

UCD

# today

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## Margaret Atwood receives the UCD Ulysses Medal



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## Atwood, Joyce and Ulysses



EILIS O'BRIEN  
Director of Communication  
and Marketing

**Listening to Margaret Atwood's response to receiving the Ulysses Medal on 6 June (see page 5), I was struck by how thoughtful, captivating and relevant she was. She is, indeed, a worthy recipient of our highest honour, not just because of her extraordinary catalogue of novels but for her influence on public opinion on such topics as power and politics, society and the environment, and of course, gender equality.**

Speaking to a packed O'Reilly Hall in a conversation with John Banville and Paul Perry, Margaret Atwood made it clear that there is truth in every passage she has written and that the scenes that may have shocked readers and viewers of *The Handmaid's Tale* were based on things that had actually happened and not created by her imagination of how a dystopian society might behave.

When it came to her response, Margaret Atwood drew a direct connection to James Joyce as her return tribute to the University. She spoke of Leopold Bloom and compared his depiction to "traditional" central male characters in novels. She couldn't imagine Heathcliff ever picking his nose or carrying out any other bodily function for that matter. But, over the pages of *Ulysses*, Joyce spreads out Leopold's life and limbs, creating the modern form of novel that inspired Atwood to stretch her own characters to depths achieved by the best of writers.

Over the years, among those UCD has honoured with the Ulysses Medal are Seamus Heaney and Bill Clinton, Jürgen Habermas and Albie Sachs, Samantha Power and Onora O'Neill. Besides these politicians, philosophers, poets and public intellectuals are scientists and researchers such as Stephen O'Rahilly, Peter Doherty and Phillip Sharp whose discoveries have advanced human health.

Recognising these individuals through the Ulysses Medal or by bestowing an honorary degree from UCD, makes an important connection between them and our community. Having the opportunity to listen to them as they respond to that connection is just another good reason work and study in this University.

## UCD thanks...

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

Cover image: Margaret Atwood receives the UCD Ulysses Medal





Our photo shows Shelly McNamara and Yvonne Farrell from Grafton Architects at the event.

## UCD at La Biennale di Venezia, 16th International Architecture Exhibition

**The Venice Biennale of Architecture is the most celebrated major exhibition of architecture in the world bringing together the best and most interesting work in the field every two years.**

This year is hugely exciting for UCD as our alumni and adjunct professors, Shelly McNamara and Yvonne Farrell from Grafton Architects were invited to curate the exhibition, which is a recognition of their standing in world architecture. The thematic title they have chosen is 'Freespace'. Two of the core team of three taken on to deliver the project and its accompanying catalogue (the spaces for exhibition to be curated are equivalent in size to O'Connell St), Alice Clancy and Emmett Scanlon, are assistant professors at UCD.

Professors Sheila O'Donnell and John Tuomey were among the international practices exhibiting in the Arsenale, along with alumni Niall McLaughlin (awarded an honorary doctorate by UCD in 2017) and Shane DeBlacam. In the other main venue, the Giardini, a number of UCD faculty – Peter Cody, Marcus Donaghy, Will Dimond, Mary Laheen, Aoiheann Ni Mhearáin and Michael Pike – all exhibited in a special section called Close Encounter which was co-curated by Dean of Architecture, Professor Hugh Campbell.

Meanwhile, Assistant Professor Orla Murphy was one of the team curating the Irish Pavilion at the Biennale, entitled Free Market and looked at the development of Irish towns. At a parallel exhibition in the Palazzo Mora, UCD M Arch students exhibited a film about their final year experiences. The extent of UCD involvement in Venice was testament to the regard in which its faculty and graduates are held worldwide.

This global showcase of architecture previewed on 24/25 May at the Giardini and the Arsenale, Venice and will be open to the public for six months, with over 250,000 visitors expected to attend.

## Internet of Things for Food (IoT4F)

In March 2018 the UCD Institute of Food and Health hosted the first conference in Ireland on the Internet of Things for Food (IoT4F). The conference, organised by Professor Nick Holden of the Institute and UCD School of Biosystems and Food Engineering, was born out of continuing collaborations with the University of California Davis in the area of food. The three day conference was attended by over 130 delegates from across academia, industry, business and finance, and government agencies who discussed the observation, control digitisation and use of data/information, which are be used to radically transform the food system. Discussions focused on robotic devices; digitising data; and applications for food safety, security and sustainability. Keynote speakers included, Adjunct Professor Edmond Harty, Dairymaster; Adjunct Professor Scott Rickard, Citadel; and Andre Lapperriere, Executive Director, GODAN.

A unique element of the three-day programme was the engagement with a group of young school-aged coders and designers, in a competition to use their coding and design skills to develop new game ideas (gamification)



Our photos shows Prof Nick Holden with the overall winners.

in order to learn more about the digitisation of agriculture and food. Run in conjunction with the Academy of Code and sponsored by Origin Enterprises, the group was asked to consider food choices and food waste. The participants were invited to present their games and ideas during the conference breaks where there was significant interaction between the group and the conference delegates.

Plans are already underway for the second IOT4F meeting in UCD next spring.



Pictured at the launch are Prof Colin Scott, Minister for Education and Skills Richard Bruton, Prof Niamh Hardiman and Carol Mellon, 30% Club.

## Increasing gender balance in leadership positions

**UCD College of Social Sciences and Law has partnered with the 30% Club to offer one female candidate a scholarship on the Master of Public Policy at UCD commencing September 2018. This reflects UCD's commitment to promotion of greater gender diversity in leadership positions within public and not for profit sectors. The Master of Public Policy is highly valued by prospective employers and gives candidates competitive advantage in the job market by providing the conceptual, analytical and research skills necessary to succeed in the public and non-profit sector. Professor Colin Scott, Vice-President for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion said: "This scholarship demonstrates our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and creates a unique opportunity for career advancement of women in Public Policy. UCD is proud to partner with the 30% Club on this initiative and looks forward to continued engagement into the future."**

The 30% Club is a global movement committed to better gender balance at all levels of organisations, fostering greater representation of women at executive levels of business and large organisations. Brid Horan, 30% Club Steering Committee member, welcomed the announcement of the UCD 30% Club Scholarship for the Master of Public Policy, further indication of UCD's commitment to increasing gender balance in leadership. "This is a wonderful

opportunity for a woman to advance her career through developing a deeper understanding of the challenging environment for public policy making, effective regulation and administration of public services and ensuring that policy decisions are evidence based. This is a significant expansion of our scholarship programme and will further encourage women to consider executive education as a means of accelerating their career development."



## UCD Festival 2018 in UCD Today

**On a very sunny Saturday 9 June UCD welcomed over 16,000 faculty, staff, students, alumni and members of the local community to campus for the third UCD Festival. Attendees enjoyed the interactive stands, workshops, tours, talks and performances on offer.**

It was the biggest UCD Festival yet with over 100 events taking place across six themed festival zones, there was a range of high octane activities for the whole family to enjoy. Festival goers were invited to open their minds and let loose their imaginations as they explored the innovation, creativity and research that takes place on campus every day. At the Festival Hub our UCD healthcare professionals were on hand at the Teddy Bear and Dolls Clinic to do x-rays and health checks on any ailing teddies and dolls.

This year's Festival featured the Engineering & Technology Zone, a new dedicated area of interactive and innovative technologies. It was a showcase of the technological marvels, celebrating the College of Engineering and Architecture. There was a new Engineering Make-and-Do Zone for families and an expanded range

of interactive activities such as 3D Chocolate printing with the Rapid Foundation, Virtual Reality, Heads ITN with their Helmet Technology and iForm.

Visitors enjoyed UCD National Folklore Collection, a recent addition to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register, heard from UCD faculty and alumni on topical debates such as Vótáil 100, explored Women's Writing Present and Future with Professor Margaret Kelleher and a panel of writers and publishers including; Lisa Coen, Amy Gaffney, Madeline Keane, and Associate Professor Emilie Pine.

There was hands-on science to be experienced at the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science, where budding young scientists learned from the grown-ups about rock cycles, met some amazing beasts like Vanilla the boa constrictor made some new discoveries and learned how to make their own Nanodrug to tackle disease. Researchers and astrophysicists also showcased the latest technology being used to explore space and the universe around us.

Across the lake in the Culture zone Gladiators were on hand with their Roman Army displays, poets both young and old and writers gathered to

share words of wisdom and a love of language at the James Joyce Library, while the Classics Museum welcomed hundreds to see their collection of artefacts.

The UCD Sport and Fitness Centre's Family Fun zone was thumping with high octane fun and sporting activities from noon until the end of the day.

Once again the Inspiration Zones' Family Fun with LEGO education proved very popular, with children and teenagers being encouraged to use their imaginations to build engineering and mechanical feats using Lego.

The College of Social Science and Law delivered a lovely Mind and Body programme, including Meeting your Brain and colouring your social sciences, with young reading enthusiasts enthralled by the wonderful storyteller, Dave Rudden. And of course, the UCD Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture welcomed the masses to see Viking houses and ancient crafts.

The Festival was an unforgettable day that included unique collaborations between UCD faculty and staff, scientists, alumni, artists, theatre performers, commentators, and musicians. UCD Festival 2018 had a record number of superb volunteers and students to help to deliver this great event.



*Pictured (l-r) are MEPs Deirdre Clune, Mairead McGuinness and Brian Hayes with Triona McCormack, Director, UCD Research, Prof Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact and Sean Kelly MEP.*

## UCD Holds Seminar in Brussels to Frame Agri-food Research Priorities in Advance of Horizon Europe

**A UCD seminar, hosted by Brian Hayes MEP, took place in Brussels as part of the University's ongoing dialogue with European policy-makers and stakeholders to frame agri-food research priorities in advance of the next European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation called Horizon Europe.**

The opportunities for Irish food products and for new knowledge that drives and sustains global food markets are considerable. By 2050 the world must feed a population expected to reach 9.6 billion, which coupled with the doubling

of the global middle class by 2030, represents a potential global socio-economic disaster. Growth in food production is not matching growth in global population.

The crucial question is how to satisfy these demands without having any new land to use and without unsustainable ecological consequences. Solving these issues is at the heart of UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda.

It is anticipated that Horizon Europe will have a strong focus on the implementation of the SDGs including those related to food security, nutrition and smart sustainable agriculture. The

European Commission is due to bring forward its proposal later this year which will form the basis for an agreement by the European Parliament and the European Council.

Speaking at the seminar UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, Professor Orla Feely said, "The agri-food and agri-business sector is Ireland's largest indigenous industry, employing over 170,000 people with an annual turnover of €26 billion and UCD is the national leader in research activities in the agri-food and bioeconomy sector."

"At UCD world-class scientists lead a portfolio of initiatives, in partnership with industry, to deliver safe and sustainable foods that promote human health and wellbeing. We look forward, through the remainder of Horizon 2020 programme and during Horizon Europe, to leading partnerships within the agri-food sector across the EU and beyond which will address the SDGs."



During her visit to UCD, Margaret Atwood was presented with the University's highest honour, the Ulysses Medal. Here she is pictured with (l-r) author Anne Enright who joins UCD School of English, Drama and Film in Autumn 2018, Dr Paul Perry and Dr Jane Urquhart. She joins a long list of highly regarded recipients since the Medal's inception in 2004.

