna, Manuel Sant'Ana, Michael Gallagher, and Doirean Shivanan

■ President Michael D. Higgins initiates student debate on Ethics

President Michael D. Higgins launched the first student event of The President of Ireland's Ethics Initiative at UCD in late February. The Initiative involves a series of events that will take place throughout the third level sector in Ireland.

UCD is organising two events as part of the initiative. The "we need to talk about ethics because..." initiative is led by Professor Andy Prothero of UCD Business. It is a campus-wide engagement where students capture and share their own thoughts and reasons as to why ethics are important. These are photographed, uploaded to a website and publicised through social media channels. Students' comments will serve as a springboard for follow-up debates and projects around ethics.

The second event, which follows later in the year, focuses on the Role of Conscience, and will be led by Dr Christopher Cowley from UCD School of Philosophy.

■ UCD Business recognises leading alumni

The UCD Business Alumni Awards, which have been running since 1991, are the highest honour UCD Business bestows upon its graduates, recognising alumni who have demonstrated proven leadership skills, notable achievement in business and a significant contribution to the community, whether in Ireland or abroad.

On Friday, April 4th Aidan Brady, CEO, Citibank Europe plc and Citi Country Officer, Ireland, and Siobhan Talbot, Group Managing Director, Glanbia plc, were honoured at this year's UCD Business Alumni of the Year Awards fundraising dinner.

Talbot and Brady join a list of prominent business graduates of UCD who have been previously honoured, including Caroline Casey, CEO, Kanchi; Alan Ennis, CEO, Revlon Group; Patrick Kennedy, CEO, Paddy Power; Senator Feargal Quinn, founder of Superquinn; Gina



Aidan Brady, CEO, Citibank Europe plc and Siobhan Talbot, Group Managing Director, Glanbia plc, who were honoured at this year's UCD Business Alumni of the Year Awards; with Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, Dean, UCD Business

Quin, CEO, Dublin Chamber of Commerce; Aidan Heavey, Tullow Oil; Michael Carey, Jacob Fruitfield; Tony Garry, Davy Stockbrokers; Liam

Fitzgerald, United Drug, and Vivienne Jupp, Accenture, among others.

Speaking of this year's winners, Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, Dean, UCD Business, said, "We are delighted to honour Aidan Brady and Siobhan Talbot as our 2014 Alumni of the Year. Both are passionate about their careers and have been innovative in their actions within their organisations, earning them a high level of respect. Both clearly demonstrate a high level of personal and professional integrity and an entrepreneurial spirit. These are just some of the characteristics that we ask our students to aspire to as future business leaders. Aidan and Siobhan have earned this recognition and we take great pride in their success."

The Alumni of the Year Awards Dinner is sponsored by Tullow Oil and all profits raised will be donated to The UCD Centennial Scholarship Fund, supporting the next generation of business leaders.



Pictured at the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science are members of the winning 2014 BT Business Bootcamp project team (l-r); Cut Aina Hannisa, Emma Kirwan, Eamonn Sweeney, Anna McEvoy and Alex Gallagher Lynch

Students put innovation into practice at Business Bootcamp

The 2014 BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp, delivered in partnership with UCD, aims to bridge the gap between education and business for students who demonstrate entrepreneurial flair and business acumen.

Now in its fifth year, the four-day innovation and skills camp involved 29 second-level students from across Ireland. The participating students were selected in January from over 1,200 secondary school students who competed in the 2014 BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition.

The winners of the 2014 BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp programme held at NovaUCD, were recently announced. Alex Gallagher Lynch, from St Nathy's College, Co. Roscommon; Anna McEvoy from Our Lady's College, Co. Louth; Cut Aina Hannisa, from Regina Mundi College, Co. Cork; Eamonn Sweeney, from Jesus & Mary Secondary School, Co Sligo and Emma Kirwan, from Tullamore College, Co. Offaly won 'best overall team' for their work on the project 'addressing the issue of unnoticed road signs'.

