

UCD

today



FEATURE

The Great Call of China:

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In their own words



EILÍS O'BRIEN
Director of
Communication

There is no doubt that, in the current economic environment, prospective students and their advisors have become very focused on careers. The era of young graduates expecting the job offer at every interview has passed. But, while hitch-hiking around South East Asia is not something to highlight on a CV, this is not the 1980s and graduates have real opportunities here and globally with their UCD degree in their back pocket.

Much of our communication with students over the past few years has been about the quality of our academic offering, our facilities, our holistic approach to student development and student life.

This year, we extended the message and asked our graduates to tell their own stories. Our aim is to show that UCD graduates have more than just academic competence. They have drive and pride. The first 3 stories are on the UCD Life video wall, at www.ucdlife.ie

Una Morrison, whose BComm took her across the globe marketing – among other things – Häagen-Dazs in the Philippines or “vanilla in Manila” as she says herself, is currently Digital Operations Manager, Europe, for Kellogg.

Alan McHugh, BE, who is project manager with Eirgrid, talks about the “forward thinking attitude at UCD that strikes a chord with employers”. He’s working on the Grid 25 project which is as significant to electricity transmission today as Ardnacrusha was in the 1930s.

Zoe Kavanagh, BAgSci, talks about how her passion for horses led her to choose her course but that she didn’t really know where her degree would take her. So, while she might have once wished to be an equine vet, today she’s totally dedicated to her role as CEO of the National Dairy Council.

Over the coming weeks we will release more videos onto the graduate gallery. Among them: a philosophy graduate working for an NGO, another BA graduate of English who was recently nominated for an Oscar, an award-winning architect, a transplant surgeon who has just come home to Ireland and a scientist managing programmes for the European Space Agency.

If you have suggestions of graduates you feel have an inspiring story to tell, get in touch and we will help spread the word.

UCD thanks...

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Produced by: Eilís O’Brien, Lisa Flannery, Dominic Martella

Design: Loman Cusack Design

Print: Fine Print

Thanks to: Padraic Conway, Diarmuid Ferriter, Patrick Guiry, Ann Lavan, Damien McLoughlin, Diane Sonnenwald, Regina Uí Chollatain, William Watson

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

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

Cover image: Professor Guo Guangsheng, President of Beijing University of Technology and Dr Hugh Brady, President of UCD, hold a Chinese Ancient Bamboo book during a visit to Belfield House in UCD in March 2012.



UCD Foundation Day Medal for Grammy Award winner, Bill Whelan



Musician Bill Whelan, pictured during a rehearsal for his special performance alongside the UCD Astra Scholars, UCD Choral Scholars, UCD Orchestral Scholars and Ciarán Crilly (conductor) on the occasion of his presentation with the UCD Foundation Day Medal

Bill Whelan, best known for composing the original seven minute orchestral piece for Riverdance, has been awarded the UCD Foundation Day Medal, in recognition of his outstanding achievements and his contribution to Irish music worldwide.

"It is, first and foremost, Bill Whelan's musical imagination that we honour with this award," said Noel Pearson who delivered the official citation at the ceremony. Bill Whelan has worked extensively in theatre, film and television. His album of music for 'Riverdance The Show' earned him a much coveted Grammy Award, and went Platinum in the US, Australia, and Ireland. His production and arranging credits include U2, Van Morrison, Kate Bush, Planxty and The Dubliners.

Bill Whelan was presented with the UCD Foundation Day Medal by UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady. After accepting the award, Whelan gave a special performance alongside the UCD Ad Astra Scholars, UCD Choral Scholars, UCD Orchestral Scholars, and Ciarán Crilly (conductor) to guests and friends of UCD who attended the UCD Foundation Day Event.

The UCD Foundation Day Medal was inaugurated in 2004 to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the opening of UCD's antecedent institution, the Catholic University of Ireland. In November of each year it is awarded to a UCD graduate who demonstrates great achievement; previous recipients include Peter Sutherland, Maeve Binchy, and Brian O'Driscoll.



The UCD Global Lounge.

UCD Global Lounge welcomes over 10,000 visitors in its first year

UCD's student population, both Irish and international, have fully embraced the UCD Global Lounge, with over 10,000 visitors using this new resource on campus in its first year of operation. The UCD Global Lounge's dedicated events programme has been engaged in by students, staff, clubs and societies across UCD. Key events included celebrations for Chinese New Year, Australia Day, Iranian New Year and the Spanish national day. A range of international music workshops offered students a taste of Indian Classical Music by the renowned sitar player Sougata Roy Chowdhury, as well as the first

performance in Ireland by the Javanese Gamelan Orchestra. Alongside these bespoke events, the Lounge also offered weekly events including open mic sessions, themed movie nights and international career seminars organised by the UCD Career Development Centre. The UCD International Student's Society and the UCD Erasmus Student Network society also held many popular events in the UCD Global Lounge throughout the year.

The events programme is being further developed and expanded for 2012 and will include traditional Irish recitals hosted by a selection of Irish musicians, language cafes, career guidance talks and themed movie evenings. For further information on using the UCD Global Lounge or to view upcoming events, please log on to www.ucd.ie/international/ucdglobalounge/

Mary Morrissy, writer in residence at UCD School of English, Drama and Film

Mary Morrissy was appointed this year as the first Writer in Residence at UCD, co-funded by the Arts Council and the UCD School of English, Drama and Film. She took up her residency in 2012 and is currently teaching courses for the MA and MFA in Creative Writing and the MA in Anglo-Irish Literature.

Born in Dublin, Morrissy trained as a journalist and has worked for three of Ireland's daily newspapers as a writer/copy editor. She maintains her connection with her previous life with literary journalism and book reviewing for the *The Irish Times* and *The Sunday Business Post*. Morrissy is the author of two novels, *Mother of Pearl* and *The Pretender* and a collection of short stories, *A Lazy Eye*. Her novels are historical, usually inspired by real events and often explore the territory where fiction and biography overlap; her short fiction covers everything from infanticide to elder abuse.

She is a winner of the *Hennessy Award* and the *Lannan Literary Award* and *The Pretender* was nominated for the *Dublin Impac Award*.

In 2006 she was awarded a fellowship at the Cullman Centre for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library to research her most recent novel, *The Rising of Bella Casey*, inspired by the life of playwright Sean O'Casey's sister.



For the past decade she has taught on creative writing programmes in Ireland and the US, among them the University of Arkansas and George Washington University, Washington DC (where she risked frostbite covering the Obama inauguration for *The Irish Times*).

She has been a faculty member on the University of Iowa's Summer Writing Programme in Dublin since 2001. She is currently at work on a collection of linked short stories, entitled *Diaspora*.

Professor Thomas J. Laffey wins prestigious Hans Schneider Prize

One of UCD's most highly regarded and longest serving academics has won a prestigious international prize in mathematics. Professor Thomas J. Laffey of the School of Mathematical Sciences has been awarded the Hans Schneider Prize in recognition of his lifetime of profound contributions to many areas of linear algebra.

The prize is awarded every two years by the International Linear Algebra Society for research, contributions and achievements at the highest level of linear algebra.

Mayo-born Laffey was an undergraduate at UCG and completed his PhD at the University of Sussex in 1968 under the supervision of Walter Ledermann. He obtained an assistant lecturer position at UCD in 1968, and has been at UCD

ever since. Laffey's PhD thesis was in an area of mathematics known as group theory. After coming to UCD, he became interested in linear algebra and matrix theory, influenced by his colleague Fergus Gaines. His principal research interests remain in algebra, particularly in algebraic linear algebra and finite group theory. Always an entertaining and popular lecturer, Laffey recently designed a new undergraduate module called The Mathematics of Google, which teaches the linear algebra used for ranking websites.

Tom Laffey is well known in the mathematical community outside of linear algebra. He is heavily involved with training the Irish team for the International Mathematical Olympiad. Laffey has been a member of the National Committee for Mathematics, and has represented Ireland at the International Congress of Mathematicians. A member of the Royal Irish Academy since 1981,

he served as its Vice President for the period 1990 - 1992. He served two terms as head of the UCD Department of Mathematics (1986-90 and 1996-99). He was the founding editor of the Newsletter (now Bulletin) of the Irish *Mathematical Society* and has been editor of the *Mathematical Proceedings* of the Royal Irish Academy and a member of the editorial board of three other journals, including *Linear Algebra and its Applications*. Laffey's encyclopedic knowledge and enthusiasm for mathematics of all kinds have made him an invaluable source of information and advice for his colleagues and students alike.

The Hans Schneider Prize will be presented to Professor Laffey at the next ILAS meeting in Providence USA, 3-7 June, 2013, and Laffey will also be invited to give a special lecture at that meeting.



Pictured at the launch of the National Agricultural Research, Education and Innovation Partnership agreement signing in UCD are from left to right: Professor Maurice Boland, Principal UCD College of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine; Professor Gerry Boyle, Director Teagasc; Mr Michael Berkery, Chairman UCD Teagasc Partnership and Dr Hugh Brady President UCD.

UCD and Teagasc sign National Agricultural Research, Education and Innovation Partnership Agreement

UCD and Teagasc, the Agriculture and Food Development Authority, have signed a Memorandum of Agreement to establish 'The National Agricultural Research, Education and Innovation Partnership'. The agreement was formally signed by the President of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady and the Director of Teagasc, Professor Gerry Boyle in UCD in November 2011.

A joint Teagasc/UCD working party met over several months to agree steps on how best to formalise and strengthen the long-standing collaboration that has existed between the two organisations. Both parties will work jointly to achieve greater efficiencies and effectiveness in the use of State resources and to ensure that the State investment in agricultural research and development results in real economic impact for our growing agricultural sector.

The partnership will enhance the scientific and technical leadership of UCD and Teagasc in order to underpin the international competitiveness, growth and sustainable development of the agricultural sector. It will provide world-class education for agricultural students and deliver excellent basic and applied research programmes in key areas of

relevance to the development of Irish agriculture.

The partnership's core strategy will focus on the establishment, in close collaboration with industry, of a National Agricultural Research, Education and Innovation Programme linked to the strategies of both organisations. At the core of the national programme will be an agreed programme of agricultural research; a shared strategy for post-graduate training, including a provision for greater involvement by Teagasc personnel in undergraduate and post-graduate teaching, while also enabling more substantial engagement by UCD personnel in Teagasc research programmes and technology transfer activities.

In welcoming the partnership, Dr Hugh Brady, President of UCD, said; "The enhanced capabilities with the partnership will enable both organisations to accomplish goals together that they could not achieve separately. It is anticipated that this partnership will bring new and additional resources to both organisations that will enhance the flow of new information and technologies to the Irish agriculture and food sector."