# IMAGINING :HOME

**UCD is Ireland's global university and Imagining Home, a literary festival celebrating connections between Ireland and Canada, is one among many exciting examples of the truly international character of our University. The connections between Ireland and Canada are various; Imagining Home paid special attention to the stories, imagined and real, which link our two countries.**

With Imagining Home, Craig Dobbin Visiting Professor in Canadian Studies, Canadian author Dr Jane Urquhart, sought to find particular examples of literary connection between Ireland and Canada by soliciting the participation of esteemed authors Margaret Atwood, John Banville, Emma Donoghue, Anne Enright, Victoria Glendinning, and Frank McGuinness, and by inviting me in my capacity as director of the Centre for Canadian Studies at UCD to be a co-producer. The Ireland Canada University Foundation, the College of Arts and Humanities, and University Relations generously came on board, and a two-day literary festival was conceived — one which was to take place at UCD on 1 and 2 March. But, as fate would have it, the east coast of Ireland was hit with the heaviest snowfall it had experienced in years. UCD was forced to close for three days and Dublin, and much of the country, came to a standstill. Our hearts were broken. And what an irony, we all thought: we had hoped to bring some of Canada's literary culture to Dublin, but all we did was bring the weather! The event's authenticity, however, was undeniable: what could be more Canadian than having to cancel an event due to snow?

Everyone involved voiced their desire to try to reschedule. With the help of the Borris House Festival of Writing and Ideas, we managed to bring Margaret Atwood back to Ireland for Imagining Home on 6 June, reimagining our two-day event into a single evening. Unfortunately, Emma Donoghue, Victoria Glendinning and Frank McGuinness were

unable to attend the rescheduled event, but local authors John Banville and Anne Enright were able to participate, and we were happy to invite UCD faculty Dr Paul Perry to help moderate the conversation.

At the centre of Imagining Home was a desire to celebrate literary connections between Ireland and Canada. Margaret Atwood's narrative connection to Ireland is found in her book *Alias Grace*, a piece of historical fiction that explores the story of Grace Marks, an Irish woman who immigrated to Canada in 1840, and who was caught up in the murder of businessman Thomas Kinnear and his mistress Nancy Montgomery. As Atwood stated at Imagining Home, there is to this day no real certainty about this character's guilt or innocence.

John Banville has long been interested in the work of Irish author Elizabeth Bowen, and he spoke about Bowen's life-long relationship with senior Canadian diplomat, Charles Ritchie. A collection of Bowen's letters to Ritchie was edited by Victoria Glendinning in 2008 and published as *Love's Civil War*. In Glendinning's absence, Urquhart and Banville discussed the relationship between Bowen and Ritchie, and by extension each lover's particular imagining of the other's home; Ireland and Canada respectively. Of Bowen and her relationship with Ritchie, Banville said: "If Elizabeth Bowen had been a man she would be regarded now as one of the great writers of the twentieth century. Charles Ritchie was the love of her life, and he was, like all men who are the loves of some woman's life, he was not entirely worthy of her."

Banville also spoke with Margaret Atwood on the topic of adaptation, moderated by Dr Paul Perry, assistant professor in Creative Writing and author. In this conversation, Atwood and Banville discussed the pleasures and constraints of adapting a novel to the screen, with Atwood summing up scriptwriting as "a group activity ... it's like summer camp for grownups, so when the sun is shining and you like the people, it's great and when it's raining and you hate the people, it's hell". Anne Enright, who lived and studied in Victoria, British Columbia for two years in her late teens, spoke about her relationship to Atwood's work and to Canadian Literature and Canada in general. Of Atwood's novel *The Edible Woman*, which she read while hitchhiking in the Canadian Rockies, she said: "[*The Edible Woman* was] the first time I think that I'd read a book which contained ideas about being a woman that I might find useful". And of Ireland and Canada she remarked, "People have a thing about Ireland. We put all kinds of significance into the place. Canada does something similar for me. Maybe instead of resisting it, we should give in to the landscape's ability to make things matter for those who pass through."

Ideas of leaving home, returning home, or creating a new home are complex and often characterised by a kind of sacred longing. Urquhart captured this idea in an *Irish Times* article she wrote ahead of Imagining Home, suggesting that "everyone [in Canada] has two homelands in their imagination; the one where they settled, and the abandoned, mourned homeland that they were forced to leave behind". This is not only true of immigrants to Canada, but, as Urquhart suggests, of Canada's indigenous peoples, who "are in mourning as well for a lost home: the land and the life they knew before settler contact changed that land and that life forever". Distinguished Canadian literary theorist Northrup Frye famously suggested that Canadian literature asked "where is here?" — Imagining: Home answered that question with regard to Ireland, Irish literature, and the Irish in Canada, but did not supply simple answers; rather it opened up new questions in the ongoing story of Ireland, Canada, and home.

*Dr Paul Halferty is Director of the Centre of Canadian Studies at UCD*



Sa phictiúr atá iomathóirí ó Chomórtas Fichille na nGaelscoileanna, Craobh Laighean, in éineacht le tuismitheoirí, múinteoirí agus lucht eagraithe.

## Ríthe agus Banríonacha na Fichille le chéile i UCD

D'fháiltigh Bord na Gaeilge UCD roimh ríthe agus bhanríonacha fichille na hÉireann ar champas Belfield an 31 Bealtaine. Bhailigh na himreoirí óga seo le chéile in éineacht lena dtuismitheoirí agus a múinteoirí i Scoil Dlí Sutherland UCD do Chomórtas Fichille Chúige Laighean 2018, comórtas a d'eagraigh an t-imreoir agus teagascóir fichille, Úna Ní Bhaoil le tacaíocht na heagraíochta Gaelscoileanna. I

measc na scoileanna a ghlac páirt i gCraobh Laighean, bhí Scoil Lorcáin, BÁC, Scoil Aonghusa, Droichead Átha, Gaelscoil an Bhradáin Feasa, Co na Mí, Scoil Bhríde, BÁC agus Gaelscoil Bhaile Brigín. Ba é an tOllamh Mel Ó Cinnéide, Scoil na Ríomheolaíochta UCD a bhí i mbun moltóireachta agus bhí an-chomórtas idir na himreoirí. 'Ba mhór an pléisiúr dúinn aithne a chur ar na Gaeilgeoirí óga

seo' a deir Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Bord na Gaeilge UCD, 'agus tá an-chreidiúint ag dul d'Úna agus do na scoileanna a thacaíonn leis an gcomórtas'. Déanaimid comhghairdeas leis na rannpháirtithe uilig agus le daltaí Scoil Lorcáin; Ben Ó Raghallaigh, Conor Mag Ruairc, Conor Mac Giolla Íasachta agus Cillian Ó Dochraigh a rug an chraobh leo, nár laga Dia iad!

## The Irish Young Philosopher Awards

The inaugural Irish Young Philosopher Awards Festival was held on Friday 18 May in UCD O'Reilly Hall. Over 400 people attended to view philosophy projects presented by over 185 finalists. President Michael D Higgins, accompanied by Mrs Sabina Higgins, described the day as a very important one for UCD and spoke about the importance of philosophy, expressing his hope that the IYPA would become as big as the Young Scientists Exhibition in the future.

The awards were founded by Dr Danielle Petherbridge (School of Philosophy) and Dr Áine Mahon (School of Education), both UCD College of Social Sciences and Law. The initiative was launched by President and Mrs Higgins at Áras an Úachtaráin in November, 2017.

The idea behind the IYPA is for primary and secondary school students to explore philosophy through a nationwide award program and festival. Over the course of the year, students worked on individual and group philosophy projects and came together at the IYPA Philosophy Festival to present their work. There were 185 finalists with projects submitted by individuals, small groups and classes. The students created complex projects and the Festival celebrated their creativity, collaboration,



The grand prize, presented by President Michael D Higgins, was awarded to fifteen-year old Gonzaga College student Luke Rickard for his project entitled 'Is it Ethical for Robots to be Caregivers'? Other prizes were awarded to students from around Ireland for projects on questions including: animal ethics, the ethics of self-driving cars, gender inequality, perception, identity, aesthetics, female empowerment, and the question of free will.

critical and ethical thinking, and philosophical genius.

Students submitted projects in various mediums including posters, films, essays, and podcasts. They also visualised their philosophical thinking in mind-maps or posters. Students from third to sixth class at primary level, and students at second level on the island of Ireland were eligible to participate.

## New Centre Focused on Maternal and Foetal Health Research

UCD School of Medicine, in partnership with the National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street, Dublin have established the UCD Perinatal Research Centre to co-ordinate national and international collaborative research in maternal and foetal health, including diabetes and nutrition in pregnancy, to improve the long-term health of mothers and their infants.

Professor Fionnuala McAuliffe, Chair and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at UCD School of Medicine, is the Director of the new Centre. Professor McAuliffe is an internationally recognised expert in pregnancy, maternal and foetal health, diabetes and nutrition in pregnancy. The research is funded by grants from Health Research Board Ireland, Science Foundation Ireland, the European Union, and the National Maternity Hospital Medical Fund.

## AI and the 4th Industrial Revolution

Professor Maja Pantic delivered a guest lecture in May at UCD O'Brien Centre for Science. She is one of the world's leading experts in research on machine understanding of human behaviour including analysis of behavioural cues such as facial expressions, body gestures, and laughter. In May 2018, she was appointed Director of the Samsung Artificial Intelligence Research Centre in Cambridge. She is also a passionate advocate of STEM education for women.

In a wide-ranging discussion with vibrant audience participation, topics varied from the Fourth Industrial Revolution, to the current low diversity in AI, to the ethics of robotics. Professor Pantic introduced us to her varied research projects, which include: robots helping children with autism to interact and express their emotions; applications which can understand if a person is suffering with depression, anxiety or dementia by examining aspects of their facial expression; and programmes to track how engaged one is when viewing advertisements. During the discussion, she also shared her concerns for the future

impact of AI on society, asserting that international regulation was immediately necessary to regulate how private and public bodies acquire data and how they use it.

Associate Professor Patricia Maguire, Director of the UCD Institute for Discovery, said that it was a great honour to host such a distinguished academic at UCD. She was particularly struck by Pantic's remarks on the current low diversity in AI and her comment that "Girls make their decisions on what they'd like to study between 7 and 8 years".

'Plotting the Future' is a public lecture series and forum for debate that explores the urgent questions.



Pictured from left to right: Prof Adrian Ottewill, UCD Institute for Discovery; Prof Patricia Maguire; Prof Maja Pantic; Prof Anne Fuchs, Director, UCD Humanities Institute; and Adrian Weckler.

## KT Impact Award and First KT Offices opened in Partner Hospitals

UCD was awarded the 'Collaborative Research Impact Award 2018' for its research collaboration with ENBIO, an Irish space company at the recent annual Knowledge Transfer Ireland Awards.

This award recognises and celebrates researchers in Irish publicly-funded research performing organisations who have developed successful collaborative research engagement with the business community. Through these endeavours, researchers will have enhanced knowledge transfer and delivered impact for the businesses with whom they have worked and for their own organisation.

Deep space travel poses many significant environmental challenges to spacecraft. To minimise the risk, protective outer coatings are required. ENBIO had worked with the European Space Agency (ESA) to develop a black thermal control coating.

When ESA asked the company for a white version, ENBIO contacted Dr Kenneth Stanton,



Pictured are (l-r): Dr Hugh Hayden, UCD Technology Transfer Case Manager; John O'Donoghue, CEO, ENBIO; Dr Kenneth Stanton, UCD School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering and Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation and Research and Development John Halligan TD.