The project set out to design and engineer a cost effective solution to the issue of unnoticed road signs. Evaluated by a judging panel from business, media and academia, the winning team was selected for its significant progress over the course of the programme. Katie Culligan, from Dominican College Drumcondra, Dublin, was recognised as the best individual student.

Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact said, "I hope that this intensive 4-day Bootcamp has helped to instil an ethos of entrepreneurship amongst the students, who are our next generation of leaders in science and technology, and an appreciation of what is required to convert innovative ideas into viable businesses selling products and services which can impact our economy and society."

New UCD student innovation fund launched

Six early-stage start-ups being established by UCD students have been awarded a combined total of over €15,500 through a new UCD Student Innovation Fund. Established by the UCD Student Centre in association with the UCD Students' Union, the aim of the fund is to encourage UCD undergraduate and postgraduate student inventors and entrepreneurs by giving them the opportunity to secure funding to assist them in further developing their start-up ideas.

At a 'Dragons' Den' style event, held in the UCD Student Centre, over 30 business ideas were pitched to a panel of judges who decided to fund 6 of the ideas.

Speaking after the event, Dominic O'Keeffe, UCD Director of Student Services and Facilities said, "This event demonstrates that UCD students are among the next generation of Irish entrepreneurs and innovators and that by providing positive support, encouragement and access to some early-stage funding that we can assist them to turn their business ideas into start-ups."

Micheál Gallagher, President, UCD Students' Union said, "I was delighted when this opportunity came along for the UCD Students' Union be able to help students realise their entrepreneurial goals. Sometimes all it takes is some seed funding and business support to help transform an idea into reality."

In addition to financial support, the student entrepreneurs can also avail of ongoing support and advice from the UCD Students' Union and the UCD Student Centre and where appropriate participate on programmes such as the UCD Commercialisation Bootcamp held at NovaUCD.

UCD Spin-out company wins 'Innovation of the Year' award

OxyMem Ltd, a UCD spin-out company, has been declared winner of the overall 'Innovation of the Year' Award at the 2014 Irish Times InterTradeIreland Innovation Awards, with their breakthrough 'bubbleless' wastewater aeration system that is typically four times more energy efficient than best in class solutions available today.

At the awards event OxyMem Ltd, was also declared the winner of the Energy and the Environment category award and a second UCD spin-out company, APC Ltd, was

declared winner of the Bioscience category award.

OxyMem Ltd was co-founded in 2013 by Professor Eoin Casey and Dr Eoin Syron as spin-out from UCD's School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering.

Until now wastewater aeration has been a very energy intensive process which relied on 'forced' or 'bubble aeration' to deliver oxygen to the bacteria that break down the wastewater. Pumping and treating wastewater typically accounts for up to 2.5% of all electrical power produced in a developed country and the aeration process comprises, on average, of 60% of this energy.

OxyMem's patented technology does not rely on a bubble to deliver oxygen to the bacteria. Instead it uses a gas permeable membrane to deliver oxygen directly to the micro-organisms resulting in up to 99% oxygen transfer efficiency, as no oxygen is lost to atmosphere.

OxyMem currently employs 12 people and is in the process of closing a 2 million funding round, with plans to increase staff numbers to 35 by the end of the year.

Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact said, "OxyMem's breakthrough technology for wastewater aeration has resulted from several years of research by Professor Casey and Dr Syron in UCD's School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering and underlines UCD's expertise in this research area."