Michael Berkery, who has been appointed as Chairman of the Board of Management of the Partnership, welcomed the commitment of researchers and academics in UCD and Teagasc to "engage directly with farming and the food industry in developing joint programmes and to prioritising the development and transfer of new technologies and knowledge that will enable the sector deliver on ambitious growth targets. The State will also benefit from greater integration, efficiency, cost effectiveness and commercial benefits for public funds invested in agricultural research and education."

Widening participation in higher education

Advancing participation of under-represented students in higher education, including students with a disability; mature and disadvantaged students, is a key national priority. The Dublin Region Higher Education alliance (DRHEA), a strategic alliance of the higher education sector in greater Dublin, has developed objectives and activities to address this issue.

One such activity, the 'widening participation' strand, is led by UCD and comprises thirteen higher education institutions in the greater Dublin region, including universities (UCD, NUIM, TCD, DCU), colleges of education (SPD, MDI, Froebel, NCAD), institutes of technology (ITB, ITT, IADT, DIT) and National College of Ireland (NCI).

Through collaboration and partnership, these strand members are committed to working together to become a catalyst for change, leading to a more diverse student profile in higher education institutions in the region.

The first DRHEA widening participation strand symposium was hosted by UCD in December 2011, attracting almost 100 participants from higher and further education across the region and indeed beyond.

The purpose of the symposium was to showcase successful widening participation initiatives and practices. Opening the symposium, Ms Anna Kelly, Director, Access & Lifelong Learning in UCD and convenor of the widening participation strand, noted

"At the heart of our work in the widening participation strand is the concept of collaboration – a very laudable, highly desirable, though ambitious objective. But given that we operate in a challenging environment with much diminished resources, I am convinced more than ever that collaboration, partnership and working together is vital if we are to succeed in widening participation in higher education within the region".

The keynote address to the symposium was given by Professor Philip Nolan, President, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, in which he outlined the issues, challenges and priorities for widening participation in higher education.

The Great Call of China

UCD heads back to Beijing

In 1976 a UCD Soccer Club Fresher's Team was the first European sports team ever to have gone on tour to the People's Republic of China and was second in the world only behind the US table tennis team to do so. The Americans had been sent by American President Richard Nixon to China in 1971 to open up diplomatic dialogue between the two countries in what was, at the time, termed Ping Pong Diplomacy. The groundbreaking soccer trip was a fantastic opportunity for UCD students to see behind what was then the 'Bamboo Curtain' – China was very difficult to access at the time - but now UCD students won't have to play soccer to spend a semester or a year studying in what is fast becoming the world's largest economy. The massive growth of the Chinese economy over the last couple of decades is one of the reasons that UCD has set off on another groundbreaking journey – opening a joint venture with the Beijing University of Technology (BJUT), establishing the Chinese capital's first international university.



Members of the UCD soccer team on tour in the People's Republic of China in 1976

UCD studies, gaining a unique experience of Chinese education. Beginning this September we aim to have 350 students, mainly Chinese, coming through our doors in Beijing and we expect that number to grow tenfold within four years."

Looking to the future, Dr Brady said, "Universities can go one of two ways. Some will continue the old way of expecting people to come to them. But others, like ourselves, Nottingham and New York University, have decided that, in an increasingly globalised world, we have to bring our expertise to the education 'market'. We're already well established in a number of centres, including Penang in Malaysia (in collaboration with RCSI) and Colombo in Sri Lanka. Beijing is our next, possibly greatest, step in developing a global footprint for UCD."

The process of establishing the joint venture was started late last year with the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the two universities. In the same year, given the tumult in the economy here in Ireland, many people may have missed another signing, that of the twinning of Dublin City with Beijing. Most recently UCD's president, Hugh Brady, signed a final contract with BJUT in the presence of Chinese Vice President Xi that will see up to fifty UCD staff spending time in Beijing teaching courses in science, engineering and technology, business and management, innovation and entrepreneurship and eventually social sciences and the humanities.

The 'exporting' of knowledge has become big business for UCD with €40 million, or a tenth of the university's revenues, coming from overseas students (there are now 5,000 overseas amongst the university's 25,000 student body) and overseas contracts like Malaysia and Sri Lanka. The Beijing venture will add significantly to this, all the time adding to university revenues and easing the UCD's dependence on State funding.

The benefits for UCD's staff and students are multiple. The Beijing campus will undoubtedly enhance UCD's international footprint and reputation. The new campus will provide new study abroad opportunities in Beijing for UCD's Dublin-based students which should be attractive not just for Irish students but for UCD's 5,000 international students. The joint venture

will provide new job opportunities for young Irish academics at a time when there are few such opportunities at home.

The potential research benefits are real and substantive, particularly in high tech areas such as engineering and science that require access to large and expensive technology platforms. BJUT and other Beijing universities have large research platforms in wind and wave energy, aeronautics and laser technology that many Western universities could only dream about.

Finally some of the benefits may be less obvious but nevertheless important. "There has been a tendency in certain quarters to behave as if the West has the monopoly on wisdom and new ideas" Dr Brady noted. "Exposure to the richness, nuances and complexities of Chinese and Asian society can only benefit our students and, indeed, is already challenging us to evaluate the content of our own curriculum".

The entire thrust of the joint venture is aimed at developing minds to engage in the global knowledge economy and knowledge society. As well as emphasising the teaching of technology and innovation, part of the joint venture is to bring the knowledge of commercialisation, successfully done at NovaUCD, to Beijing. In doing so, UCD would also hope to partner Enterprise Ireland and other agencies to serve as a resource for Irish business in China.

According to Dr Brady, "To be successful you need scale. If you get the scale it greatly enhances your international profile which in turn attracts the best and brightest. Quite honestly I can only see benefits in this joint venture. Our students' understanding of the world will be greatly enhanced by time spent in China and we're expecting a large number of the Chinese students in Beijing to want to spend some time in Dublin, to get a fully Irish experience. As courses in Beijing will be taught through English, time spent in Dublin will also help with their language skills. This is also great news for the increasing number of students who are currently taking the Business and Chinese degree in Dublin – they'll have plenty of people to practice their Mandarin with in the future – and maybe we can go full circle with some of those Chinese students playing soccer for UCD in Ireland!"

Hugh Brady was in conversation with Conall O Morain (BA 1979), columnist and radio presenter.



Dr Hugh Brady, President of UCD and Professor Guo Guangsheng, President of Beijing University of Technology

BJUT is the highest ranked Chinese university funded by the Beijing Municipal Government. According to UCD President Hugh Brady, "This is the continuation of our policy to internationalise UCD – not just to bring the expertise and knowledge of UCD academic staff to other countries but it also opens up the opportunity for non-Chinese students in UCD to study in Beijing. The majority of the students attending the international university will be Chinese but we are expecting that up to 100 of our Dublin-based students annually will have the chance to spend time in Beijing as part of their



Dr Louise McHugh, lecturer in the UCD School of Psychology, who has been awarded an FP7 Marie Curie career integration fellowship from the EU.

UCD Psychology Lecturer awarded Marie Curie career integration fellowship

Dr Louise McHugh has been awarded an FP7 Marie Curie career integration fellowship from the EU to pursue research in her specialist area of experimental clinical psychotherapy.

A lecturer in the UCD School of Psychology, McHugh's area of expertise and domain of investigation is acceptance and mindfulness. She is particularly concerned with the examination of aspects of acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), a third wave cognitive behavioural therapy that focuses on enhancing psychological flexibility in the service of achieving core life values. One key characteristic of ACT is its solid grounding in empirical science. The results of years of basic behavioural research indicate that the human capacity for language can produce seriously negative psychological effects in particular circumstances. ACT is a therapeutic approach that seeks to counteract these effects so as to support flexible values-based living. In UCD McHugh will continue her research on ACT-based acceptance with a number of different populations including students with low self-esteem, older people and patients with post traumatic head injury.



Pictured at the UCD student awards ceremony in March were, (l-r) Cliona de Bhaldráithe Marsh, daughter of Prof. Tomás de Bhaldráithe, Prof. Liam Mac Mathúna, Head, UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore and Linguistics, Oisín Mac Eoin, winner of Duais de Bhaldráithe do Léann na Gaeilge, Carmel Duggan, grandmother of Lucy Moylan, winner of Duais de Bhaldráithe do Léann na Gaeilge, who received the award on her behalf, Prof. Máire Ní Annracháin, Head of Modern Irish.

Duais de Bhaldráithe ag nascadh na nglún in UCD

Tháinig stair acadúil agus stair chlainne chun solais ag searmanas in UCD Dé hAoine, 2 Márta 2012, nuair a bronnadh Duais de Bhaldráithe do Léann na Gaeilge den chéad uair. Bronnadh an duais ar Oisín Mac Eoin agus Lucy Moylan, beirt a fuair an duais ar son na dtorthaí a bhain siad amach i gcúrsa MA de chuid Scoil na Gaeilge, an Léinn Cheiltigh, Bhéalóideas Éireann agus na Teangeolaíochta.

Ghlac seanmháthair Lucy, Carmel, an duais ar a son agus nochtai sí a ceangail féin le Gaeilge agus le hoidhreacht Thomáis de Bhaldráithe.

Bhain Carmel céim chéad onóracha amach sa Ghaeilge sa bhliain 1948 agus ba é Tomás de Bhaldráithe a bhí mar léachtóir aici le linn a tréimhse in UCD. Tá an duais ainmnithe in ómós do Thomás de Bhaldráithe agus an rian a d'fhág sé ar an Ollscoil. Bhog Carmel ansin go Raghnaillach, áit a raibh Tomás agus a chlann ina gcónaí agus d'eascair cairdeas idir an dá chlann. Mar a bhíonn an cú mór, bíonn an coileán, agus tháinig an ciorcal clainne chun críche nuair a lean Lucy oidhreacht acadúil a seanmháthar anseo in UCD.

Tá Lucy ag obair san Aontas Eorpach anois sa Stiúrthóireacht um Chaidreamh le Saoránaigh, atá mar chuid d'Ard-Stiúrthóireacht na Cumarsáide. Is múinteoir meánscoile é Oisín Mac Eoin i Scoil Naomh Benildus i gCill Mochuda.