UCD School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering for help. This was the start of a long-term collaborative research project leading to the development and commercial delivery in 2017 of SolarWhite, a thermo-optical coating developed to reflect radiation and protect space-crafts.

Also in the past month, UCD, in partnership with St Vincent's Healthcare Group (SVHG) and The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (MMUH), announced the opening of Ireland's first in-hospital Knowledge Transfer (KT) Offices.

The KT Offices have been established to develop the commercial potential of the

research outputs emerging from both hospitals and to extend the reach of their medical advancements to a greater number of patients worldwide.

The KT Offices will protect the resulting intellectual property, assess its commercial potential, and where appropriate licence this IP to life science companies or create new start-up companies to bring the innovations to market.

The KT Offices will be led by Dr Ena Walsh, UCD's life sciences knowledge transfer expert, who will provide a wealth of resources and advice to clinicians to enable the market potential of their innovations to be fully realised.

## Investec Ireland and Roche Europe Chiefs honoured as UCD Business Alumni of the Year 2018

On Friday 27 April Michael Cullen, Chief Executive Officer, Investec Ireland and Padraic Ward, Head of Pharma, Region Europe, Roche were honoured at the UCD Business Alumni of the Year 2018 awards dinner at the InterContinental Hotel, Dublin. The UCD Quinn and Smurfit Alumni Awards, which have been running since 1991, recognise alumni who have demonstrated proven leadership skills and notable achievements in business, whether in Ireland or abroad.

Speaking of this year's winners, Professor Anthony Brabazon, Dean, UCD College of Business, said, "We are thrilled to honour Michael Cullen (MBS '75) and Padraic Ward (BComm '86) as our 2018 Alumni of the Year. For over 100 years, UCD College of Business has educated leaders that have contributed immensely to business, political and social life both here in Ireland and around the world.

Since 1991, the School has celebrated and recognised the achievements and success of our graduates through the 'Alumni of the Year' awards. Both Padraic and Michael are passionate about their careers in the pharmaceutical and financial sectors and clearly demonstrate strong leadership, an entrepreneurial spirit, and integrity on personal and professional levels, all characteristics we



Pictured are: Padraic Ward, Prof Anthony Brabazon and Michael Cullen.

try to instil in our students. Padraic and Michael deserve this recognition and we take utmost pride in their success".

## The 2018 V.V. Giri Lecture

UCD College of Social Sciences and Law hosted the 2018 VV Giri Lecture in the Sutherland School of Law on 23 May. College Principal, Professor Colin Scott, and Dean of Law, Professor Imelda Maher, welcomed the Indian Ambassador, HE Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh to the lecture, along with many distinguished members of the Indian community. The lecture series commemorates the fourth President of India, VV Giri (1894-1980) who spent the years 1913 to 1916 as a law student at UCD and the King's Inns.

Professor Jyoti Atwal from Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi delivered the 2018 lecture. Her lecture focused on the topical theme: 'Margaret Cousins (1878-1954) in India and Ireland: Revisiting Suffragettes, National Ideals and Anti-Imperialist Politics'. To introduce Professor Atwal, Dr Conor Mulvagh of UCD School of History placed it in the context of the intellectual, cultural and political links between Ireland and India in the early and mid-twentieth century. Professor Atwal's lecture examined how Margaret Cousins, who lived in India from 1915 until her death, played a critical role in the emergence of the Indian feminist movement and particularly in the founding of the All India Women's Conference in 1927. She traced how her activism in India was influenced by her experiences as a suffragette in Ireland and her reaction to the Easter Rising, during which her friend Francis Sheehy Skeffington was killed. This helped to confirm her commitment to non-violence and her alignment with Gandhi's views as to how India's national freedom and women's freedom should be pursued.

Particular points of interest for Professor Atwal were the attitude Cousins took to issues of class, religion and caste as they affected the women's movement, her experience as the first woman to



Pictured (l-r) are: Prof Colin Scott, HE Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh, Prof Jyoti Atwal and Prof Imelda Maher.

be appointed a magistrate in India and her personal engagement with Hindu spirituality, which she approached in a distinct way from many Theosophists and other Europeans attracted by Indian culture. In particular, her experience of imprisonment in Ireland as a suffragette was an important factor in her approach to being imprisoned in India. The closing remarks were delivered by John O'Dowd of UCD Sutherland School of Law.



Pictured is Minister for Education and Skills, Richard Bruton, TD and Alannah Fagen from Rockford Manor Presentation Secondary School, Blackrock at the Amgen Biotech Experience Global Conference.

## Minister Bruton announces expansion of Amgen Biotech Experience

**Over 13,500 secondary school students are to benefit from a biotechnology hands-on lab experience over the next three years, after the Amgen Foundation announced an expansion of its Amgen Biotech Experience (ABE) programme in partnership with UCD and DCU. By 2020, ABE will have reached over 21,000 students in Ireland, bringing the Amgen Foundation's investment in the Ireland to approximately €470,000.**

The programme empowers secondary school science teachers to implement real-world biotechnology labs in their classrooms, helping their students better understand science and how it influences their daily lives. The initiative provides teacher professional development, teaching materials and research-grade equipment to classrooms, to immerse students in the concepts and techniques scientists use to discover and develop medicines.

Led by Systems Biology Ireland in UCD since 2014, the programme has already benefited over 150 teachers and 7,800 students. This latest announcement is part of the Amgen Foundation's global efforts to reach nearly 900,000 secondary school students in 18 regions around the world by 2020, bringing its total commitment to ABE to more than \$25 million.

The announcement was made at the Amgen Biotech Experience Global Conference in Dublin, attended by over 60 science education leaders, representing many top global third level institutions, including Harvard University, UC Berkeley, École Normale Supérieure, Technical University of Munich and other world-renowned universities and educational organisations.

Opening the conference, the Minister for Education and Skills, Richard Bruton, TD said: "Encouraging more students to pursue an interest in STEM education is a priority for my department. Our goal is to make Ireland the best in Europe in the provision of STEM education. For that objective to be reached, we need our students to be equipped with the necessary skills to adapt to a rapidly changing world and transformed employment market. That is why initiatives such as the Amgen Biotech Experience play such an important role in the development of Irish STEM education."



President Michael D Higgins receiving a copy of the Lure of Greece: Irish Involvement in Greek culture, literature, history and politics, edited by JV Luce, C Morris & C Souyoudzoglou-Haywood (2007). To his left is Dr Christina Souyoudzoglou-Haywood (UCD School of Classics) and Mrs A Mallikourtsi, Secretary of the Friends of the Acropolis Museum and IIHSA patron.

## Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens

**The foundations of the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens (IIHSA) twenty two years ago was a collective effort of the Irish universities aimed at facilitating students and scholars in their studies of Greek culture and civilisation from prehistory to modern times.**

It has since gained its rightful place among the older and larger foreign schools and institutes in Athens, operating from a historic building in central Athens. UCD continues to play an important role in its management, while several faculty and students are participating in its projects. All three current IIHSA fieldwork projects in Greece are either directed or co-directed by UCD faculty, including by Dr Barry Molloy (UCD School of Archaeology) and

by the IIHSA Director, Dr Christina Souyoudzoglou-Haywood (UCD School of Classics). UCD students have benefitted from study tours, fieldtrips and training in archaeological methods.

The Irish Embassy in Athens arranged a private audience between the IIHSA and the President of Ireland Michael D Higgins on the occasion of his two-day state visit to Athens in February, at which the President was presented with a copy of The Lure of Greece, the proceedings of the IIHSA conference on the 'Irish involvement in Greek culture, literature, history and politics' (NUI Galway, 2003) as well as an elegant booklet with three of the President's poems translated into Greek, which was especially prepared by the IIHSA for the occasion.

# The Cambridge History of Ireland

**Did you know the Irish invited the English to invade us in 1166?**

**We did! To be precise, the first English conquerors arrived by invitation when the exiled King of Leinster Diarmait Mac Murchada approached King Henry II for help in regaining his kingdom.**

**Did you also know that by the 16th century, Ireland's contacts with the Iberian peninsula were well developing and the Irish played a role in the controversial slave trade?**

**Did you know that up to 30% of Ireland's population may have perished during the Cromwellian conquest?**

**Would it also surprise you to know that by the end of the 19th century, two out of every five Irish-born people were living overseas, making Irish emigration a truly global story?**

Well, these vignettes are all revealed in a newly-published authoritative history of Ireland, which has attracted rave reviews. From the arrival of Christianity in 600AD to the impact of the Marriage Equality referendum in 2015, the impressive Cambridge History of Ireland covers it all.

Professor Thomas Bartlett, now retired but previously of UCD School of History, was tasked with being overall editor of this prodigious project almost five years ago. Lauded by Professor Diarmaid Ferriter in an expansive book review in the Irish Times, the 100-odd historians who contributed to the book, including some of UCD's finest, were given one simple instruction – Don't be boring.

Among those from UCD to contribute to the collection are Professor Mary Daly, Dr Paul Rouse, Professor Tadhg O hAnnracháin, Dr Susannah Riordan and Dr Lindsey Earner-Byrne.

"Technology (including digitised sources) and discipline have won out, but so too has clarity of expression; these contributors were told by the general editor Tom Bartlett to write accessibly and they have delivered the resultant lucidity with aplomb over 2,800 pages covering 1,500 years of history," Ferriter wrote.

Over a pot of tea in the National Library, Bartlett explains his motivation for the book, describing how previous attempts to detail the history of this country had suffered from being bland and dull.

"We wanted a mix of senior historians as well as up and coming ones too. But I stressed to the volume editors to 'get people who can write'. People who can deliver. There are plenty of brilliant historians who can't deliver," he says about the process of choosing who to contribute. He references in particular A New History of Ireland, which Oxford University Press published, in nine volumes, between 1976 and 2005. Edited by TW Moody of Trinity College Dublin, Bartlett says it was an amazing enterprise for its time, but it has dated.

"It was a work of its time, as shown by its almost entirely male cast of contributors. Its emphasis on politics, usually high politics; its rather dull writing.... Moody argued for scholarly detachment, turning the gas down very low, which can lead to blandness. People found that unappetising and tiresome," he says.

He says he agreed to be general editor of this series because he had become concerned about the "explosion" in publications in Irish history over the past 40 years. "This explosion in writings rendered the subject all but inaccessible both to the student and to the interested reader."

His work, along with volume editors Professors Jane Ohlmeyer, James Kelly and Brendan Smith,

is what he calls a new synthesis, drawing on the most recent scholarship, to give what he calls this generation's verdict on Irish history. The Cambridge History breaks new ground by focusing on issues that previous exercises of this nature largely ignored. Subject matters like sex, the environment, emotions, age are among the themes explored by this somewhat radical collection.

It is clear from our discussion that Bartlett, a schoolmate and contemporary of Gerry Adams, the former Sinn Féin President, is haunted by the impact of the Troubles in Northern Ireland and was keen to reflect that in Volume IV which covers the period from 1880 to the present day. In a wonderful photo essay, Bartlett aims and succeeds in showing the chaos and the confusion of the 30-year period of sectarian violence which blighted the troubled province.

"My photo essay, I deliberately made it confusing, I wanted minor characters UDA gunmen, IRA gunmen, men who were not normally written about but drove the fight," he says.

Overall, reflecting on the body of work as a whole, I put it to him that there are four major themes over more than 1,500 years of Irish history – religion, violence, anti-British sentiment and poverty. He agrees but adds a fifth – emigration. He says: "Emigration makes and has shaped this state for the past 150 years, that has become clear. I would not have said that 40 years ago. It doesn't explain everything but you can't explain much without it."