Thomas Hunter McGowan, CEO, InterTradeIreland; Professor Eoin Casey, UCD School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering, co-founder, OxyMem; Wayne Byrne, CEO, OxyMem; An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD and Liam Kavanagh, Irish Times at the InterTradeIreland innovation awards



Pictured at the opening of UCD Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers Day 2014 are Ms Sheenagh Casey, Chair AgSoc Careers Committee; Prof. Alex Evans, Dean, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science; Mr Jim Miley, Commercial Director Irish Times and Mr Sean Farrell, Agricultural Science Association President

Record numbers of exhibitors at Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers Day

A record number of employers exhibited at this year's UCD Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers Day in the Astra Hall on February 18th. This annual event, organised by the Agricultural Science Students Society (AgSoc), continues to grow each year and has become one of the key events in the AgSoc annual calendar. Ms Sheenagh Casey, chair of the AgSoc careers committee led the coordination of this year's event, during which final year students and prospective employers came face to face. Organisations such as Dawn Meats, Glanbia, Norbrook Laboratories, Kepak and Progressive Genetics were just some of the many exhibitors attending this year's event.

Mr Jim Miley, Commercial Director, The Irish Times and UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science alumnus gave the keynote address in the FitzGerald debating chamber. Mr Miley discussed the many roles he has occupied since graduating from the Faculty of Agriculture and shared some of his experiences with final year UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science undergraduate students in attendance.



Pictured at the first workshop as part of the UCD/ASA Management Development Programme on Leadership in Agribusiness on 27th March were (l-r) John Moloney, former chief executive Glanbia, Sean Farrell, ASA President and Alan Renwick, Professor of Agricultural and Food Economics, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science

UCD and ASA offer management development programme

The UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science are currently coordinating a Management Development Programme, organised for members of the Agricultural Science Association.

The Agricultural Science Association is the professional body for graduates in agricultural, horticultural, forestry, environmental and food science. The programme consists of three interactive and intensive half-day sessions aimed at providing both theoretical and practical insights into key issues in food and agribusiness. The sessions are facilitated by Professor Alan Renwick, Professor of Agricultural and Food Economics at UCD, and programme coordinator on the new MSc in Food Business Strategy, which begins in September 2014.

The subject of the first workshop which took place on March 27th was Leadership in Agribusiness – the Case of Glanbia. The special guest at the workshop was John

Moloney, who retired as chief executive of Glanbia in late 2013. He participated in a detailed discussion on the Glanbia story, from its emergence from the Avonmore/Glanbia merger to the global cheese and nutritional business it is today.

The second workshop on Managing the Export Challenge – the case of Dairymaster took place in the Castleknock Hotel on April 15th, with special guest Dr Edmond Harty, chief executive of Dairymaster.

Professor Marcos Fava Neves, FEARP Business School, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, is the special guest at the final workshop on 12 June, also in the Castleknock Hotel. Focusing on an international business, it will examine key areas in food business strategy.

Due to strong demand from ASA members, all workshops in the series are booked out.

Urraíocht ar leabhair Ghaeilge in Naíolann Chnocán Daire, UCD

Rinne Bord na Gaeilge UCD ceiliúradh ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge trí leabharlann bheag Ghaeilge a bhronnadh ar Naíolann Chnocán Daire áit a mbeidh leanaí, idir leanaí óga agus pháistí scoile, ábalta teacht ar leabhair pictiúr agus ar leabhair mireanna mearaí, ar scéalta faoi leipreacháin agus ar leabhair luathfhoghlama faoi dhathanna, cruthanna agus focail. Is de bharr urraíocht ghnáúil ó Bhord na Gaeilge UCD é seo, an t-am céanna a raibh an crèche féin ag déanamh ceiliúradh ar theangacha idirnáisiúnta, Gaeilge ina measc. An Dr Síofra Píerse, a bhfuil clann aici sa crèche agus ar comhaltá de Bhord na Gaeilge i gcomhar le Clár Ní Bhuaichalla agus Ailbhe Ní Chonghaile ó Bhord na Gaeilge le treoir ó Jennifer Kinsella, Bainisteoir Naíolann Chnocán Daire, a thug ar an crèche áit bheag léitheoireachta a bhunú i halla an crèche atá anois feistithe amach leis na leabhair Ghaeilge is

déanaí do leanaí. Tá an-tóir ag na leanaí beaga ar an gcoirnéal beag sócúil léitheoireachta atá ar an mbealach isteach agus amach acu as an crèche gach lá.