Ainmnithe in ómós don Ollamh de Bhaldráithe a bhain cáil amach dá fhoclóir Béarla-Gaeilge, cuireann Láirionad de Bhaldráithe do Léann na Gaeilge, UCD, sraith cúrsaí MA ar fáil le speisialtóireacht san Aistriúchán, san Eagarthóireacht agus Cóipeagarthóireacht, Dí agus Aistriúchán, san Ateangaireacht agus san Iriseoireacht mar chuid den chúrsa MA i Scríobh agus Cumarsáid na Gaeilge. Reachtáiltear na cúrsaí seo trí thacaíocht a chuirtear ar fáil ón Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta tríd an UAO, le cur le líon na gcéimithe le saincileanna Gaeilge i gcomhthéacs Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (2003) agus de réir an stádas oifigiúil atá ag an nGaeilge san AE in 2007.

Tá Duais de Bhaldráithe agus an sparánacht a ghabhann léi maoinithe ag Cliona de Bhaldráithe Marsh agus bail eile de theaghlach de Bhaldráithe. www.ucd.ie/news/2012/03MAR12/050312-UCD-annual-student-awards.html

Unlikely oncogene accomplice identified

One of the most frequently mutated genes in human cancer, K-Ras is a known oncogene that drives the development of many prevalent human cancers. In a surprising twist, new research has revealed that the accomplice of mutant K-Ras oncogene is actually the non-mutated or wild type version of itself.

Led by Professor Walter Kolch, Director, Systems Biology Ireland and UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research, this international research collaboration demonstrates in colorectal carcinoma (CRC) that mutant K-Ras transformation is supported by the wild type allele.

The findings of their research published recently in the scientific journal *Molecular Cell* outline how mutant K-Ras binds directly to the tumour suppressor gene RASSF1A and initiates the MST2-LATS1 signalling pathway to trigger apoptosis or cell death.

However, K-Ras counteracts this pro-apoptotic action by stimulating autocrine activation of the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), which requires the wild-type (WT) K-Ras allele.

Describing the research, Dr David Matallanas, group leader in Systems Biology Ireland said, "We were able to show that the ability to activate MST2 is specific to K-Ras and that when mutant K-Ras activates the MST2/LATS1 pathway, the downstream effector is the tumour suppressor protein, p53.

Dr Matallanas explains, "When our CRC patient cohort was subdivided according to Dukes' staging, which measures the extent of tumour metastasis, we saw a highly significant association between K-Ras mutations and loss of MST2 protein expression in Dukes' stages C and D. This is when the disease has advanced with local and distant metastases respectively.

With the loss of MST2 expression, late stage tumours do not require protective function of WT K-Ras allele and EGFR. Patients with Dukes' A stage CRC are successfully treated with surgery alone. However, 20-30% of Dukes' B stage patients relapse and perhaps these patients may benefit from EGFR inhibitory therapeutic regimens".

ReJoyce: the barrier between James Joyce and his readers falls

The end of copyright restrictions is a major milestone for readers of James Joyce. Professor Anne Fogarty tells Peter McGuire (BA, Mlitt) that it's time for a fresh look at Ireland's greatest writer.

James Joyce has been a closed book for almost a century. Ireland's most famous writer, arguably the most influential English language author ever, and a graduate of University College Dublin, has been off limits to performers, scholars, and writers. Copyright restrictions, rigorously enforced by the Joyce estate, have meant that biographies have been impeded, translations have been prevented, and performances have been stopped. Equally, Joycean scholarship is somewhat behind where it should be. Since January 1st 2012, however, the weight of copyright restrictions has been lifted: Joyce scholars are rejoicing, but it's the general public which stands to gain the most.

"There's a great irony surrounding Joyce," explains Anne Fogarty, Professor of James Joyce Studies at UCD, Director of the UCD James Joyce Research Centre and president of the International James Joyce Foundation. "As a writer, he is linked with the struggles of his characters against oppression. He displays a Dublin that is paralysed and somehow stagnating because of the colonial conditions in Ireland at the end of the 19th century and because of the dominance of the Catholic Church. And yet his own writings have been entrapped because of copyright issues and particularly because of how the Joyce estate has been administered."

Now works published in Joyce's lifetime can be made freely available and reproduced or performed. Already, says Fogarty, a new liberty is evident in Joyce studies. "As a writer, Joyce struggled for freedom. Now that struggle has been fulfilled legally and an enormous constraint on readers of Joyce has been removed."

UCD can rightfully claim a strong connection with Joyce, a UCD student who famously ran – unsuccessfully – for auditor (presidency) of the Literary and Historical debating society. Stephen Dedalus, Joyce's most famous character, remains a lingering or failed student throughout *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. When we meet him again in *Ulysses*, says Fogarty, he is "a bohemian who has been to Paris and has taken on a continental style but remains the eternal student, who has complex theories about Shakespeare."

Dedalus didn't want to study, he didn't integrate to college life, and he didn't go to class. Large swathes of *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* have Dedalus missing lectures and instead encountering his friends and lecturers. In many ways, says Fogarty, Dedalus was the anti-

type of the perfect student, but Joyce's alter-ego shows us how important the social aspect of UCD – then based at Newman House in Dublin city centre – was to the writer. "What Joyce gained from UCD was the intellectual stimulus of his companions in university and society life, which was a very small and elite group of students in his time."



Professor Anne Fogarty, in O'Reilly Hall, where a portrait of James Joyce by Robert Ballagh is displayed

UCD's decision to mark the end of copyright restrictions on Joyce's work is significant. The university is celebrating this milestone event throughout 2012, with special publications and events planned. Behind the scenes, UCD's James Joyce Research Centre, with UCD university relations office, have been instrumental in the planning.

The James Joyce Research Centre was established to provide a forum for the study of Joyce in UCD and Dublin. It convenes annual events, including a research colloquium which will be held in April, an international symposium in June, and an annual summer school. Speakers will come from around the world.

Fogarty has successfully developed and driven the centre forward. A world-renowned Joycean scholar, she studied a BA in English and German at University College Cork where, notably, Joyce did not feature on the canon. Fogarty read him off her own bat, and discovered him at her own pace.

History is littered with writers. What makes Joyce so special, and why did he grasp the interest of Fogarty, a scholar who originally specialised in medieval literature and whose doctoral dissertation focused on Renaissance literature?

"Joyce was a modernist, avant-garde writer," Fogarty explains. "But if he was only that, he wouldn't have the reputation he has now. He is a writer who transcends borders and boundaries, speaking to people in lots of different languages and dimensions. New translations of Joyce keep emerging all the time – his work travels around the world. This is interesting, because he talks about the local, and almost the provincial: Dublin was a small, tiny colonial backwater when Joyce was putting it on the map, and yet he universalises it. It's that kind of scope and ambition that seems to speak to readers of Joyce around the world, even without an in-depth familiarity with Ireland and Irish culture."

The lapse of copyright restrictions will dramatically change how readers approach Joyce. Most significantly, they can now do so on their own terms. Already, online editions of Joyce's works are in the pipeline. Hypertext versions will enable readers to link to references about the imagery or music in Joyce's works: for instance, they could click on a link to the music of Thomas Moore, who features heavily in Joyce's works.

"Joyce may seem less forbidding now that he is out of copyright," says Fogarty. "The barrier between Joyce and the person who feels they need to do a degree before they understand him has fallen."

To mark the end of copyright restrictions, Dublin City Council has chosen Joyce's collection of short stories, *Dubliners*, for its annual One City One Book campaign. It is a great starting point for readers approaching Joyce for the first time, says Fogarty.

"It can be a major endeavour getting people to read Joyce. But the stories are highly approachable. Even better, we will be able to hear readings and attend performances of Joyce's work, which wonderfully capture the energy of his characters and story. This year represents a major social and cultural shift. There's a sense of excitement and change around Joyce that hasn't been felt in this way before. It's a really exciting time to pick up his books again."

Peter McGuire (BA, Mlitt) is a freelance journalist, working primarily with the education section of The Irish Times



Ruairí Quinn TD, Minister for Education and Skills and Jennifer O'Donnell, a final year UCD architecture student, showcase the 56 sq metre ceiling installation, designed by students, to mark the occasion of 100 years of the UCD School of Architecture.

Minister Ruairí Quinn marks 100 years of UCD Architecture

Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn TD visited his *alma mater* in late 2011 to add his name to an art installation to mark the beginning of a calendar of events to celebrate 100 years of UCD Architecture. The 65 sq metre ceiling installation, designed by students, includes the names of 2,047 architecture graduates from 1911 to 2010.

Minister Quinn graduated from the UCD School of Architecture in 1969 and subsequently taught there for ten years.

The installation is located in the Red Room at Richview, Belfield. The room was named for its timber walls and red linoleum floor. It is the heart of the UCD School of

Architecture, where lectures, reviews, and social events take place and where almost all visitors to the School pass through.

The school has hosted a busy calendar of events to celebrate the centenary. For more on what's yet to come see: www.ucdarchitecture.ie and [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ucdarchitecture).

UCD School of Architecture marks Centenary with 'First Encounters' lecture series

First Encounters was the appropriate name of a lecture series given by a number of former and current graduates and staff members of the UCD School of Architecture as part of the Centenary celebrations. The series presented a view of the architectural interests and pre-occupations of former teachers in relation to those of new members of staff. Each speaker presented a short lecture in the Red Room to the students and staff of the School on a particular work of architecture from the period 1911-2011 which they found inspirational at first sight, a first encounter with modern architecture that made a lasting impression on them. Projects of international and personal significance which were discussed included the Barcelona Pavilion designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe in 1929, The Royal National Theatre London, designed in 1976 by Sir Denys Lasdun and Peter Softley, Dublin Airport, designed in 1937 by Desmond Fitzgerald and Maison Citrohan, designed by Le Corbusier in 1922.

The lectures explored the selected projects in detail and thoroughly conveyed the reasons for the lecturer's feelings of admiration, enjoyment, enthusiasm or bewilderment towards this particular work. On each of the five evenings



Pictured at a 'First Encounters' lecture held on February 27th in the UCD School of Architecture were Fiona Hughes, architect and studio tutor and Emeritus Professor Cathal O'Neill

in the series, which ran during January and February, two short lectures were presented and the chosen subject remained a secret until the lecture began. This allowed for a conversation to develop between the two presenters, for example between Jim Murphy and Anne Gorman, or Professor Cathal O'Neill and Fiona Hughes.

Bringing maths to a new generation of minds

Dr Maria Meehan, a senior lecturer at UCD School of Mathematical Sciences, is intent on finding out more about how students make the leap from learning 'maths' at school, to advanced mathematical thinking at university level.

Meehan is part of a group of maths educators around Ireland who encourage research into the area and she also spearheads an initiative that places UCD undergraduates into schools to help develop their communication skills and encourage young minds to study maths at third level.

The 'Undergraduate Ambassadors Scheme' places UCD students in local secondary schools, where they can work alongside maths teachers for a few hours each week and develop a special project of interest to the students.