One of the most controversial aspects of the collection is the decision to come right up to the present day, which several chapters discussing matters as recent as the financial crash of a decade ago and the 2015 Marriage Equality referendum. Bartlett agrees that it is too early for proper perspective on many matters in the past 40 years, including the troubles, but it was important to be relevant to a changing Ireland.

"There is a danger that it is too recent, absolutely, that is a danger," he says. But he points to a chapter written by father and son historians John and Paul Bew, on the North, saying it was "deliberately opinionated. No one has a handle on the past 40 years, and it will probably take 100 years for that to happen," he says.

*Professor Tom Bartlett was in conversation with Daniel McConnell (BA, History and Politics 2000). He is a former editor of the University Observer and is the Political Editor of the Irish Examiner.*

## Volume I: 600AD – 1500AD

**Introduction of Christianity to the Scandinavian invasion:**

By the 13th century, only one-fifth of the island had regular access to town life in the late 13th century.

"At the time of his death in 1303, one unfree tenant possessed four cows with their calves, three work horses, thirty sheep, one pig and stacks of oats, wheat, barley and turf," Margaret Murphy writes.

## Volume II: 1550AD – 1730AD

In the 17th Century, the Ulster Plantation saw 3.6 million acres of land seized from the natives, which led to the 1641 rebellion and an onslaught on Protestants.

By 1703, Catholics owned 14 per cent of Irish land and penal laws meant significant restrictions on their rights.

## Volume III: 1730AD – 1880AD

**The Protestant Ascendancy:**

Amid international revolution and Napoleonic wars, we see the rise of republican separatism and unionism emerge...Tom Bartlett describes this time as the "crucible of modern Ireland".

The Act of Union to the rise of O'Connell, the plight of Catholics and a great famine dominate a dark time.

Irish emigration was thus a global phenomenon but not necessarily all a negative one given the evidence of upward social mobility.

## Volume IV: 1880AD to the present

**The break with Britain to a modern independent republic:**

As the link to Britain begins to crumble, under land acts of 1881-96, the Irish Land Commission advanced £23 million to 73,000 tenants to purchase farms comprising 2.45 million acres.

David Fitzpatrick says the Great War saw the deployment of more than 200,000 Irishmen in the "British" wartime forces which he says "dwarfed all other military enterprises in Irish history".

Daithí O Corráin is damning of the demise of the Catholic Church and says by the 1950s it had become a "lazy monopoly, the legacy of which is proving to be its greatest burden".

## Skin Cancer Awareness Event

Monday 14 May marked the first Skin Cancer Awareness Event at UCD. The event took place in the UCD Student Centre and was organised by Systems Biology Ireland in collaboration with the Irish Skin Foundation, colleagues from UCD Conway Institute and BREAST-PREDICT.

Volunteers were based at a stand in the UCD Sports Centre and across campus for this event, which was targeted at students, faculty, staff and the wider community, with advice on protecting their skin in the sun, as well as showcasing the work undertaken by UCD researchers. It was one of many events as part of an international campaign, 'Melanoma Awareness Month' which takes place every May. The day was a great success, getting across the central message of the importance of protecting their skin, as well as information on skin cancer prevention.



On duty on the day were (l-r): Michelle Greenwood (Irish Skin Foundation); Alba Cambrils (Research Assistant with Oncomark); Claudia Aura Gonzalez (Research Pathologist at the Cancer Biology and Therapeutics Laboratory, UCD); and Ashish Neve (Research Assistant, SBI).



Our picture shows (l-r): Prof Roy Foster, Prof Margaret Kelleher and Dr Joseph Hassett.

## Professor Augustine Martin Memorial Lecture

UCD School of English, Drama, and Film marked a major milestone this year, celebrating 50 years of the MA in Anglo Irish Literature. To mark this significant anniversary, Professor and Chair of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama Margaret Kelleher hosted the Professor Augustine Martin Memorial Lecture.

The lecture was titled 'All The House I Have: Yeats and Friendship' and was delivered to a packed house by Professor Roy Foster. The event was attended by the wife and family of the late Professor Martin, faculty, staff, students, media and the wider literary community. The lecture included a response by alumnus Dr Joseph Hassett, who spoke about the importance of Anglo Irish Studies at UCD and his fond memories and appreciation of the late Gus Martin, who was his doctoral supervisor at UCD.

## UCD Access and Lifelong Learning Symposium

**From the Bench to Centre Field: Marking 30 Years of Services to Students with Disabilities in UCD.**

On 31 May, UCD Access and Lifelong Learning held its annual symposium. This year's theme celebrated the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the University's supports for students with disabilities. The event was well attended with in excess of 120 delegates participating throughout the course of the day.

The Symposium was officially opened by the Minister for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD, and UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks. Both the Minister and President noted UCD's achievements in the area of disability supports. The President recognised the importance which the University places on diversity and inclusion by noting that "here in UCD we have placed diversity and inclusion at the centre of what we do".

During the morning sessions, keynote addresses were given by Dr Vianne Timmons, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada and Dr Caroline Casey, founder of the Ability Awards, Binc and a UCD alumna. Dr Timmons spoke about the need for the university community to reflect the society in which we want to live, while Dr Casey advocated for the global business community to recognise, embrace and cater for the 1.3 billion people who are currently classified as disabled. Both speakers are strong advocates for inclusivity in the education and business sectors.

A series of Lightning Presentations were delivered by faculty, staff, students and industry partners, under the themes of Innovative Approaches, Student Experience and Mainstreaming.

The Symposium also saw the launch of the publication 'From the Bench to Centre Field: Celebrating 30 Years of UCD Supports for Students with Disabilities', written by Bairbre Fleming and Michelle Tracey. In his foreword, UCD Registrar and Deputy President Professor Mark Rogers said: "We recognise the value of creating a truly diverse and inclusive university, a University



Our photo shows Prof Mark Rogers presenting his Pioneer of Disability Support award to former Registrar, Prof John Kelly.

for All, not only because it reflects our values, but because it is a fundamental requirement for educational excellence and institutional success".

As part of the launch, there was a presentation to honour the UCD pioneers of disability support. Two staff members, including former Registrar, Professor John Kelly and two former students were honoured for having the foresight and pioneering spirit, which led to the development of supports for students with disabilities in 1988. Professor Mark Rogers presented the pioneers with their medals. Professor Grace Mulcahy, Chair of the University Widening Participation Committee offered the closing remarks

Thirty years on, the staff of Access and Lifelong Learning are passionate about creating a diverse and inclusive University for All. The University has made significant progress, with 29% of the University's undergraduate population being drawn from under-represented student cohorts. Now 10% of the student cohort identify as having a disability.

UCD continues to diversify its student population and move access from the margins to the mainstream, by continuing to develop a universally designed and inclusive approach, recognising that in UCD, access is everyone's business.

# Industrial Memories

**A unique Arts-STEM collaboration has revealed new insights into the Ryan Report on institutional child abuse and underlined how the emerging field of digital humanities can help address complex social, historical and artistic questions.**

Dr Emilie Pine is Associate Professor of Modern Drama at UCD and very familiar with Ireland's institutional past from teaching the plays written about it. For her, the 2009 Ryan Report into institutional child abuse is about much more than the State's catastrophic failure to protect its most vulnerable citizens. It is, she says, "probably the most important publication in the history of the State, yet we're not reading it. A lot of the material is witness testimony in the form of letters, diaries, memos and record-keeping books. To me, it's the most important part of the report and I wanted to be able to read it and make it accessible to others. However, that's not so easy with a report that runs to 2,600 pages."

Pine passionately believes that all of us - even those of us too young to have been aware of what went on - have an ethical memory duty to be witnesses to our difficult past, and to make sure that the lessons learned are incorporated into Irish society, culture and academic research. However, relying on people to read the Ryan Report would not be enough to make sure this happened and Pine was determined to find a more compelling way of engaging public interest. This prompted her to step out of her comfort zone in the arts into the world of STEM, where data analytics tools and algorithms could be used to 'parse' material more efficiently and in a different way. Critical reading goes to the heart of Pine's work as an academic and she wanted the same rigour applied to Ryan's findings. Unusually, she went the route of an Arts-STEM collaboration to make it happen.

In 2015 Pine, Professor Mark Keane of UCD's SFI-funded Insight Centre for Data Analytics, and research fellow, Dr Susan Leavy, began work on the Industrial Memories project. Over a two-year period, they effectively turned the report into a database which in turn facilitated a forensic probing of the text that uncovered insights and connections not apparent from a surface reading.

"We started with some broad research questions such as looking at what witnesses had said and our very first step was to digitise the text of the report, and then to 'read' it differently using machine learning and artificial intelligence tools to produce new findings," Pine says. "With clear visualisations we show, for the first time, the active networks behind the industrial schools. This gives us a picture of how abusers were transferred between schools. We can also see how people within the system communicated, including parents, the religious staff, and the Department of Education. These visualisations nail the lie that people - and the Government - did not know what was happening in these institutions."

Pine says the project took the team into some "very dark areas" such as analysing the nature of the abuse suffered. There were few surprises when it came to the physical and sexual abuse, but co-ordinating the material uncovered another type of mistreatment which



*Pictured are Dr Emilie Pine, UCD School of English, Drama and Film and Dr Susan Leavy, IRC Project Fellow.*

took the form of a dreaded anticipation of "waiting" to be beaten or assaulted. "The close textual analysis gave us new insight into the experience of abuse," Pine says. "We were also interested in getting to the heart of who knew about the abuse because one of the big issues for survivors is this general misapprehension that people outside these institutions didn't know it was going on. To investigate this comprehensively we built a social network that logged every

**Industrial Memories is a multidisciplinary response to the Report of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (2009). It takes a closer look at the real legacy of Ireland's institutional child abuse at residential institutions run by the Catholic Church between 1936 and 1999.**

**It can be accessed at <https://industrialmemories.ucd.ie>**

**The project was funded by the Irish Research Council New Horizons 2015-18.**

moment of communication between the key actors so residence managers, the Department of Education, parish priests, parents, local TDs and so on. It became very clear that people did know and the biggest node on the network was the Department of Education. I feel this was underrepresented when the Ryan Report was publicly launched, acknowledged and discussed. The focus has been overwhelmingly on the religious orders when the responsibility is actually more widespread than that."

At a very practical level the project has created a dynamic search function that allows people to interrogate the report in specific detail for the first time. It has also created a "people directory" so that those involved can be identified by readers albeit through pseudonyms.

"The history of these institutions is not just about facts and figures, it's about experiences and memories," Pine says. "To give a real sense of what it was like to be incarcerated we have come together with historian Maeve Casserly, composer Tom Lane and programmer Mick O'Brien, to create an audio tour of Goldenbridge girls' school, featuring actors reading verbatim witness testimony from the report. We also worked with artist John Buckley to create a virtual tour of one of the boys' schools, Carriglea, better known today as the home of the Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology."

The Industrial Memories project was funded under the Irish Research Council's New Horizons programme and Pine says the interdisciplinary and collaborative model that characterises digital humanities is at the heart of the new Centre for Cultural Analytics, hosted by the UCD School of English, Drama and Film. "It is our hope that this Centre will function as a hub for current work in this area and incubate new projects such as Industrial Memories that respond to the urgent research needs of the 21st century university," Pine says.