The idea behind Bord na Gaeilge's sponsorship is to introduce pre-school children to the look and sounds of the Irish language, which many of these children will eventually meet again once they begin school, if they stay within the Irish system. As there is a substantial international population within UCD Oakmount Crèche, the gift of Irish-language books is particularly useful for introducing both Irish and non-Irish parents and their children to the first national language of this country. Early exposure to multiple languages has long been proven to be an extremely positive event - the ease of language-acquisition at this young age is second to none. Whether they are learning the Chinese

alphabet or the cúpla focal, the children at Oakmount absorb linguistic acrobatics with ease.



Seachtain na Gaeilge 2014 saw the donation of additional Irish books to the 'mini library' in UCD Oakmount Crèche, first established in 2013. Crèche manager Jennifer Kinsella, centre, accepted the donation from (right) Ailbhe Ní Chonghaile, UCD Bord na Gaeilge and (left) Dr Síofra Píerse, School of Languages and Literatures, Bord na Gaeilge member, and crèche mum



Darren Doherty, UCD Karate Club, with the Gerry Horkan Club Administrator of the Year award and Shauna O'Brien, UCD Swimming Club, with the Dr Tony O'Neill Sports Person of the Year award during the UCD Sports Awards 2013/2014

Over 400 Students Honoured at Sports Awards

At the UCD Athletic Union Council Sport Awards ceremony on May 1st in the UCD Student Centre, over 400 students from 25 different sports clubs were honoured for their sporting achievements on behalf of the University over the last twelve months.

A number of special awards were presented on the night. The Ladies Hockey first team was named the 'Elite Team of the Year' following their victory in the Irish Senior Cup, Irish Hockey League, the Leinster League Division A and the Chilean Cup. The Ladies Hockey Club was also named the 'Elite Club of the Year' in recognition of the outstanding competitive success at all levels in the club. Indeed, in addition to the First team's dominance of domestic hockey, the Seconds won the Irish Junior Cup and the Thirds won Division 6 and secured promotion to Division 5 of the Leinster League next season.

Ten players were also capped for Ireland at senior level.

International swimmer Shauna O'Brien was named as the 'Dr Tony O'Neill Sports Person of the Year', in recognition of her 50 metre butterfly short course and 100 metre butterfly long course Irish records. Shauna also broke Michelle Smith's 18 year old 100 metre butterfly short course record in December 2013.

Among the other award winners on the night was Darren Doherty from the Karate Club who was named the 'Gerry Horkan Club Administrator of the Year'. The Women's Soccer team was

named the 'Varsity Team of the Year' and the Sailing Club was named the 'Varsity Club of the Year'.

Commenting on the sporting achievements UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks, said that "Sport is an integral part of student life at UCD and the fact that we have so many students from so many clubs who are not only triumphant at Intervarsity level, but many others taking on the cream of competition nationally and internationally, underlines the quality of our sportsmen and women".

Sporting successes for UCD Ad Astra Elite Athletes

The 2013-2014 academic year saw a wide range of sporting successes for the UCD Ad Astra Elite Athletes, UCD students who are competing at the highest available level in their chosen sport.

In soccer Chloe Mustaki, a Commerce International student, captained the U-19s women's Irish team through the Elite phase in Holland in April, to reach the European Finals that are taking place this summer in Norway. This is the first time that an Irish Women's team has reached the European Finals at U-19s level.

Jack McCaffrey, studying medicine, captained the winning Dublin U-21s Gaelic Football team, having been part of the winning Dublin All-Ireland football team last year. Jack

was honoured as 'Man of the Match' in the semi finals as well as 'Young GAA Footballer of the Year'. Rory O'Carroll, studying a masters in Social Policy, was also part of the winning Dublin All-Ireland football team. He recently featured on the League title winning Dublin team and achieved his first GAA All-star award.