"They are acting as ambassadors for mathematics and ambassadors for UCD," explains Dr Meehan. "There's a student in the classroom who is studying maths or engineering or actuarial science and they give this other side to the subject."

The module, for which the students get credit, involves demonstrating transferrable skills. The initiative itself has been growing in popularity and is now in its fifth year.

UCD Library supports researchers with new specialist Celtic Tiger Collection

With over 220 items of books, conference and working papers, pamphlets and DVDs published from the mid-1990s to the present, Celtic Tiger Collection documents the emergence of the Irish economic boom, its subsequent collapse and continuing aftermath. It was set up on the recommendation of Professor Mary Daly, former College Principal of the College of Arts and Celtic Studies. The collection is multi-disciplinary in scope and includes business, economics, current affairs, history, sociology, film, drama, literature and popular culture.

Library staff identified and sourced materials from a variety of sources dating from the early 1990s (the provenance of the term "Celtic Tiger" is disputed, but is generally credited to a 1994 Morgan Stanley report by UK economist Kevin Gardiner). The collection holds a variety of books, ranging from the beginning of the boom (such as AJ Parker's *The Rise of the Celtic Tiger*, a conference paper from 1997) to recent publications like David Lynch's *When the Luck of the Irish Ran Out* and Simon Carswell's *Anglo Republic*. A 2006 George Lee documentary for RTÉ, *Boom*, is included, as are Irish Times Books of the Year and novels capturing the times by Roddy Doyle, Peter Cunningham and Anne Enright. The collection also features books dealing with the wider global financial downturn. New relevant publications are being added as they emerge. Recommendations of new or existing publications are welcome, as are donations to continue to strengthen this unique collection.



Scanning electron microscopic picture of *Helicobacter pylori* infecting human gastric epithelial cells.

An infection that's hard to stomach

A widespread bacterial infection is linked to an increased risk of stomach cancer. Claire O'Connell (BSc, PhD) hears how UCD researchers led by Professor Steffen Backert, are helping to figure out why particular strains of *H. pylori* can cause serious problems, and to identify patients at high risk who need treatment for the infection.

It's one of the most infamous - and stomach turning - experiments in modern science. In 1984, Australian researcher Barry Marshall drank a culture of the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*.

Why? He wanted to join the dots between an infection with the bacterium and stomach disease, and was prepared to use himself as the model.

Drinking lab-grown bacterial cultures is not an approach to be recommended, but in this case it paid off: the biopsy results showed damage to his stomach and helped to make the connection between *H. pylori* infection and ulcers.

A course of antibiotics sorted out Marshall's unpleasant situation, and he went on to share a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with fellow researcher Robin Warren in 2005 "for their discovery of the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* and its role in gastritis and peptic ulcer disease."

That insight was a pivotal point in the relationship between humans and *H. pylori*, which is thought to infect about half of the human population of the world, according to Professor Steffen Backert, Professor of Cellular Microbiology at UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science.

H. pylori can make itself quite at home in the human stomach, despite the harsh acidic environment. The bacterium lives at the stomach's interior lining and secretes an enzyme called urease to make the local conditions around it less acidic.

But that's not all it can do.

"We know now that *H. pylori* is a driving factor of many diseases in the stomach," says Professor Backert. "And it is very clear from epidemiological studies that *H. pylori* is a driving factor in gastric cancer."

Because a small proportion of people infected with *H. pylori* develop gastric cancer, Professor Backert's group in UCD has been seeking to better understand the 'riskiness' of particular *H. pylori* strains.

"There is a genetic difference between virulent and [less] virulent strains," he says. "And we are more interested in those that are more dangerous for humans."

They have highlighted the importance of a protein called CagA, which some strains of the bacterium make.

So what does CagA do? The function of the protein for the bacterium itself is not clear, explains Professor Backert, but *H. pylori* can

inject CagA directly into a human cell in the stomach.

"CagA is considered one of the major disease-associated factors in the bacteria," notes Professor Backert, who describes how it is possible to test for the presence of this factor



The UCD group who are researching *H. Pylori* include (l-r) Manja Boehm, Corinna Gagell, Doreen Baumann, Nicole Tegtmeier, Eimear De Poire, Steffen Backert.

in blood, stomach biopsies or stool samples from patients.

"But we now know that this protein or gene itself is not sufficient to make a very good prediction," he cautions.

As part of an effort to understand this enigmatic bacterial factor better, Professor Backert and an international team of researchers have highlighted important 'motifs' or patterns in CagA proteins, and the findings were published recently in *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*.

The study, funded by the National Institutes of Health and the German Science Foundation, focused on EPIYA motifs in bacterial CagA that seem to 'tell' the human cell to switch on the CagA protein's potentially harmful activity.

"We found out how very specific motifs in CagA are targeted by host factors to activate this protein and then it can trigger certain responses," explains Professor Backert. "Some of them cause aberrations in the cell, and under certain circumstances this can lead to changes which are involved in stomach cancer."

What's surprising is how the bacterial CagA protein mimics a human cell's signal in order to 'bait' the human cell to switch it on, he notes.

To borrow an analogy from warfare, it's as if a well disguised spy got behind enemy lines and handed a message to a general. The new findings help us to understand how that process works.

And now that we have a better handle on these important EPIYA motifs, the information could in future be used to help identify whether patients are carrying a strain of *H. pylori* that poses a risk for developing gastric cancer", explains Professor Backert.

"We have shown now that especially one of these EPIYA motifs is a high-risk prediction marker, so by simply using a method [to identify] the DNA encoding this motif one can easily say if a person carrying the *Helicobacter* is at high risk or not," he says.

But, just as Barry Marshall got rid of his infection with antibiotics after drinking the bacterial culture, why not simply use antibiotics to wipe out all *H. pylori*?

It's a problematic approach, notes Prof Backert, and overuse of antibiotics has already encouraged the development of resistant strains of *H. pylori*.

"In practice, antibiotics were being given to a huge amount of people, and the consequence of this overdosing of antibiotics is that we have a situation where antibiotic resistances are pretty

dominant," he says.

There is also emerging (but still not fully accepted) evidence that *H. pylori* infection may bring benefits - it may help protect against cancer of the oesophagus, adds the Professor.

That's why having a tool to work out who would benefit from an eradication could help doctors make decisions about treatment, he notes: "We hope that now companies will pick this up and develop kits for this which are then commercially available - this is the aim."

Meanwhile, Professor Backert's group and international collaborators will continue to build up a wider picture of 'risky' strains and how CagA works.

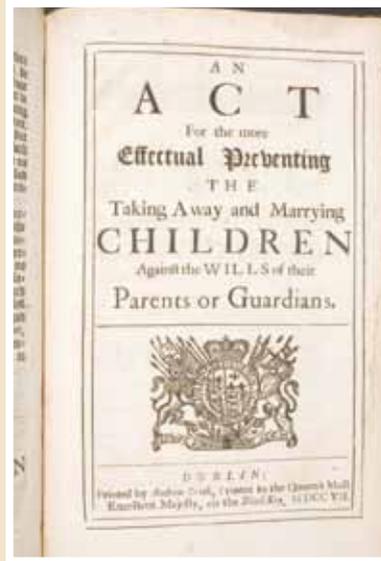
"We are aiming to characterise in more detail some of the interesting flanking sequences of these EPIYA motifs and to provide an even better view of the situation," he says. "We are also looking for as yet unknown factors so we can get a much more precise picture of the scenario."

Steffen Backert was in conversation with freelance journalist Claire O'Connell (BSc 1992, PhD 1998).

Hidden Treasures: The UCD School of Law Palles Collection

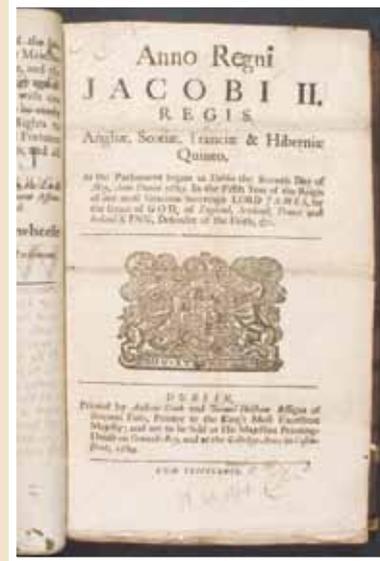
As UCD School of Law celebrates its centenary, it has been looking back at landmark events that have proved to be turning points in its history. One of these was the donation of the Palles collection of legal books and journals to UCD by William Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin in 1921, which formed the basis of UCD's Law Library for many years.

Christopher Palles was born in Dublin in 1831 and was called to the bar in 1853. He rose to become a senior legal and political figure, serving as Solicitor General under Gladstone in 1872 and becoming the Chief Baron of the Exchequer in 1874. Palles became associated with UCD through his involvement in the establishment of the National University of Ireland and UCD in 1909. As Chairman of the Dublin Commissioners set up under the Irish Universities Act of 1908, Palles played a key role in the making of the first appointments to the new UCD. He also served on the College's



first Governing Body. He retired from the bench at the age of 85 in 1916 and died in Dublin in 1920.

The Palles collection consists of books and journals of a legal nature covering the period from the 17th to the early 20th century. It is most useful for the study of Irish legal



Left. An act for the more effectual preventing the taking away and marrying children against the will of their parents or guardians. Dublin: printed by Andrew Crooke, 1707.

Right. Anno Regni Jacobi II. Regis Angliae, Scotiae, Franciae & Hiberniae. Dublin: printed by Andrew Crooke and Samuel Helsham, 1689.

history for this period, including, as it does, an important collection of volumes of 19th century Irish Special Commissions. The pre 1850 published material from the collection is held in Special Collections while items published later are held in closed access in the Law area on Level 2.

UCD School of Law Centenary Celebrations include Conferring of Dr Shirin Ebadi

Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Dr Shirin Ebadi was conferred by UCD with a doctorate in law, honoris causa, is Dr Shirin Ebadi is a lawyer, lecturer, writer and human rights activist noted for her defence of human rights and democracy in her native Iran.

Her legal practice has focused on human rights and victims of human rights abuses, notably women and children, as well as the rights of journalists to practice. In the citation at the conferring Professor Colin Scott, Dean, UCD School of Law, said "It is for her achievements in mobilising law for the advancement of good in her society, and in particular advancing the rights of women and children, that in 2003 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She was the first person from Iran and the first muslim



Pictured on the occasion of her Conferring with a doctorate in law, honoris causa, is Dr Shirin Ebadi with Professor Colin Scott, Dean of Law.

woman to receive this award." Following her conferring Dr Ebadi was guest of honour at the UCD School of Law Centenary Dinner in September 2011: an event to launch the celebration of a centenary of law graduates. UCD Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Mark Rogers spoke about the teaching and research achievements of the School of Law. In his remarks Professor Colin Scott addressed aspects of the School's second century and in particular the relationship between universities and the legal profession.