"There is a lesson to be learned from this project about making the texts of Government reports digitally readable from the outset as it would be cheaper and easier than doing it after the event," she adds. "I think we have also established the value of taking an interdisciplinary approach to Government reports and would emphasise that publishing a report is not the end of the story. At best, it's midway with a lot more analysis to be done with the help of digital reading tools."

*Associate Professor Emilie Pine was in conversation with Olive Keogh MA, a contributor to The Irish Times.*



Pictured (l-r) are UCD ENGAGE finalists Dwayne Byrne, Daniela Bossard, Robyn Bruen, Sarina Kajani, Stephen Fitzsimons and Niamh Morgan.

## ENGAGE Seminars Grand Final at UCD

On Tuesday 17 April six PhD students took part in the grand final of the ENGAGE Seminars at UCD O'Brien Centre for Science in front of a packed auditorium which included colleagues, friends, families and members of the general public. The ENGAGE Seminars are hosted by the UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science (SBBS) and they challenge late-stage PhD students to present their own research to a public, non-specialist audience in an accessible and engaging way. The final event was hosted by Dr Fergus McAuliffe, RTÉ presenter and Engagement and Communications Manager at iCIRAG.

After lengthy deliberations by the judges and inclusion of the audience vote, Stephen Fitzsimons was announced as the overall winner for his presentation entitled 'Pee-ing into the Future - Using Urine to Detect Heart Disease', in which he described how his research is helping to develop new ways to diagnose heart disease using biological markers in urine. Professor Wim Meijer, Head of School at SBBS emphasised the critical importance of communicating scientific research to the public and applauded the finalists for their excellent efforts.



Pictured (l-r) are; Jim Bergin, CEO, Glanbia Ireland; Phil Hogan, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development; Philippe Mengal, Executive Director, BBI JU; Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact and Michael Creed TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

## UCD Partnering in Research Project Led by Glanbia

**The European Commission has announced €22 million in funding for a new bio-economy research project to be led by Glanbia Ireland. UCD is partnering in the project, called AgriChemWhey, which will receive the funding from the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.**

AgriChemWhey is the first dairy industry project to be awarded funding under the programme and the overall value of the project is €30 million with the balance of funding coming from the partners involved. The project will explore the development of a new state-of-the-art, bio-refinery at Lisheen, Co Tipperary with a world-first process for converting by-products from the dairy industry into high value bio-based products including biodegradable plastics.

AgriChemWhey is based on groundbreaking technology developed and patented by Glanbia Ireland, in collaboration with UCD and TCD. It builds on previous research programmes funded by Enterprise Ireland and research carried out in the Science Foundation Ireland funded AMBER Centre.

The project will take low value by-products from the dairy processing industry – excess whey permeate and delactosed whey permeate and convert them into cost competitive, sustainable lactic acid. Lactic acid can then be used in value-added, bio-based products for growing global markets, including biodegradable plastics, bio-based fertiliser and minerals for human nutrition.

The new technology developed by Glanbia will provide both the dairy industry and wider society with an opportunity for greater resource efficiency - less food waste, more products from the same starting material (milk), and integration of food and non-food material production.

Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, said: "AgriChemWhey has its foundations in UCD's longstanding research and innovation partnership with Glanbia Ireland and our research expertise in social and environmental sustainability will be a significant component of the project. This represents a fantastic opportunity for bioeconomy leaders, including UCD, Glanbia, and the other project partners, to use their expertise to implement new technologies, at industrial scale, that address global challenges, which go to the heart of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."

"The funding for the AgriChemWhey project, will not only stimulate regional economic growth in Co Tipperary, but will also enhance Ireland's position as a world leader in the development of the bioeconomy and provide the country with an opportunity to lead on issues central to achieving the UN SDGs."

## UCD Smurfit School 2018 Aspire Scholarship Programme

**In February 2018 UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School launched the ninth year of its Aspire Scholarship Programme which provides graduates across the country with the opportunity to secure funding towards tuition at Ireland's leading business school. This year sees 50% funding made available for up to nine MSc scholarships and up to three MBA scholarships for the 2018/19 academic year. These scholarships are for applicants who have the ambition to undertake a business masters but who may not have the financial means to do so.**

The Aspire Scholarship Programme was launched in 2010 following a donation of €500,000 from an anonymous benefactor. To date 90 graduates have benefitted from the programme since its introduction, with many of these alumni having either secured roles in leading companies such as Accenture, EY, Citi, PepsiCo, AIB, Ulster Bank, Avalon, Microsoft,

Intel and Google or have applied their learnings in start-up businesses of their own.

Professor Anthony Brabazon, Dean, UCD College of Business said at the launch of the 2018 Aspire Scholarship Programme: "The Aspire Scholarship Programme is a hugely important initiative at UCD Smurfit School. The foresight of our generous donors in establishing this scholarship fund has already ensured 90 Aspire graduates have completed the programme and are now contributing to business and society with the benefits of a UCD Smurfit School masters".

Ciarán Reilly, EMBA 2016, Aspire Alumni President and Pricing Analyst at Avalon, said: "I always had the desire and ambition to undertake an MBA at a top international business school as I felt that it could give me a real advantage in fast-tracking my career. The Aspire Scholarship Programme not only allowed me to undertake the Smurfit MBA by removing the financial burden but also opened up a much broader range of opportunities. The benefits have not just been from a career perspective but also being part of a very



Pictured with Prof Anthony Brabazon Dean UCD Business are current Aspire Scholars (l-r) Jennie Haire, Karl McEntegart, James Kelly, Edel McEvoy and Francis Lawler.

special community from diverse backgrounds with a shared ambition and the support of a strong mentoring programme of leading business people who give generously of their time. I am grateful to have been awarded the scholarship and would recommend that graduates consider applying for this year's programme".



# The Future of VLE at UCD

**In 2017, led by UCD Dean of Students, Professor Jason Last, the University embarked on an expansive project to review and refresh the University's eLearning environment to enhance the student, faculty and staff experience and to provide for future growth.**

Professor Last said: "Strategically, this project falls under Objective No 2 in the UCD Strategic Plan 2015-2020 - to provide an educational experience that defines international best practice. It also enables many elements of the UCD Education Strategy. The University's current Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) has been a powerful vehicle for pedagogical enhancement since its inception. It is accessed by approximately 40,000 UCD faculty, staff and students across the globe.

"As the VLE is an integral platform for progressing teaching and learning through technological innovation, the Registrar and I thought it is time to undertake a thorough review. The project also received strong support from the President and the University Management Team."

Phase I, led by Trish Mountjoy, Head of Educational Technology Services, consisted of a marketplace analysis of current providers and an extensive UCD-wide consultation process in order to ascertain key requirements. The consultation process comprised a staff survey, and an all student survey, which garnered significant engagement from faculty and staff (607 respondents) and from students (5,080 respondents). The project team also engaged with the UCD community through workshops, user experience trials, reports from special interest groups, a digital suggestion box and reviewed relevant strategic reports.

Trish Mountjoy said: "The input of the UCD community to the process of reviewing our current requirements, as well as ascertaining our future requirements, was an invaluable part of the process. Survey results showed that the majority of students are accessing the VLE via their laptops (91%) and via smartphones (69%) and that 85% access it on a daily basis, so delivering a consistent and highly accessible student experience across all platforms at all

times is essential. Understanding the needs and ambitions of our community helped to shape our requirements list, which was brought through to procurement and greatly influenced the selection process."

Following a tender process, built on the HEAnet VLE tender framework, D2L - Brightspace was chosen for its superior results across the following criteria: pedagogical features and functionality, user experience, support and training, technical requirements and cost.

Having completed this phase, the project team moved into Phase II, to progress the implementation of and transition to the new system. This work commenced in January 2018 and is governed by the Oversight Group, a representative body of the University community overseeing the operations of the VLE transition team, led by Marian O'Connor. The transition team is responsible for the integration of systems, customisation and design of the platform, informing content transfer, training, support and communications. The work is expected to complete with all modules fully transitioned to Brightspace for start of term September 2019.

Senior Project Manager, Marian O'Connor said: "This is an exciting time for Teaching and Learning at UCD and a positive change offering lots of potential in both the short and longer term. We are currently testing processes and engaged in planning for the early adopter modules, a small number of which have been selected to run on Brightspace over the summer and will be closely followed by the next tranche in September 2018. The majority of modules and programmes will be transitioned via a phased roll-out of our first cohort of Semester 2 modules in January 2019 and a second cohort of Semester 1 modules in September 2019. This schedule has been carefully co-ordinated in order to minimise disruption and provide a seamless experience for faculty, staff and students across semesters.

"A robust face to face training programme is being designed to support the transition and will be tailored to the specific needs of UCD faculty and staff involved in module delivery. The project team will provide dedicated support throughout the changeover process."

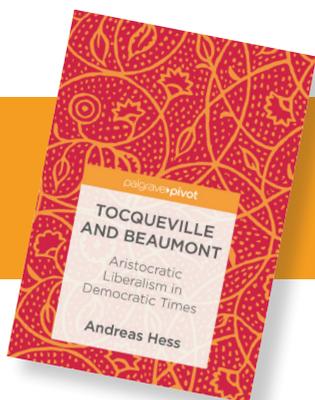
Looking to the future, Professor Last predicted: "This new user interface is mobile responsive, engaging, modern, intuitive and easy to navigate. More importantly, students can track their own progress and therefore more readily identify when they need help or guidance. An individual's experience of the VLE can be tailored to help them, but equally, this VLE will deliver a more consistent learning experience across all subjects, departments and devices (UCD supports 'Bring your own device' on our campuses). Now our faculty can design courses easily, create media-rich content and grade assignments on their phone or tablet. None of the progress would have been made without the expertise of UCD IT Services, Teaching & Learning and the educational technology community, and without the support of the faculty, staff and students of the University."

## My modules are coming up for transition. What happens next?

- Step 1 – a staff account is enabled for Brightspace access
- Step 2 – an individual test module is created for you
- Step 3 – your module is migrated to Brightspace holding area for review
- Step 4 – you are invited to book face to face training session(s)
- Step 5 – you attend the first of your face to face training sessions
- Step 6 – you receive access to online training
- Step 7 – you spend some time working in Brightspace with access to resources and training materials
- Step 8 – you attend training your second face to face training session
- Step 9 – you are advised of all support resources available and any other optional training available
- Step 10 – you are notified of the date your module will be visible to students (i.e. once student enrolments are processed)

*Professor Last and members of the VLE Project Team were in conversation with Mary Staunton, Editor, UCD Today.*

# Books



## *Tocqueville and Beaumont - Aristocratic Liberalism in Democratic Times*

**Professor Andreas Hess,**  
UCD School of Sociology,

**Palgrave Macmillan,**  
ISBN 978-3-319-69666-9  
ISBN 978-3-319-69667-6 (eBook)

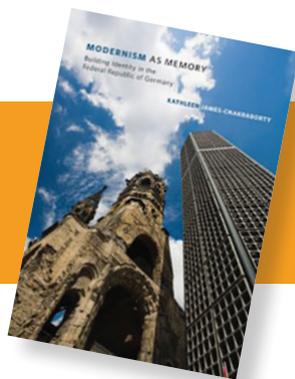
Alexis de Tocqueville and Gustave de Beaumont had overlapping and complementary skills, Tocqueville often credited with seeing the bigger picture with his friend Beaumont focussing on specific themes, both offering differing emphases on the subjects they studied. While this book discusses their study of 'the birth pangs of modern democracy', it also examines the relationship between the two, building on their lifelong collaboration. What made them work so well together, despite their perceived differences in wealth, social position and lineage? They were friends and travelling companions who had similar careers and espoused the same causes, the abolitionist movement, the fight for liberal social and political reform, as well as their futile attempt to rationalise French colonisation in Algeria.