Commerce student Max O'Reilly-Hyland was selected to participate in Equestrian sports in the World University Games. In Kayaking, MSc Marketing student Jennifer Burke will feature on the Irish National team to participate in the World Cup Series in Italy in May, followed by the Czech Republic and Hungary.

In the sport of Modern Pentathlon, which involves the disciplines of fencing, swimming, showjumping, running and shooting, Sport and Exercise Management student and London 2012 Olympian Arthur Lanigan O'Keeffe was invited to compete in the prestigious Kremlin Cup. He is one of just 15 high profile athletes worldwide invited to participate.

UCD Ad Astra Elite Athletes fared particularly well in the sport of hockey this year. Sport and Exercise Management student Shane O'Donoghue, who has 48 international caps, represented Ireland at the European Hockey

Championships and won bronze at Champions Challenge, Argentina. Shane also represented Ireland in World Cup qualifiers and European Championships in which Ireland retained Division A status – scoring two crucial goals against England and four in the tournament. Arts student Nicholas Burns and Physiotherapy student Jeremy Duncan each got four caps for Ireland, while History student Peter Brown and Business and Law student Kirk Shimmins will both play in the Champions Challenge in Malaysia in May 2014.

Swimmer and first year Commerce student Darragh McDonald will compete in the World Paralympic Championships in August, hoping to add to his trawl of medals, including a paralympic bronze in Beijing 2008 and a gold in London 2012.

Golfer and Law student Chloe Ryan finished in the top 10 in the South American Open in Columbia, was a quarter finalist in the Spanish Open and won the Irish Intervarsity series Order of Merit. She also won the Royal County Down Scratch Cup, came 4th in the Scottish Open in April and will play in the Welsh Open and Florida Open in May.



The UCD Choral Scholars with their Musical Director Dr Desmond Earley (centre back) pictured during their tour of the USA

UCD Choral Scholars: Signing in the USA

The UCD Choral Scholars, the scholarship chamber choir of Ireland's largest university, embarked on a musical journey of the eastern United States in March, bringing one of UCD's performing groups in direct contact with an American audience. The tour coincided with the official Saint Patrick's Day celebrations in the United States, and UCD Choral Scholars were invited to perform at a number of high-profile concerts, official Irish government functions and at esteemed Irish-American events. Joint performances with USA university choirs and ensembles were a strategic feature of the nine-day tour. UCD Choral Scholars presented joint

programmes with the choirs of University of Connecticut, Smith College choirs and Long Island University choirs and ensemble. In addition, the UCD Ad Astra Ensemble, comprising students of the UCD Ad Astra Academy for the Performing Arts, joined UCD Choral Scholars in full concert programmes at Saint Patrick's Cathedral (Manhattan, NY), at Saint Peter's Church (Chelsea, Manhattan, NY), Berklee College of Music (Boston, MA), and Lehman College (Bronx, NY). At a number of diplomatic and business events UCD Music students acted as ambassadors for the school, the university, and our country: they performed