5 New UCD Spin-out Companies Created in 2011

Five new UCD spin-out companies were established during 2011 to commercialise the output of UCD research programmes, bringing to 19 the total number of UCD spin-outs incorporated in the last 5 years.

The five new spin-outs are involved in diverse activities including energy management [Belfield Technologies and Wattics]; ultra-violet light sources and optics for the semi-conductor industry [NewLambda Technologies]; pharmaceutical processing technologies [APC]; and specialist construction risk assessment and management [BRAM]. The 5 new spin-out companies have all completed the NovaUCD Campus Company Development Programme, which assists UCD academic and research entrepreneurs in bringing their innovative ideas from intellectual concepts to fully-developed and sound commercial business enterprises.

Forty-four new inventions were also generated by UCD researchers during 2011 bringing to 295 the number of inventions disclosed since 2007.

UCD filed 36 patent applications, including 18 priority, 8 PCT (patent co-operation treaty) and 10 national/regional applications during 2011. A total of 91 priority patent applications have now been filed by UCD in the last 5 years. In addition 17 licence agreements were concluded by UCD in 2011 with a range of indigenous and international companies bringing to over 50 the number of licences concluded since 2007.

Executive Edge Day



Pictured at Executive Edge Day at UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School held on March 9th were Paul Lynam, CEO Siemens Ltd with Prof. Ciaran O'Gartaigh, UCD Smurfit School and Pat Foley, Head of Production at Shannon Aerospace. This one day event, for over 200 business leaders, saw faculty present their latest thought leadership on key management topics.

UCD Smurfit School team facilitate Global Irish Forum

UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School was selected by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to provide a team of facilitators for the break out discussions at the plenary session of the Global Irish Economic Forum in October 2011.

The School assembled a team of facilitators from across its faculty, supported by the UCD

School of Law and the UCD Smurfit School Irish Advisory Board, to moderate discussions on topics ranging from "The Domestic Irish Banking Sector" and "How the Creative and Cultural sectors can work with the Global Irish business community" to "The Green Economy".

The Global Irish Economic Forum first convened at Farmleigh in Autumn 2009 and is

seen by the Government as a an important element in mobilising the Irish Diaspora in support of economic recovery. The School and the facilitators gave services free of charge as a contribution to national recovery. The report can be downloaded from www.globalirishforum.ie

FT ranks UCD Smurfit MBA amongst the world's best

The Financial Times ranking of the top 100 global full-time MBA programmes, published in January 2012, shows that UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School has maintained its position amongst the world's leading business schools and is now ranked as 86th globally.

The School was ranked 20th among the top MBAs in Europe. This is the thirteenth consecutive year that UCD Smurfit School has been included in the global top 100. The UCD Smurfit School is the only Irish business school listed in these prestigious rankings, maintaining its status as Ireland's leading centre of excellence in this field. It is among less than 50 schools worldwide that have been consistently ranked in the top 100 over the last thirteen years.

Speaking about the ranking, Professor Ciarán O hÓgartaigh, Dean, UCD School of Business said, "We are delighted to once again rank as Ireland's only entry among the top business schools in the world. It reaffirms the global recognition of the School's remarkable achievements in offering quality programmes to develop global business leaders.



The Honourable Mary Laffoy and the Honourable Henry Abbott, Judges of the High Court, with the UCD team, Anna Ní Uiginn and Barra Ó Leidhin, after their victory in Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh Gael Linn 2011.

UCD teams win National Moot Court Competitions

Teams of students from UCD School of Law have won prestigious national moot court competitions, one in the English language and the other in Irish.

This achievement reflects the increased emphasis at UCD on the development of advocacy and moot court skills both within and beyond the law curriculum. A team from UCD School of Law; Brian McCormick, Matthew Morrow and Neal Flynn won the National Moot Court Competition in November 2011.

This annual event was held in the Criminal Courts of Justice Building, Dublin. To compound this outstanding achievement Brian McCormick also won the prize for best individual speaker. This year's hypothetical case, which the competitors had to argue before a panel of judges, was in the area of medical negligence law.

Also in November 2011, law students Anna Ní Uiginn and Barra Ó Leidhin won first place in the 2011 Gael Linn Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh at the final in the Four Courts.



Pictured at the UCD School of Law annual prize-giving ceremony, in association with Bank of Ireland, which is held each year to recognise the achievements of the top three students across all law programmes, from first year through to final year, were the prize-winners, with (back row, l-r) Professor Colin Scott, Dean of Law, The Honourable Mr. Justice Donal O' Donnell, Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President, Mr. Des Crowley, Chief Executive – Retail (Ireland & UK), Bank of Ireland, Mr. Paul Ward, UCD School of Law. Bank of Ireland has generously sponsored the prizes each year and this ceremony took place in the magnificent surroundings of the House of Lords in Bank of Ireland, College Green, on December 1st.



On his first official visit to Dublin as part of the British-Irish Council summit on January 13th, the UK Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg came to UCD to meet with academics, researchers, community groups and individuals taking part in studies led by the university.

One third of families in Ireland are outside the 'traditional model', study shows

By using statistical techniques never before applied to census data in Ireland, researchers from UCD and the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) have created a detailed picture of families in Ireland from micro-data collected in Census 2006. The study was co-authored by Professor Tony Fahey, Professor of Social Policy at the UCD School of Applied Social Science and Coordinator of UCD's Programme of Research on Children and Families and Dr Pete Lunn, ESRI.

The findings from the study - *Households and Family Structures in Ireland* - funded by the Family Support Agency will have implications for a range of policies, including those in relation to working mothers, work-life balance, the new rights and obligations of cohabitants, and the use of population projections for planning. Among the findings from the study is that one third of families in Ireland are outside the 'traditional model' of a married couple both of whom are in their first marriage and one-in-four children under 21 years of age lives in a family that does not conform to this model.

"This report gives us a valuable insight into contemporary Irish family life," said the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Frances FitzGerald TD who launched the report. "Understanding the modern family is critical if we are to design and deliver quality services for families and children in Ireland, which is a priority for my Department. I commend the Family Support Agency, the ESRI and UCD for producing this detailed report."



From left: Lucia Ennis, Regional Director Concern, Anna Malmhake, CEO Irish Distillers, Nora Owen, former Minister for Justice, Mary Donovan, Caragh Consulting, Mark Ryan, CMD Accenture, Professor Lizbeth Goodman, UCD School of Education and Director of SMARTlab, Mary Kennedy, RTE and Marian Corcoran, Senior Executive Accenture.

Exploring the issue of male suicide

Suicide is a major international public health issue. According to the World Health Organisation, up to one million people worldwide die of suicide each year and approximately four times as many men as women take their own lives. The reasons why men are at greater risk of suicide are largely unknown and research to date offers little understanding of the process and meaning of suicide for the individuals concerned.

This research area was the focus of Dr Anne Cleary, of the UCD School of Sociology, during her Fulbright Award work in the University of California in Berkeley and has led, in collaboration with a US colleague, Silvia Canetto, to the publication of a collection of papers on the subject (Canetto, S. & Cleary, A. (2012) *Men, masculinities and suicidal behaviour*. A Special Issue of *Social Science and Medicine*). This collection brings together, for the first time, an international and interdisciplinary collection of articles examining male suicidal behaviour in different cultural environments using both qualitative, in-depth methods of inquiry, as well as quantitative approaches. The papers are based on research in Canada, Australia, Ghana, Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States from the disciplines of public health, sociology, psychology and history. The collection provides further evidence of a strong socio-cultural and gender dimension in suicide.

The anthology should therefore contribute to a new, more gender accurate discourse about suicide and also generate more gender-grounded suicide prevention.

Professor Lizbeth Goodman represents UCD on International Women's Day Panel

On International Women's Day (8 March), on stage at the Abbey Theatre Dublin, Professor Lizbeth Goodman, UCD School of Education and Director of SMARTlab, spoke as part of a special invited panel of women leaders including Nora Owen (former Minister for Justice), Moya Doherty (Riverdance), Anna Malmhake (CEO Irish Distillers), Mary Donovan, (Caragh Consulting, formerly Diagio), Lucia Ennis (Concern), and Marian Corcoran (Accenture).

Mary Kennedy of RTE interviewed all the panellists, asking each about her own unique

and unusual 'pathway to growth.' Professor Goodman spoke about the evolution of the SMARTlab, which she founded in 1992 and moved to its current base at UCD in 2010.

SMARTlab's track record of inventing creative technologies for real social change has included a high profile PhD programme, which has graduated several generations of women leaders to date. She also spoke of the need for women to create spaces where other women (and men) can find peer support, opportunities for cross-sector collaboration, and support systems to enable genuine experimentation between disciplines in the pursuit of new knowledge, ways of knowing, and tools for communication and collaboration.

Universitas 21 Teaching and Learning Award



Dr Geraldine O'Neill, UCD Teaching and Learning, was recently awarded a U21 Teaching and Learning Network Staff Fellowship as part of a cross-network partnership for members of Universitas 21. The fellowship programme was established to encourage sharing of and research into best practice in teaching and learning.

The U21 fellowship will allow Dr O'Neill to build on existing research on UCD's strategic Assessment ReDesign Project by further investigation into a similar assessment project in the University of Nottingham. The results of the research will be shared with all Universitas 21 institutions.

A stimulating experience at zero gravity



Pictured on the ESA parabolic flight on which they conducted the experiments in microgravity are research team members (seated l-r) Oonagh Giggins and Dan Kelly, with (standing, l-r) Matt Patterson and Dr Brian Caulfield.

UCD's Dr Brian Caulfield specialises in neuromuscular electrical stimulation and has spent many years researching its effects in cardiovascular and muscle strengthening. Recently, Dr Caulfield and a team of 11 researchers had the opportunity to take a flight with a difference, to test the applications of this technology in a microgravity environment.

Last November Dr Brian Caulfield and a team of 11 researchers from UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Population Science, got an opportunity those fascinated by space travel would give a king's ransom to experience. They took part in an experiment on board a parabolic flight that simulates a zero gravity environment similar to that encountered by astronauts.

Caulfield's area of expertise is neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES) and how it can benefit those unable to exercise normally through illness or injury. He has been researching this area in collaboration with Dr Louis Crowe and Conor Minogue for the past 10 years and the fruit of his enquiries is a novel form of surface neuromuscular electrical stimulation that can be used to produce an aerobic exercise effect.