As well as travelling to America to examine the new democracy there, they also visited England, Ireland, and Algeria, studying the links between those countries in the context of democracy.

The book's five chapters take us through their lives with their many intersections and gives us an understanding of how they researched and wrote together.

Throughout their lives, they examined and reported on 'new' democracies across the world, including Ireland, but always coming back to their beloved France and always comparing what they learned with France's changing political landscape. They were often at odds with changing governments, perceived as aristocratic, but liberal, dinosaurs at times.

As the author tell us in the closing paragraph: "Finally, not only Tocqueville's and Beaumont's published writings but also their correspondence and other statements or comments they made, either as politicians or as private persons, are a prime example of what it means to combine the more sophisticated observation of past and present conditions with moral and theoretical reflection. Instead of simply bearing witness or merely recording events and/or voicing moral outrage what Tocqueville and Beaumont show us best is how to argue history. Their example gives hope to those who think that history should not be left to historians, theoretical reflection and morals not just to philosophers, politics not just to political scientists and society not just to sociologists." How true... **MS**



## *Modernism as Memory - Building Identity in the Federal Republic of Germany*

**Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty,**  
UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy

**University of Minnesota Press,**  
ISBN 978-1-5179-0291-9

Building as a noun, not a verb... this book is about Germany's identity post-unification, examined through the lens of its buildings. The author obviously loves the city and brings to life the juxtaposition between old and new, the impact of memory on modern architecture in Germany.

In a country sometimes haunted by its past, the presence of that past is still redolent within modern German architecture. Modern Berlin's most prominent landmark is the British architect Foster's renovation of the Reichstag. The reconstruction of this building takes cues from the old building and leaves mason's marks and Soviet graffiti, the building's scars, its memories, still intact. The addition of a glazed cupola offers a modern twist atop the ancient Reichstag below.

The author suggests that five preconceptions about modern architecture should be dismissed: that new technology generated its forms; it is objective rather than symbolic; it is the work of heroic geniuses; is inherently socialist; and that it was both masculine and specifically Western. These must be put aside to understand how a select group of German buildings of the last hundred year shaped the world around them.

The book's six chapters talk about what inspired German architecture post-unification and how the past inspired the modern twists.

A detailed, illustrated journey towards understanding the impact of memory on modernism, the book is a fascinating read. **MS**



## *Mammary Gland Development: Methods and Protocols*

**Edited by Professor Finian Murphy,** UCD  
Conway Institute, Professor Torsten Stein and  
Professor Jillian Howlin

**Humana Press**  
ISBN 978-1-4939-6473-4

This is an excellent resource for those working in the field of mammary gland development or breast cancer. It starts off with a couple of thorough

overview chapters: one detailing differences in mammary glands between mice (the primary animal model) and humans, and one detailing many of the developmental models used in mice. The editors and contributors then proceed to include chapters covering a wide range of techniques with detailed protocols that are useful both as a reference for those experienced in this field or to graduate students and postdocs entering this realm of research. I find this a very useful and practical addition to all fields of biology and medicine, as many of the techniques and protocols are useful in other areas of study as well.

It is very user friendly and should be a great reference to both investigators starting out in the fields of mammary gland development or breast cancer research and to basic and clinical researchers already working in these fields. Given the depth of coverage of theory behind various techniques and the detailed notes that accompany each set of protocols, this volume would also make an ideal teaching aid and would be a useful resource for any laboratory conducting mammary gland research. **CW**



## *Justice, Mercy, and Caprice - Clemency and the Death Penalty in Ireland*

**Professor Ian O'Donnell,** UCD Sutherland  
School of Law

**Oxford University Press**  
ISBN 978-0-19-879847-7

It may surprise some to learn that the death penalty in Ireland was only abolished in 1990. In the period between 1923-1990 covered in the book, 98 men and women were sentenced to death. 35 of those were shot or hanged and 63 were shown clemency, with their sentences commuted to penal servitude for life.

This book examines the exercise of clemency by successive Irish governments and discusses the element of caprice involved in some of those cases. There is no uniform explanation as to why some were saved while others perished. The author focusses on those 63 cases where clemency was shown, he looks at the contribution of the judge, jury and government and the impact of lobbying on the government of the day.

Politics was regularly a feature, the intercession of local politicians or senior figures in power, as is so often the case in Ireland's history. Perhaps chivalry was the rationale for the large number of women saved. We say 'saved', but often those women were released from penal servitude into religious houses to live out their days.

In order to fully understand the background to those cases of clemency, the author sourced material from primary materials such as government memoranda, police and prison records, trial transcripts and the correspondence that emanated from concerned citizens and public servants – a rich treasure trove of detail and learning. This is sensitively handled and the reader can often sift the facts to reach an understanding of the Ireland of those times, not all that long ago.

The book will be launched after the Capital Punishment Symposium in the UCD Sutherland School of Law on 6 September by Tom O'Malley. **MS**



Pictured (l-r) are: Harry Conway, University of Glasgow; Dr Susan Deeley, University of Glasgow; Assoc Prof Marie Clarke, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, UCD; Prof Tony Harland, University of Otago New Zealand; Maura McGinn, Director of Institutional Research, UCD; and Aine Galvin, UCD Teaching and Learning.

## UCD Teaching and Learning Symposium

Around 100 UCD faculty and staff attended the symposium 'Expanding and Developing Your Assessment Practice' held by UCD Teaching and Learning in UCD O'Brien Centre of Science on Wednesday 9 May. The focus of the event was improving the student experience of assessment and feedback. There were international guest speakers, workshops delivered by the UCD Teaching and Learning team and case studies from UCD faculty.

Professor Tony Harland from the University of Otago, New Zealand was a keynote speaker. In 2013 he embarked on a major assessment project, coining the phrase 'assessment arms race' to describe the consequences for lecturers and for student learning of the proliferation of graded assessment tasks across a programme.

Professor Harland advocated curriculum change to break the grading habit, proposing as assessment goals a reduction in the number of graded assessments, assessment only of the important aims for learning, integrated assessment and creating space for formative assessment purposes. These approaches tie in with UCD's programme assessment and feedback project *Assessment Enhancement Implementation Framework* currently underway.

This project supports programme approaches to assessment, the use of a variety of assessment methods, effective assessments, creating space for deeper learning and opportunities for feedback including technology-enabled feedback.

The second keynote, jointly delivered by the UCD Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Associate Professor Marie Clarke and the UCD Director of Institutional Research, Maura McGinn provided an overview and analysis of student feedback from the national Irish Survey of Student Engagement and the UCD Student Feedback on Modules survey. National and international comparison data helped to provide insight into areas where UCD is doing well and where there is room for improvement with assessment and feedback.



Pictured (l-r): Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President; Professor Cecily Kelleher, Principal, UCD College of Health and Agricultural Sciences; and Professor Michael Doherty, Dean and Head of UCD School of Veterinary Medicine are introduced to some small animal surgical skills.

## UCD School of Veterinary Medicine Clinical Skills Centre Launch

A new Clinical Skills Centre (CSC) has been opened in UCD School of Veterinary Medicine; formerly the Clinical Skills Laboratory, the CSC has been relocated to a larger space and is now based in the Veterinary Sciences building to allow easier access for pre-clinical students of veterinary medicine and veterinary nursing. The CSC was officially opened by Professor Cecily Kelleher, College Principal, College of Health and Agricultural Sciences on 21 March, with the Dean and Head of School, Professor Michael Doherty, and many of our colleagues in attendance.

The CSC is an important teaching and learning resource in the School – designed to help Veterinary Medicine and Veterinary Nursing students learn and improve their day-one skills. The models and teaching material available in the CSC are used during self-directed learning sessions or during practical classes. All the material is linked to UCD Veterinary Hospital procedures and developed with support from our lecturers and clinicians.

The CSC is also a key space for the development of inter-professional education in the School. This important concept can have a practical impact on those working in the veterinary profession. In the last academic year, the CSC hosted third year Veterinary Nursing and fourth year Veterinary Medicine students together in a practical class on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), with teams attempting to resuscitate a model dog in a simulated emergency scenario. The goal was to show the importance of teamwork and communication during an emergency, which is vital in veterinary practice for improved patient outcomes.



Pictured are Prof Paul Cartledge with Phoebe Nolan and Oscar McHale.

## UCD Classical Society Inaugural Lecture

The UCD Classical Society's 113th inaugural lecture took place on 19 April in UCD. This year we were delighted to welcome Paul Cartledge, AG Leventis Professor of Greek Culture emeritus, from the University of Cambridge, to speak on 'Gender and Sexuality in ancient Sparta: an Other View?.'

The evening was one of the most successful inaugurals to date, with over 160 in attendance. Professor Cartledge did not disappoint and presented the crowd with an

informative, detailed and entertaining paper, which examined the difficulties one encounters when viewing ancient Sparta, as well as the perceptions of gender and sexuality in the past.

The event was organised by Phoebe Nolan, MA graduate and the Auditor of the Classical Society in 2017/18 and Oscar McHale, first year undergraduate, and a member of the Classical Society committee, with the assistance of the Senior Treasurer, Dr Martin Brady, UCD School of Classics and the Classical Society committee.



*Pictured (l-r) are: Prof Sarah Prescott, College Principal, Arts and Humanities; Prof Jane Lydon, Prof Amanda Nettlebeck and Assoc Prof William Mulligan.*

## Keith Cameron Lecture in Australian History

**UCD welcomed Professor Jane Lydon from the University of Western Australia, to deliver the annual Keith Cameron Lecture in Australian History at Ardmore House on 28 May, hosted by Professor Amanda Nettlebeck, current Keith Cameron Chair in Australian Studies at UCD School of History.**

In her lecture titled 'Australian Blind Spots: Understanding Images of Colonial Violence', Professor Lydon explored how visual depictions of colonial violence constitute an overlooked source of evidence, opening up a space for historians to develop more nuanced, open-ended accounts of historical processes. Although shaped by contemporary visual and cultural conventions, these 'blind spots' also capture less mediated aspects of the past: images expressed the invaders' ambivalence and moral uncertainties, and shared new ideas

about humanity and nation, cosmopolitanism, slavery, convicts, and indigenous peoples. This is a recurrent theme across British colonisation, with the resulting violence and legacies across many colonies and nations, including Ireland.

The lecture was attended by UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks who welcomed His Excellency Richard Andrews, Australian Ambassador to Ireland, faculty, historians, members of the alumni community, as well as domestic and international students.

## Presidential pardon in 1882 murder case after UCD expert review

**An innocent man hanged for the murder of five members of the same family in 1882 has been pardoned by President Michael D Higgins following a review of his case by Dr Niamh Howlin, UCD Sutherland School of Law. The review of the trial of Myles Joyce was commissioned in 2015 by then Taoiseach Enda Kenny.**

The case had been considered by many historians as one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in British legal history. The pardon issued to Co Galway man Myles Joyce is the first for a conviction that was handed down before the foundation of the Irish state.