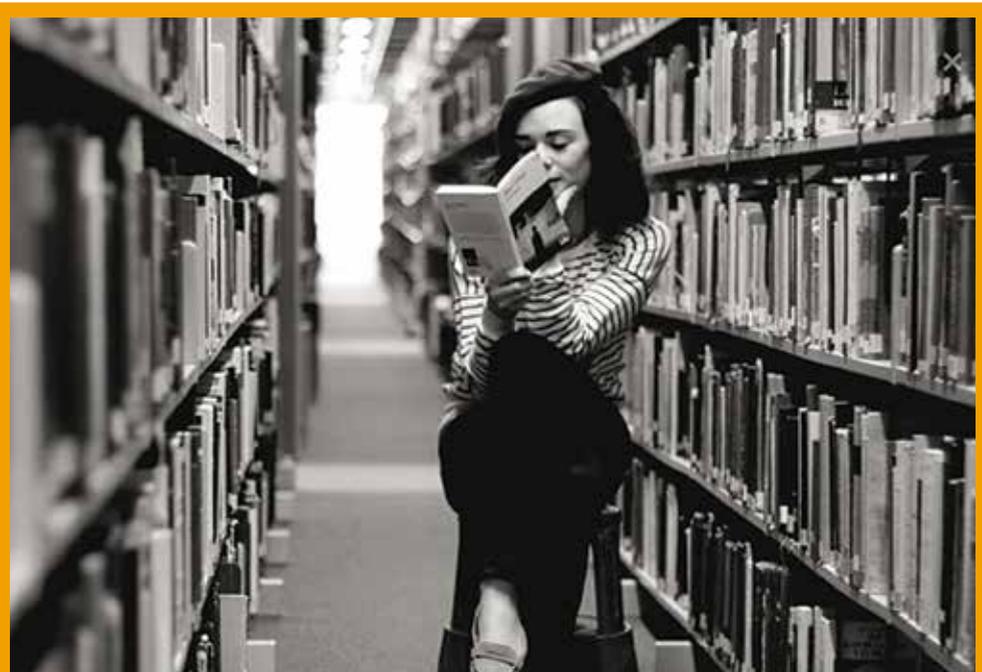
at the Consul General's Saint Patrick's Day Reception in Boston, at the America-Ireland Fund Young Achievers Event in Boston, and at the Sober Saint Patrick's Day event in Manhattan. The tour exposed American audiences to Irish contemporary choral and instrumental art-music and to arrangements of traditional songs. Contemporary Irish works included a special commission for UCD Choral Scholars by Bill Whelan, with lyrics by UCD Professor of Creative Writing, School of English, Drama and Film, Frank McGuinness, entitled 'Sun, Moon and Stars'.

Relay for Life – UCD students step up for cancer fundraising

Cancer will affect 1 in 3 people in Ireland during their lifetime. In April, UCD students came out in force to raise cancer awareness as well as raising funds for the Irish Cancer Society.

Hundreds of students took part in Relay for Life UCD, a 24-hour event held in Devlin park pitches on campus, from 2pm on April 9th until 2pm on April 10th.

A special aspect of Relay for Life is the team effort. Teams made up of between 10-15 people made sure that at least one member of the team stayed on the 'track' at all times, whether they were running, walking, dancing, skipping, or in some cases taking part in wheelbarrow pairs. Around the track, student groups and societies set up fun stands, stalls and entertainment to keep the spirits up all night while raising funds for the Irish Cancer Society, who also took a stand and staged information talks. As afternoon turned to dusk, a 'Candle of Hope Ceremony' took place. Participants had been invited to dedicate a candle to someone they know who had been touched by cancer. As the evening approached, the candles were set around the track and lit by participants, giving the whole community an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the event.



The School of Languages and Literatures ran a French Week 'marinière' photo competition for students. This winning photo is by first year student Hannah Pisani

French week at UCD: marinière à Dublin

French Week, co-ordinated by the School of Languages and Literatures from March 3rd to 8th was a week filled with French-focused activities, one of which was a student photo competition on the theme: 'marinière à Dublin'. The marinière is the long-sleeved cotton t-shirt with narrow horizontal blue and white stripes typically associated with Breton sailors, although nowadays any striped top is called a marinière, regardless of the colour of the stripes. The competition required the marinière to be located in Dublin so School of Languages and Literatures

judges, lecturer Dr Siofra Pierse and language assistants Stéphanie Croizet and Pauline Rohou received a wealth of stripey-yet-romantic views of Frenchness in and about Dublin. Two first year students came top of the photo class this year. The runner-up offering was a quirky offering by student Adam Daly whose marinière photo suggested a double-take on the RTE 'Tour Eiffel', while the winning photo by student Hannah Pisani was particularly local: a black-and-white atmospheric shot featuring a UCD student reading.