The technique has already produced impressive cardiovascular and muscle strengthening effects during ground based studies and Caulfield recognised that the process could also have a potential application in space. This required taking a flight with a difference, however, to ensure that the system could be used safely and effectively in a microgravity environment.

Parabolic flights are run by the European Space Agency (ESA) to enable scientists from all over Europe to test space-related technologies from earth. The flights have been ongoing since 1984 but only take place a couple of times a year, meaning that competition for spaces is intense. The flights take off from Bordeaux, France, in a modified Airbus A300 and fly at

altitudes of 4–8 km over the Atlantic Ocean in airspace not in commercial use. Flights provide repetitive periods of 20–30 seconds of weightlessness and the aircraft is also certified for flying parabolas that correspond to reduced gravity levels on Mars.

Flights last three hours but researchers have only brief periods of weightlessness during which to perform their tests. "It was planned like a military operation," Caulfield says. "We knew this might be our only shot at a parabolic flight and we were determined to get everything perfect. We spent a huge amount of time in preparation and it went like clockwork."

"One of the risks for first time parabolic flyers like ourselves is getting sick but I think we were so focused nobody did. Some medication also helped! When your experiment is up and running you have a brief opportunity to go to a special area within the aircraft to experience zero gravity at first hand and yes, it really is mind blowing."

One of the problems associated with prolonged exposure to microgravity for astronauts is the detrimental effect it has on their cardiovascular and musculoskeletal systems. Astronauts are given fitness routines to do to counteract this but ironically 'space' in space is at a premium and fitness equipment takes up valuable room. Caulfield's system, which comprises a neat set of electrodes placed on the skin using neoprene wraps, enable astronauts to get the thorough work out they need without the bulky equipment.

"Current countermeasures on board a space flight to target the cardiovascular and musculoskeletal systems range from bungee-cord assisted treadmills to dietary and pharmaceutical interventions. However, many of these measures fail to protect bone, muscle, orthostatic intolerance and fitness fully," Caulfield says.

"Previous efforts at solving the problem using surface electrical stimulation of the large muscle groups in the legs have not been very successful," he adds. "Our form of NMES

delivers significant training effects to the cardiovascular and muscular systems across a range of populations without the need for extensive equipment. Furthermore, the fact that the system employs a co-contraction of the quadriceps and hamstring muscle groups means that it may also have a positive effect on bone health."

Caulfield's Neuromuscular Electrical Muscle Stimulation Exercise technology was developed through a partnership between University College Dublin and Galway-based company, Biomedical Research, which already makes similar devices for the commercial market under the brand names Slendertone and Neurotech. In addition to being the lead on this project, Caulfield is also director of the TRIL Centre (Technology Research for Independent Living), and principal investigator in CLARITY, the Centre for Sensor Web Technologies at UCD.

While last November's parabolic flight was what caught most public attention, Brian Caulfield is keen to stress that the NMES exercise system and technology also has significant life enhancing potential for "real" people suffering from conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, arthritis, morbid obesity and chronic heart failure as well as for those with spinal injuries and those confined to bed.

"My primary interest is in using technology to enhance wellness and human performance in community health and sports settings," he says. The research carried out on the parabolic flights provided an opportunity to combine our work in electrical muscle stimulation and the work we do in CLARITY regarding wearable sensor technologies."

The team has conducted a number of studies on both healthy and health-impaired groups to determine the efficacy of the technology. "In one study a group of 15 healthy subjects with a sedentary lifestyle participated in a six-week training program during which they completed an average of 29 training sessions using our muscle stimulation technique. The results of the study suggested that the technique can be used in sedentary adults to improve cardiovascular exercise capacity and muscular strength," Caulfield says.

"We have since demonstrated similar improvements in a larger study on 42 physically active young adults, suggesting that the technique does not only work in people with low levels of baseline fitness. Results from studies in clinical populations have demonstrated that a modified version of the system can be safely used at home to deliver improvements in exercise capacity in patients with chronic heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and spinal cord injury."

However, Caulfield is quick to scotch the idea that NMES-EX is the easy way out for those who hate taking exercise. "It's not magic, it's exercise and with exercise you get nothing for nothing so it still feels like you're exercising even if you're sitting down at the time," he says.

Researchers are still crunching the data from last November's flight but Caulfield says the outcome looks very promising. He would now like to run a second series of experiments on the plane to examine the effects of performing the technique in different postures and to progress to evaluating its effects on the cardiovascular and musculoskeletal systems over time during the ESA bed rest research programme. All going well, the product should be ready for space in two to three years time with UCD's business partner, BMR, likely to produce a commercial version before then.

Brian Caulfield was in conversation with freelance journalist Olive Keogh (MA 1984).

Books

Assessing the impact of rapid social change on the Irish education system

The unprecedented changes in Irish society in recent years can be felt particularly in Ireland's schools. **Immigration and schooling in the Republic of Ireland**, a new book by Dr Dymrna Devine, a Senior Lecturer in the UCD School of Education and Director of the Social Sciences Research Centre (SSRC), addresses the impact of this rapid economic and social change on the country's education system.

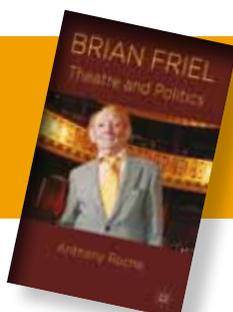
The book examines the complex and varied responses of principals, teachers, parents and children to working in newly multi-ethnic schools. It highlights the central role played historically by education in shaping the 'Irish' nation and how this has governed responses to those who have come from 'outside'. Devine offers a critique of current policies and illuminates the gradual pragmatic approach to change. The book, published by Manchester University Press, highlights how broader forces of transformation and preservation in Irish society intersect and influence decisions over policy and practice with children of migrant backgrounds in schools.



Brian Friel, Theatre and Politics

In **Brian Friel, Theatre and Politics**, Anthony Roche, Associate Professor in the UCD School of English, Drama and Film, provides the first book-length study on the Brian Friel Papers in the National Library of Ireland and draws from the numerous drafts and revisions of the plays, as well as the author's notes and correspondence.

These help to provide a deeper awareness of the radical, experimental nature of Friel's dramaturgy and a more nuanced understanding of the plays' politics in relation to both Northern Ireland and the Republic. The book, published by Palgrave Macmillan, covers the entire span of Friel's career and his twenty-four original plays, from the late 1950s to the present.



The Quantum Adventure: Does God Play Dice?

The Quantum Adventure, a new book by Alex Montwill, Emeritus Professor, UCD School of Physics and Dr Ann Breslin, Emeritus Lecturer, UCD School of Physics, deals with the birth and growth of quantum mechanics.

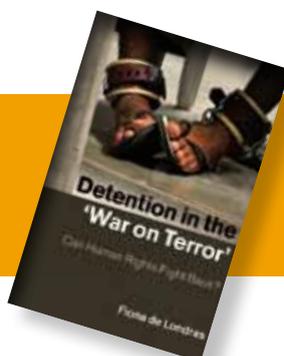
Published by Imperial College Press, the book explains the 'classical dilemma' which faced physics at the start of the 20th Century and goes on to show how quantum mechanics emerged and flourished. Difficult and abstract concepts are treated with minimal mathematics and maximal physical imagery. Snippets of information about the dramatis personae are woven into the text and add colour to what is traditionally perceived as a complex and challenging topic.



The issues of Human Rights and Detention in the 'War on Terror'

Who is responsible for the human rights of suspected terrorists? Are attempts to achieve a downward recalibration of international human rights standards, as they apply in an emergency, influenced by popular and manufactured panic?

Exploring these questions, Dr Fiona de Londras, a lecturer in the UCD School of Law, examines counter-terrorist detention policies in the US and the UK through an original analytic framework, in *Detention in the 'War on Terror'*, published by Cambridge University Press. De Londras argues that, in contrast to domestic law in the US and UK, international human rights law has generally resisted the challenge to the right to be free from arbitrary detention, largely because of its relative insulation from counter-terrorist panic. She argues that this resilience gradually emboldened superior courts in the US and UK to resist repressive detention laws and policies and insist upon greater rights-protection for suspected terrorists.



New anthology captures a century of debate and analysis in Ireland

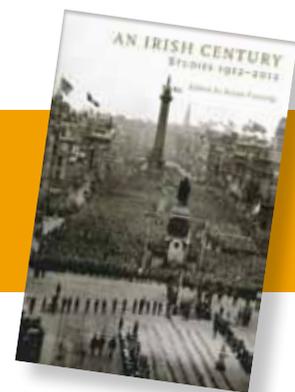
A new volume: **An Irish Century: Studies 1912 – 2012**, published by UCD Press and edited by Professor Bryan Fanning, UCD School of Applied Social Science, draws from some 400 issues of the Jesuit journal **Studies** and contains over 3,000 essays to exemplify and reflect a century of debate and analysis of Irish social and political change.

"In selecting the essays that make up this anthology a number of aims collided," says Professor Fanning. "These included a desire to include some of the best, best-known and most influential essays, to represent key debates and recurring themes, and to capture a century of social, political, cultural and economic change."

The collection focuses on nine decades of Irish independence and the crucial decade beforehand that witnessed seismic change, addressing the key events, crises and challenges that have shaped Irish society – the 1916 Rising, the First World War, sectarian conflict, child abuse and immigration.

An Irish Century: Studies 1912 – 2012 includes some landmark 'Studies' pieces by AE, John Maynard Keynes, Daniel Binchy, Donal Barrington, Patrick Lynch, Sean O'Faolain and Augustine Martin.

The anthology also contains *Studies* writings by and about some of the key figures who have fashioned the political, cultural, and economic life of modern Ireland such as John Redmond, Patrick Pearse, Sean Lemass, T.K. Whitaker, John McGahern, Tony Fahey, Mary Kenny, Finola Kennedy, and Dermot Keogh.



"On its face, the aftermath of 11 September 2001 had all of the 'vital ingredients' for panic-related repression: a serious but unquantifiable risk, widespread and deeply felt fear, an impulse towards 'security', an 'othered' enemy, a security-conscious populace and a cadre of moral entrepreneurs ready to make the case that increasing their powers would also increase 'our' security."

From Detention in the 'War on Terror'



Pictured at the launch of *Miraculous Plenty* in Newman House were (l-r) Prof Bo Almquist, Aileen Rice (daughter of Seán Ó Súilleabháin, editor of the original Irish language edition of *Miraculous Plenty*), Morwenna Rice (grand-daughter of Seán Ó Súilleabháin), Patrick Honohan (Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland), William Caulfield (translator of *Miraculous Plenty*), Prof Rionach ui O'gáin (Associate Professor and Director, National Folklore Collection) and Anraí ó Braonáin (President of the Folklore of Ireland Society).