In late 1882, Myles Joyce was wrongfully convicted and hanged for the brutal murder of five members of a family, also named Joyce, in their homes at Maamtrasna, Co Mayo. Relatives of Myles Joyce had long campaigned to have the case revisited. Joyce, a father of five in his 40s, was hanged along with two other men for the murders. His co-accused, Patrick Joyce and Patrick Casey, admitted their guilt for the crimes but emphasised Myles Joyce's innocence shortly before the three were executed in Galway Gaol.

The admissions were not deemed sufficient to save Joyce from the hangman's noose by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Earl Spencer, Britain's chief governor of Ireland.

Only four presidential pardons, and only two posthumous pardons, have been granted in the Republic of Ireland since 1937.

## The Patient Voice in Cancer Research

**The fourth open forum event in The Patient Voice in Cancer Research series took place on 11 April in UCD Charles Institute. The initiative, led by Dr Amanda McCann, Associate Professor and Head of Pathology in UCD School of Medicine and Fellow of UCD Conway Institute, brings people living with cancer and their families together with healthcare professionals, academic and clinical researchers; clinicians, patient advocates; funding agencies, policymakers and charity groups.**

The main topic under discussion was the advanced genetic tests that are becoming an increasingly important part of modern cancer care. Dr Brendan Doyle, Consultant Histopathologist in Beaumont Hospital and RCSI demystified biomarkers and next generation sequencing for the audience of more than ninety people.

This led into a lively discussion forum led by an expert panel that also included Dr Aurelie Fabre, Consultant Pathologist, St Vincent's University Hospital and UCD School of Medicine; Dr Robert O'Connor, Head of Research, Irish Cancer Society; Sarah McLoughlin, PhD who recently completed the first IPPOSI-led Patient Education Programme in Health Innovation and Professor Walter Kolch, Systems Biology Ireland.



*Dr David Gomez, Systems Biology Ireland leads participants in the facilitated session on next-generation sequencing at The Patient Voice in Cancer Research event.*

There was also an opportunity for participants to see how next-generation sequencing results can be interpreted in the clinical setting as table facilitators guided them through a series of images of these test results.

Patient support organisations such as Purple House, ARC Cancer Support Centres, OVCARE/SOCKS and IPPOSI were in attendance at the exhibition area as well as those representing

research projects with patient involvement; COLOSSUS, GLIOTRAIN and MEdEx Wellness.

The event wrapped up in time for participants to make their way to the Devlin pitch for the survivorship lap of the 2018 Relay for Life UCD, in conjunction with Aoife Gordon and the student organising committee. The initiative is supported by the UCD Wellcome ISSF and the Mater Foundation.



## UCD Purl Jam Craft and Design Exhibition

**UCD Purl Jam is a craft/creative group at UCD, established in September 2017 by Dr Niamh Nestor, student adviser, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine and Catriona Keane, student adviser in the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. The group, funded by SPARC, hosted its first ever exhibition of their work in April in the O'Brien Centre for Science. Hundreds of faculty, staff, students and extended members of the community attended the event.**

At the exhibition, the group showcased the multiple charity projects that they have been working on all year. These included their 'Tentacles for Tinies' – crocheted octopuses for donation to the Rotunda Foundation, in response to a call from the Rotunda Hospital. The idea, which originated in Denmark, is that the tentacles

of the crocheted octopus resemble the umbilical cord and remind babies of being inside the womb. Each premature baby in the Rotunda gets two octopuses of their own. Research has found that babies who hold the octopus have lower heart rates, possibly indicating lower stress and increased comfort levels.

The group also exhibited more than one hundred knitted items for babies (cardigans, boots, mitts, hats) also for donation to the Rotunda Foundation. Another display was a series of knitted animal jumpers, with all proceeds going to the UCD Animal Welfare Fund. Through a raffle and the sale of small knitted items at the exhibition, the group raised more than €400 with proceeds going to Pieta House and the UCD Animal Welfare Fund. Marion Drew, Vet Librarian, exhibited her wonderful nativity scenes. Finally, eagle-eyed attendees will have spotted our very own President, Professor Deeks tea cosy among a collection of Michael 'Tea' Higgins tea cosies!

UCD Purl Jam will continue to meet throughout the summer and the next academic year and welcomes all levels of experience, from total beginner to experienced. For more information, contact Niamh or Catriona [niamh.nestor@ucd.ie](mailto:niamh.nestor@ucd.ie) / [catriona.keane@ucd.ie](mailto:catriona.keane@ucd.ie).



## UCD Baby Brains Lab launches first project

The Baby Brains Lab, part of the UCD Neuropsychology Lab at UCD School of Psychology, is opening its doors to families as it launches its first project this summer, led by Dr Michelle Downes. The project will investigate how factors, such as sleep, contribute to the development of early attention skills. It will invite babies aged 10-14 months to visit the lab with their families and take part in fun games and activities. The project will involve both families with and without a history of ADHD. Some of the activities will involve looking at brain waves using colourful hats, using an eye tracker to look at gaze patterns, and bringing home a sleep actigraph to track sleeping patterns.

Above, baby research assistant Charlotte is inspecting one of the actigraphs before giving it her seal of approval. The other image shows red dots which represent a recording of gaze locations being tracked while a baby reviews a nature scene. Of course, every baby who takes part will be presented with a Baby Scientist certificate (you can never start filling those CVs early enough)!

More information and updates from the project (including information on how to take part) can be found at [www.ucdneuropsychologylab.wordpress.com/](http://www.ucdneuropsychologylab.wordpress.com/)

## Launch of the John Whyte Oral Archive of the Northern Ireland Conflict

**The 'John Whyte Oral Archive of British-Irish and Northern Irish Negotiations 1972-2006' was officially launched by Tánaiste and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney TD on Tuesday, 8 May 2018 at the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin after an introduction by Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President.**

The archive is a collection of recorded and transcribed interviews with elites and witness seminars dealing with the process of British-Irish and Northern Irish negotiations from 1973-2006. It was created by researchers at the Institute for British Irish Studies (IBIS) at UCD, and was developed in two phases. The first, 1998-2001, recorded the recollections, perceptions and insights of key participants in the talks process that led ultimately to the Good Friday Agreement. This initiative was made possible by generous financial assistance from the John Whyte Trust Fund and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

The second phase was conducted between 2007 and 2011. It is a much more extensive collection of interviews and witness seminars, primarily with British and Irish politicians and officials who had participated in British-Irish negotiations from 1973-2006. This project, entitled 'Breaking the Patterns of Conflict: The Irish State, the British Dimension and the Northern Ireland Conflict', was funded by the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences. Further information about the project is available on the IBIS website.

The 'Breaking the Patterns of Conflict' project ended in 2011, having fully met its objectives of documenting the perspectives and perceptions of those who engaged in the major British-Irish negotiations from 1973-2006. The final editing of transcripts and participants' approval was completed and agreed by 2018. The initial tranche of interviews (by thirty-four participants) is now available to researchers at the UCD Archives. The transcripts record the memories of the central participants in the various rounds of negotiations, their recollections of events, and their interpretations of motivations in the run-up to the Good Friday Agreement (1998). The project leaders note that: "It is now clear to us that the archive provides a benchmark of the evolving aims, principles and foci of disagreement between 1973-2006, of particular value to present and future researchers when the trajectory of British-Irish and Northern Irish relations appears less positive. It shows how elites in past decades framed their strategies and assumptions, and shows what did and didn't work in the past".

## Tánaiste and visits BDIC, China

On Saint Patrick's Day, Dr Amanda Kelly, Beijing Dublin International College and UCD School of Archaeology was delighted to welcome Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney TD to the College, which is a collaborative venture between UCD and the Beijing University of Technology. This was part of his official visit to China. During his tour, the Tánaiste briefly attended Dr Kelly's lecture on Yeats' romantic poetry (*The Love Song of W Butler Yeats*). She also introduced him to her first year students as they discussed her Irish archaeological and cultural module at BDIC.

This module is specifically designed for students new to Irish Studies; as such, it aims to provide students with an insight into modern Irish society through an in-depth appraisal of its past history. This knowledge allows students to become more familiar, and feel more at ease with the society in which they may find themselves interacting on a daily basis.

The number of BDIC students studying for one year in Dublin has increased since the launch of the collaboration in 2013 with 40 students currently studying in Belfield. The College now enrolls over 300 students into its first year cohort in Beijing, all of whom study Irish culture with Dr Kelly.



Dr Amanda Kelly with Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs Simon Coveney - Photo credit BDIC Press



Pictured (l-r) Prof Gerard Fealy, Dean of Nursing and Head of UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems; Dr Sally Ann Lynch, Consultant Clinical Geneticist in OLCHC; Prof Eileen Treacy, Clinical Lead, National Clinical Programme for Rare Diseases; Prof Thilo Kroll, Professor of Health Systems Management and HRB PPI Ignite Lead for UCD, UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems; Prof Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact; Kay Duggan-Walls, Health Research Board and National Contact Point for Health; Dr Suja Somanadhan, Assistant Professor of Children's Nursing, UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems; Dr Avril Keenan, CEO, MRCG; Mr Philip Watt, CEO, Cystic Fibrosis Ireland; Mr Paul Harkin, Director of Strategic Development, UCD School of Medicine; and Dr Sean Ennis, Director of UCD Academic Centre on Rare Diseases.

## UCD Rare Disease Symposium

UCD hosted the annual Rare Disease Symposium on 3 May to discuss developments in rare disease research and education and to raise public awareness. The symposium was jointly hosted by the UCD Schools of Medicine and Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems, the UCD Academic Centre on Rare Diseases, along with Rare Disease Ireland, the Medical Research Charities Group, and the Irish

Platform for Patient Organisations (IPPOSI). The audience of almost 200 included people living with a rare disease, families, researchers, policymakers and students. In welcoming the delegates, Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Impact and Innovation, spoke of the importance of healthcare professionals and support groups for parents and families coming together to share research,

progress and ideas. Professor Eileen Tracey, Clinical Lead, National Clinical Programme for Rare Diseases, discussed progress on rare diseases at both national and European levels and Dr Sean Ennis, Director of the UCD Academic Centre on Rare Diseases, updated the audience on ongoing research. This symposium served as a milestone for research in relation to rare diseases at UCD.

## Improving Survival Rates of Children and Teens affected by Cancers of the Blood

UCD, the National Children's Research Centre (NCRC), and the Children's Medical and Research Foundation (CMRF) Crumlin have announced the appointment of Jonathan Bond to the newly established Brendan McGonnell UCD Professor of Paediatric Molecular Haemato-Oncology Chair.

The result of an innovative partnership between the three organisations, this new professorship has been developed to advance research into paediatric and adolescent cancers of the blood, with the aim of improving survival

rates for those affected. Based at UCD School of Medicine, the new Chair is supported, under the NCRC Research Leadership Award Scheme, by a significant legacy donation from the late Brendan McGonnell to CMRF Crumlin.

Child and young adolescent haematological cancers account for approximately 40% of all cancers in children up to the age of 16. Professor Bond's research programme, which will be carried out at Systems Biology Ireland UCD, will focus on understanding how normal gene regulation is subverted in acute leukaemia with the ultimate goal of developing new and better treatments.



Dr Jacinta Kelly, Chief Executive, NCRC; Prof Jonathan Bond, Brendan McGonnell UCD Professor of Paediatric Molecular Haemato-Oncology and Prof Owen Smith CBE, Professor of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine, UCD School of Medicine.