■ Miraculous Plenty: Irish Religious Folktales and Legends

Heaven, Hell, God, The Devil and all the stories in between are presented in *Miraculous Plenty*, a compilation of religious folk tales and legends. Ireland has become known as the land of saints and scholars and for 1,500 years Christianity has played an important part in shaping the public and private life of this island.

The one hundred and thirty-five tales were edited and annotated in 1952 by Seán Ó Súilleabháin who was then archivist with the Irish Folklore Commission.

Ó Súilleabháin drew his material from the manuscript collection in what is today the National Folklore Collection, UCD. Comhairle Bhéaloideas Éireann/ The Folklore of Ireland Council now publish this version, in translated form, of one of the most popular volumes of *Béaloideas*, the journal of the Folklore of Ireland Society.

The stories in the book are parables aimed at offering moral guidelines for a Christian life and the influence of religious literature and church institutions permeates the text. The tales vary in subject matter and include specifically Irish saint-lore as well as more general tales of the Holy Family. One of the more famous tales is the one that is believed to have brought Christianity to Ireland the story of "Saint Patrick and Crom Dubh", which describes how the pagan Crom Dubh was converted to Christianity by St Patrick, and how the last Sunday in July came to be known as 'Domhnach Chrom Dubh' in recognition of this event.

The tales presented in this book were first published through Irish in 1952 to a very different, more "religious" and, despite the current recession, less affluent Ireland to the country we live in today. This book was launched by Patrick Honohan, Governor of the Central Bank, on 31st January in Newman House.

■ RIA gold medal presented to Emeritus Professor John O.Scanlan

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Electronic Engineering, John O.Scanlan has been awarded a Royal Irish Academy gold medal. Widely recognised as one of the leading international living circuit theorists, Professor Scanlan has made many fundamental contributions to the field of electronic engineering, including electronic circuit and system design, digital circuits and computing, communications and signal processing.

Each year, the RIA Gold Medals are awarded to two outstanding academics. They are regarded as a truly national expression of celebration for scholarly achievement. Presenting the medals at a ceremony on December 16th, Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn TD noted that "The Academy Gold Medals acclaim Ireland's foremost contributors to the world of learning and science."

This award is another addition to the many accolades that Professor Scanlan has achieved throughout his career. He is a former President of the Royal Irish Academy (1993-1996), a life fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and is a recipient of the Golden Jubilee Medal of the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society.

■ 'Inequality and Poverty in Boom and Bust'

Who gained most from Ireland's economic boom, and who is losing most in the economic crisis and recession that has followed it? What has happened to individual earnings, the distribution of household incomes and poverty and deprivation?

These critically important questions for Irish society were addressed at a half-day conference organised by UCD's College of Human Sciences held in Newman House on 18th January 2012. It drew on the findings of recent research from a multi-year research project supported by the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS), and carried out by a research team led by Professor Brian Nolan, Principal of the College of Human Sciences, and including Professor Christopher T. Whelan

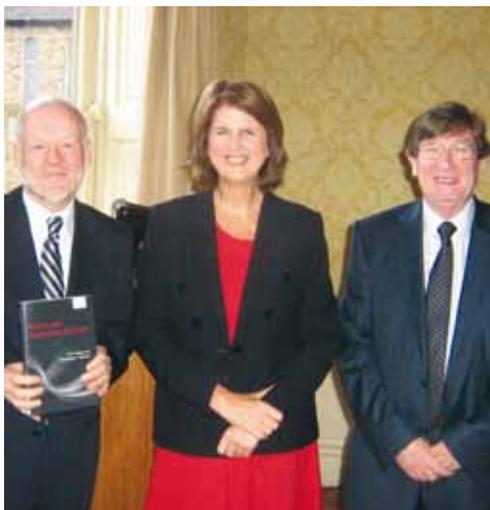
of the School of Sociology, Dr Sarah Voitchovsky, and Bertrand Maître of the ESRI. The conference was attended by academics and researchers, from the public, private and voluntary sectors

and graduate students across a range of social science disciplines.

Professor Sir Tony Atkinson (Nuffield College, Oxford) was guest speaker at the conference and gave a fascinating talk on 'Income Inequality and Financial Crises'. This provides an essential backdrop in which to think about the likely impact of the current banking crisis on inequality.

At the conference the Minister for Social Protection, Joan Burton TD, launched a new study on *Poverty and Deprivation in Europe* by Professors Nolan and Whelan. This book focuses on what a multidimensional approach to the measurement of poverty means and how it can be applied, bringing out the key role that can be played by non-monetary indicators of deprivation. It maps out the current landscape in this field

and the best way forward, including a critical evaluation of the EU's recently adopted poverty reduction target for 2020.



Pictured at a half-day conference entitled 'Poverty and Inequality in Boom and Bust', organised by UCD's College of Human Sciences in January, were (l-r) Professor Brian Nolan, Principal of the College of Human Sciences; Minister for Social Protection, Joan Burton TD and Professor Christopher T. Whelan of the School of Sociology.

■ UCD Researcher awarded prestigious ERC funding for safe drinking water research

Today, water quality is threatened by a growing number of contaminants entering water supplies as a result of human activity. These include medicines, veterinary drugs, fragrances and cosmetics.

The work towards improving drinking water quality has taken a step forward as Dr Eoin Casey (UCD School of Chemical & Bioprocess Engineering) has been awarded €1.5M from the European Research Council (ERC), funded under the EU Framework Programme 7, to undertake groundbreaking research into emerging technologies for improving drinking water quality.

"There is a strong societal need to anticipate threats to the environment that may impact on public health. Consequently there is a need to develop and optimise environmental technologies that will play an important role in protecting the public from future threats", said Dr Casey, who will lead and direct the research programme.

The five-year research programme will investigate the role of biofilms in the fouling of nanofiltration membranes and develop strategies to enhance their removal. The results of the project will advance the understanding of important mechanisms in biofouling development and consequently increase the effectiveness and reliability of nanofiltration design and operation.

Conway scientist awarded SFI funding to investigate links between obesity, 'good cholesterol', diet and coronary artery disease

Dr Fiona McGillicuddy is the first recipient of research funding under the Science Foundation Ireland-Health Research Board-Wellcome Trust Biomedical Partnership. A scientist based in UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research, Dr McGillicuddy will receive €750,000 over five years to investigate the links between obesity, 'good cholesterol', diet and coronary artery disease. Dr McGillicuddy is from the Nutrigenomics Research Group led by Conway Fellow, Professor Helen Roche.

Professor Walter Kolch, Director, UCD Conway Institute said, "This prestigious award to Fiona is testament not only to the calibre of early-stage career scientist that is the fibre of our Institute but also to the quality of research output that endures under the scrutiny of substantial peer review".

The research project will examine how obesity affects the function of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) or 'good cholesterol'. HDL plays an important role in removing cholesterol from the body, which in turn reduces the risk of heart attack brought on by cardiovascular disease.



Pictured (l-r) at NovaUCD are Paul Groarke, CEO, RendezVu, Brian Farrell, CEO, Tethras, Dr Antonio Ruzzelli, CEO, Wattics, Professor Peter Clinch, UCD Vice-President for Innovation and Aidan O'Neill, CEO, DOCOSoft

NovaUCD Companies set to create 300 jobs over next 2 years

Companies based at NovaUCD, the Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre, expect to create 300 highly-skilled jobs by the end of 2013.

The 37 companies currently based at NovaUCD employ 205 people. These companies include a mixture of 'spin-out' and 'spin-in' companies. The employment

projection figures are based on the results of an annual survey of the companies at the centre. To date, these companies have raised over €40 million in equity investment and created 80 jobs in 2011.

"NovaUCD client companies were established to translate innovative ideas into value-added products and services, including companies which are commercialising UCD research outputs," said Professor Peter Clinch, Vice-President for Innovation at University College Dublin. "The development and growth of such high-tech and knowledge-intensive companies is of critical importance for Ireland's economic recovery."

UCD historians at the world-renowned Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton

Professor Robert Gerwarth, Dr William Mulligan and the new Marie Curie Fellow in the School of History and Archives, Dr James Matthews, are researching on the international history of the First World War in Princeton this semester. Through their affiliation with America's most prestigious research institution and by engaging with the wider academic community through conference presentations and invited lectures, they are forging important links with American academia while bringing their individual and collective research projects to a successful conclusion.

The Institute for Advanced Study, founded in 1930, holds a unique place in the academic world with past faculty members including Robert Oppenheimer, Albert Einstein, Clifford Geertz and George Kennan. It is one of the world's leading centres for theoretical research and intellectual inquiry. The Institute exists to encourage and support fundamental research in mathematics, physics, social science and history – the original thinking that produces advances in knowledge that change the way we understand the world. It offers all who work there the freedom to undertake research that will make significant contributions in any of the broad range of fields in the sciences and humanities studied at the Institute.

Robert Gerwarth is in Princeton to finalise an edited collection for his ERC-funded project on the "Limits of Demobilization, 1917-23" and to work on his related monograph about the end of the First World War in Central Europe. Both books will be published by Oxford University Press.



Pictured at Princeton where they are currently members at the Institute for Advanced Study are (l-r) Professor Robert Gerwarth, Marie Curie Fellow, Dr James Matthews and Dr William Mulligan, all of the UCD School of History and Archives.

William Mulligan is examining how the First World War transformed our understanding of peace, how it was imagined, constructed, and maintained. He is preparing a manuscript on that subject for Yale University Press.

James Matthews is a Marie Curie Intra-European Fellow at UCD's Centre for War Studies, working on post-First World War social conflict in Spain. His research at Princeton and UCD focuses on the effects of the Russian Revolution of 1917 on revolutionary upheavals in Spain between 1917 and 1923. He has previously worked on a social history of conscription on both sides of the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939. His monograph on this subject will be published by Oxford University Press this year.

Religion, toleration and coexistence: an international symposium

Leading international historians and social scientists specialising in religion and conflict participated in a unique inter-disciplinary symposium at UCD Humanities Institute in September 2011.

A group of distinguished humanities scholars working on early modern beliefs and sectarianism and social scientists researching issues of religion, globalisation and conflict crossed disciplinary boundaries to explore concepts and theoretical approaches of mutual interest. The programme was deliberately structured with a view to discussing interlinkages between the generic themes of religion, toleration and coexistence.