## Over 350 students honoured at Sports Awards

**At the Bank of Ireland UCD Athletic Union Council Sport Awards ceremony, over 350 students from 24 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. Irish Senior Ladies Hockey Captain Katie Mullan was named as the *Dr Tony O'Neill Sportsperson of the Year*.

The Men's Superleague basketball team was named the *Elite Team of the Year* following their victory for the first time in 40 years in the Irish Superleague.

The Ladies Hockey Club was also named the *Elite Team of the Year* in recognition of their success winning the University Championships (Chilean Cup), the Colours, the Irish Senior Cup and the EYHL League but also but their superb organisation off the field of play.

In terms of other award winners the Men's Soccer team was named the *Varsity Team of the Year* following their Collingwood Cup victory and Colleges & Universities League successes. The Trampoline Club was named the *Varsity Club of the Year*.

The *David O'Connor Memorial Medal* was presented to rugby player Alix Cunneen and the *Dr Padraic Conway Memorial Medal* was presented to the GAA Club's John Murphy.

The *Gerry Horkan Club Administrator of the Year* was presented to Tadhg O'Leary of the Rugby Club.

The Soccer Club's senior treasurer and Colleges / Leinster Senior League team coach Tony Sheridan was the recipient of the *Bank of Ireland Graduate of the Year*. The GAA Club received the *Bank of Ireland Club Inclusion Award* and the Canoe Club won the *Bank of Ireland Event of the Year Award* for their hosting of the Canoe Intervarsitys.

Commenting on the sporting achievements, UCD Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Mark Rogers said: "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".



Our photo shows (l-r): Marcella Price, Stephen Lucey, John Horan, Eugene McGee and Rena Buckley.

## UCD GAA hosts first Hall of Fame Awards and Alumni Dinner

**At an event in UCD Astra Hall, with Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, John Horan as guest of honour, UCD GAA held its first Hall of Fame Awards and Alumni Dinner.**

Political editor of the Irish Times, Pat Leahy was MC for the night and as a graduate of UCD and one who graced the hurling fields in Belfield during his College years, was able to relay fond memories of his own.

The first award winner was for the Ladies Gaelic Football and went to Meath's Marcella Price. Marcella served as chairperson of the Ladies Football Club for four years and was the driving force behind the college's hosting of the O'Connor Cup in 1998 and won both an O'Connor Cup medal and League medal in 2002.

The award for Hurling went to Dr Stephen Lucey. In an age when being a dual player was becoming more and more difficult, Stephen managed to take the task in his stride while studying medicine in UCD. During his time in UCD he won two Munster and All-Ireland Under-21 medals with his beloved Limerick and also a Munster Under-21 football championship. For UCD he won 3 Dublin senior hurling championships, a county football championship and a Fitzgibbon Cup for good measure, making it 5 major wins in 5 years.

The Hall of Fame Award for Men's Gaelic Football went to Eugene McGee. Eugene is most famous for leading Offaly to All-Ireland glory in 1982 by defeating the "unbeatable" Kerry team, depriving them of their 5-in-row All-Irelands.

Finally the Camogie Hall of Fame Award went to none other than Rena Buckley. She has brought honour and glory to herself and to Cork and it is a source of pride in UCD that she studied for her Physiotherapy Degree here in Belfield. During her time here she won two Ashbourne Cups in 2007 and 2008 and an O'Connor Cup in 2006. Rena is the only person to have captained All-Ireland winning teams in two codes and the only one ever to win 18 All-Ireland medals. With a mere 10 All Star awards, Rena is a credit to Gaelic Games.

## UCD Rugby Club Annual Dinner 2018

**Irish Rugby defence coach, Andy Farrell was the guest of honour as over 500 guests were present at the annual black tie rugby dinner in O'Reilly Hall.**

With CEO of Drury Communications and long standing clubman, Billy Murphy as the master of ceremonies, UCD Rugby Club President Terry Buckley, welcomed the many guests including UCD President Professor Andrew Deeks and thanked them for their continued support.

We were also delighted to have Leinster and Ireland stars Garry Ringrose, Josh Van Der Flier, Dan Leavy and James Ryan present on the night as proud sports scholars and clubmen of UCD and UCD RFC.

UCD Rugby clubman and world expert video analyst, Vinny Hammond led the interview with Andy Farrell who kept the audience captivated with stories of his move from rugby league to union and most



Pictured are Andy Farrell and Vinny Hammond on stage.

interestingly coming up against his son Owen when Ireland are playing England.

The audience, made up of former players and team mates, rugby club presidents from clubs across the country, Leinster and Irish rugby personnel as well as corporate guests, were treated to a number of surprises on the night including the 6 Nations trophy and the Triple Crown on display.



Our photos shows the UCD Ladies hockey team celebrating their win!

## UCD Ladies Hockey – Another incredible season

**UCD retained the women's Irish Senior Cup title – their fourth in seven years – with an excellent win over Pegasus at Belfield. UCD overcame Loreto in a tough match in the semi-final to make it through to the final where the pressure was on them as current title holders to retain the trophy.**

UCD showed their unbelievable talent as they were beaten only once this season in the EY Hockey League. They sealed their second successive Irish Hockey League title in some style with a 7-1 win away to Ards giving them their 13th

successive victory in the competition and completing an IHL and Irish Senior Cup double.

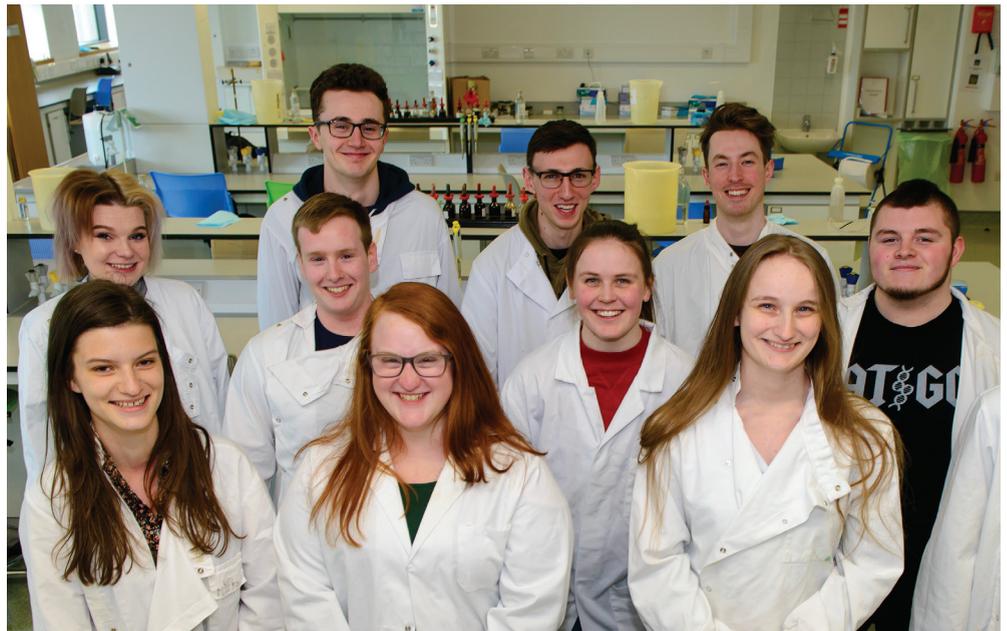
Unfortunately the girls didn't do the treble this year as they had an unfortunate 1-0 loss to Loreto

in the semi-final of the Champions Trophy but it was a fantastic domestic season with the girls also winning the Intervarsity and Colours titles.

The ladies then were set for the Eurohockey Club Cup Championships in London as they were up against the best club sides in Europe. The UCD ladies hockey qualified for the competition back in 2014 and it was a huge achievement for the girls to play against some of the world's best players on the world stage.

## Stage 3 Genetics and Microbiology students isolate new yeast species from soil

A new initiative at UCD designed to introduce research methods to early-stage undergraduate science students has been a great success. Fourteen students from the third year of the genetics and microbiology programmes collected soil samples scattered around Ireland, and used molecular techniques to identify fungi in the soil. They identified a new yeast species, never described before, from soil in Balally Park, Dundrum, Dublin. The students named the new species 'Hanseniaspora scholastica', where Hanseniaspora is the name of the family that the species belongs to, and scholastica is derived from student. Follow-up work on the species is being carried out in collaboration with Professor Teun Boekhout at the Westerdijk Fungal Biodiversity Institute in Amsterdam. These courses are unique in Ireland, with students working out the entire genome sequence for six fungal isolates. Three reports that describe their work have been accepted for publication in Genome Announcements, a



*Pictured are (l-r): back row: Sean Bergin, Aaron McLaughlin and Luan Riddel; middle row: Sinéad O'Boyle, Cian Holohan, Alisha Mullen and Anthony Murray; and front row: Eabha Hussey, Shannon Hill, Ciara Lynch and Anjan Venkatesh. Missing from photo are Lisa Quinn Farrington, Adrian Boyle and Timothy Maher*

journal from the American Society of Microbiology. Research at this level is usually carried out by PhD students or by senior scientists.

Module Co-ordinator Professor Geraldine Butler said: "The group isolated yeast species from the soil and sequenced genomes of six species. The students got to use state-of-the-art techniques and made some novel

discoveries. The work has many possible applications, from helping us to understand the ecology of soil, to identifying new species that could have important applications in biotechnology". The students were very excited to discover a new species. They said that they enjoyed learning new skills, and that the work made a research career more enticing.



*Abeba and Siobhán are pictured with Professor Margaret Kelleher, UCD School of English, Drama and Film, who chairs the family-and-friends group behind this initiative*

## Mary Mulvihill Award

**Congratulations to Abeba Birhane, currently pursuing a PhD in cognitive science at UCD and Siobhán Grayson, currently pursuing a PhD in computer science at the Insight Centre for Data Analytics, who received a runners-up award for their joint entry for the Mary Mulvihill Award, the science media competition for third level students commemorating the legacy of science journalist and author Mary Mulvihill (1959–2015).**

This year's competition invited entries on the theme 'Science: Whose facts? Whose truth?' The UCD students' runner-up project

analysed the assumptions that allow algorithms to pervade our social sphere unchecked.

"Data science, like other sciences, is a human endeavour and prone to human biases," they argue. "Truth in data science is far from fixed, objective and independent of the values and interests of the data scientist herself."

This is the second year of the Mary Mulvihill Award, set up to honour her memory and the legacy of her work. "It's a poignant time for her family and close friends; but it's also a proud moment, as the award allows us to continue, in a small way, Mary's role as an educator, mentor and advocate of science," says Anne Mulvihill, a sister of Mary, and a member of the judging panel.



*Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (MVB) Class of 2019, led by Dr James Gibbons, recite the Veterinarian's Oath.*

## White Coat Ceremony – MVB Class of 2019

On Thursday 8 March, the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine's annual White Coat Ceremony took place in O'Reilly Hall. The students of the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (MVB) Class of 2019 were formally presented with their clinical dress and their families and friends joined them to celebrate this important occasion; guests attended from all over Ireland and some came from as far afield as the USA and Canada. UCD Veterinary Hospital Clinical Director, Associate Professor Rory Breathnach was on MC duty for the event, which began with an address from the Dean and Head of School, Professor Michael Doherty.

Dr John Bainbridge addressed the Class of 2019, sharing his experience as a vet and offering words of wisdom to the students as they prepare to enter their clinical year. Dr James Gibbons, Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs, led the class in reciting the Veterinarian's Oath. Best of luck to the MVB Class of 2019 as they enter their clinical year!