The symposium enabled a lively dialogue between experts in early modern religion and social scientists which resulted in a dynamic interchange of ideas and methodologies. Among the scholars participating were Alexandra Walsham (Cambridge); Rory Miller (King's College, London); John Brewer (Aberdeen); and Marianne Elliott (Liverpool). The event was organised by Marc Caball in the context of his IRCHSS and Department of the Taoiseach-funded major research project 'Protestants, print and Gaelic culture in Ireland, 1567-1722'.

Citizens' Assembly trials a more participatory form of democracy

We the Citizens, a project funded by Atlantic Philanthropies, completed its work last December with a press launch reporting on its findings. The aim of We the Citizens was to demonstrate how a more participatory form of democracy could work in Ireland.

The model tested was a Citizens' Assembly. A representative group of citizens was randomly chosen by an independent polling company to attend the Citizens' Assembly on 25th and 26th June 2011 in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham. The participants were given expert information and the opportunity to deliberate on particular policy issues. They were surveyed afterwards to see whether deliberation had led them to change their views about the issues discussed. We the Citizens Academic Director, Professor David Farrell, Head of the UCD School of Politics and

International Relations, said that the findings were conclusive: "As a result of their participation, citizens demonstrated a significant capacity to change their opinion and felt more positive about their influence on politics." After the Citizens' Assembly, participants: showed a greater interest in politics; expressed more willingness to become more involved in politics; demonstrated large shifts in opinion on the economic issues they had discussed and revealed important shifts in opinion regarding the role of Dáil deputies.

Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore, who attended the press launch, welcomed the findings: "The evidence produced is heartening and provides valuable lessons for how we can improve our democracy in practical and meaningful ways". The Chairperson of We the Citizens, Senator Fiach Mac Conghail called on the government to incorporate the citizens' assembly model into its plans for a constitutional convention to be convened this year.



The members of the We The Citizens Assembly, pictured at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham.



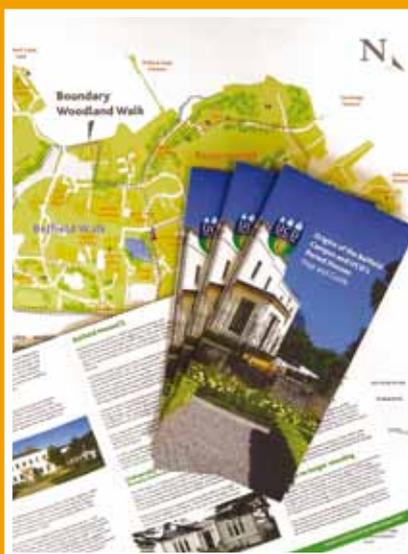
Farid Ouabdesselam, President of the Joseph Fourier University Grenoble, awarded the Honorary Doctorate Award Toga to Professor Anne Buttimer, Emeritus Professor at UCD School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy, on January 27, 2012 in Grenoble. Prof Buttimer is the first woman and the first human scientist, to receive this award from the Joseph Fourier University.

Walking guide to UCD's Estates and Period Houses Launched

A new map and guide has been launched to give walkers utilising the 8kms of university woodland paths an appreciation of the 11 estates and period houses which form the origins of the modern UCD campus.

Tracing the origins of the campus from the 12th century, the guide highlights how the lands have passed down over the centuries, been distributed across a number of smaller estates and then coalesced to form today's 133Ha campus. Estates detailed include Ardmore, Belfield, Belgrove, Merville, Newstead, Roebuck Grove, Roebuck House, Rosemount, Richview and Woodview. The Belfield Campus is known for its parkland setting and mature landscaping, much of which was influenced by these estates. They are still evident through archaeological features, woodland boundaries, tree lined avenues and walled gardens, much of which is highlighted in the guide.

Copies of the Origins of the Belfield Campus and UCD's Period Houses Map and Guide can be obtained from Mark Simpson, University Relations Office (mark.simpson@ucd.ie) or downloaded from www.ucd.ie/campusdevelopment/.



Original 'speed gene' in modern racehorses traced back to its source

Scientists have traced the original 'speed gene' in thoroughbred racehorses back to a single British mare that lived in the United Kingdom around 300 years ago, according to findings published recently in *Nature Communications*.

The original 'speed gene' variant was identified by analysing DNA from hundreds of horses, including DNA extracted from the skeletal remains of 12 celebrated thoroughbred stallions born between 1764 and 1930. The international scientific team led by scientists from UCD, Equinome Ltd and the University of Cambridge, have traced all modern variants of the original 'speed gene' to the legendary Nearctic (1954–1973), and the wider expansion of these variants to Northern Dancer (1961–1990), the son of Nearctic, and one of the most influential stallions of modern times.

"Having first identified the 'speed gene' in 2010, we decided to use a population genetics approach and pedigree analysis to see if we could trace the origin of the original gene variant, to understand where speed in the thoroughbred came from," said Dr Emmeline Hill, the senior author of the study and a genomics scientist at the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science.

www.ucd.ie/news/2012/01JAN12/250112-Scientists-trace-origin-of-speed-gene-in-modern-racehorses-to-British-mare-of-300-years-ago.html



Leinster captain, Leo Cullen and Ireland star, Brian O'Driscoll, with chief executive of Leinster Rugby, Michael Dawson and president of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady, at the announcement of details of the new high performance partnership which sees Leinster moving their training, conditioning and administration to UCD.

UCD welcomes Leinster Rugby to new campus home

In recent months, Leinster Rugby has established a new high performance training unit on UCD's Belfield campus adjacent to UCD's state-of-the-art Institute of Sport and Health (ISH). This allows Leinster to avail of UCD's extensive suite of top class synthetic and grass pitches.

Leinster progressed the move from their Donnybrook offices on March 21st, with UCD welcoming the arrival of the administrative arm of the organisation. Under this partnership, players will have access to advance and develop their academic careers as well as benefiting from

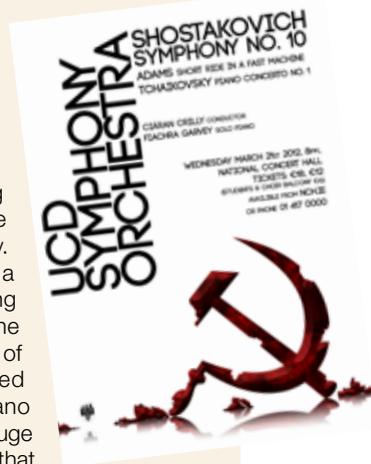
UCD's expanding suite of physiological and biochemical testing platforms and sports medicine facilities. Research collaborations are being developed in areas such as high performance science, sensor technology, bioengineering and sports physiology.

The partnership builds on existing strong links between UCD and Leinster Rugby. Jonathan Sexton, Gordon D'Arcy, Rob Kearney and Devin Toner are recent UCD students and four of the victorious Heineken Cup winning team are former UCD players (Brian O'Driscoll, Sean O'Brien, Kevin McLaughlin and Fergus McFadden).

UCD Symphony Orchestra programme showcases Shostakovich Symphony No. 10

At a UCD Symphony Orchestra performance in the National Concert Hall on March 21st, the programme kicked off with a musical white-knuckle ride by the popular and critically-acclaimed American composer John Adams, followed by two big hitters from the Russian repertory. Fiachra Garvey, a phenomenal young Irish talent and the NCH "Rising Star" of 2011, performed Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, a huge audience favourite that is instantly recognisable.

The night was completed with the symphony in which Shostakovich finally tore off the shackles of artistic expression that had so blighted him under the leadership of Joseph Stalin. His Tenth Symphony is one of the most epic statements of individual freedom ever penned.



SILS students who are part of the Aer Lingus capstone group, l-r Claire Naughton, Lyndsey Johnson, Marie-Therese Carmody, Caroline Minogue, Johanna Archbold, Peter Fleming.

Look up, it's the UCD School of Information & Library Studies and Aer Lingus

The history of Aer Lingus is an integral part of the history of Ireland. Founded in 1936, Aer Lingus has been connecting Ireland with the world for over 75 years, carrying more than 200 million passengers. To capture and provide access to this rich history Aer Lingus and SILS have begun collaborating.

Their goal is to prototype a hybrid (multimedia) interactive digital archive and

associated innovative products and services for a variety of audiences, including teachers and students. Evelyn Gallagher, a SILS student, will be working with Aer Lingus to manage historical materials that are scheduled for digitisation. Masters students in SILS also have the opportunity to participate in capstone (30 credit) projects in collaboration with Aer Lingus and SILS academic staff including Dr Kalpana Shankar, Dr Norman Su, and Professor Diane Sonnenwald. Declan P. Kearney, Aer Lingus Director of Communications, commented: "We are very excited to be collaborating with the SILS team on this most interesting project. It gives us the opportunity to avail of their great expertise and to work towards creating an important archive that can be appreciated and enjoyed by students, academics, Aer Lingus customers and the general public".

Men's Hockey Olympic Qualifying Tournament at UCD

University College Dublin was extremely proud to host the Electric Ireland FIH Road to London Tournament, held at the National Hockey Stadium in Belfield from March 10th to 18th. The tournament

represented a highlight in the on-going relationship between UCD and the Irish Hockey Association to bring international tournaments to UCD and Ireland. It saw six countries compete for the one remaining spot at the London 2012 Olympics. This was the only direct Olympic qualifier, across any sporting discipline, to be held in Ireland for London 2012. Ireland's men's national hockey team went head to head with Korea, Malaysia, Russia, Chile and the Ukraine in a round robin format. The Irish team had a very strong performance, earning a place in the final against Korea. A nail-biting game saw the score at 2-2 with just 8 seconds left on the clock. Irish hearts broke as a free in received a deft touch by Korea's number 6, Nam Young Lee, to give his side the 3-2 win and Olympic place.



UCD Rugby Club's U21 win

After a six year gap UCD Rugby Club's U21's won the JP Fanagan Trophy with a score of 48 points.

They were declared Leinster Champions on the 27th of February but only after some anxious moments on the pitch following their 27-10 win over St Mary's at Templeville Road. All present were holding their breath for word of the hoped for (but unexpected) win by Old Belvedere at Lansdowne, securing the trophy for UCD.



UCD Rugby Under 21s team

Record-breaking Ciara Everard continues her winning ways

UCD's Ciara Everard rounded off her successful indoor season with a win in the women's 800m at the National indoor athletics Championships held in the Odyssey Arena Belfast.

Ciara commented: "After this short successful indoor season I am now really looking forward to the outdoor season starting in May where I plan to lower my times at 1500m, 800m & 400m.

Only two weeks earlier Everard put in a scintillating performance at the IUAA Irish Inter-Varsity Championships held in Nenagh to break the Irish under 23s 800m indoor record held by none other than the great Sonia O Sullivan.

Sonia's record of 2.05.90 set in Boston in 1991 stood until February 2012, when the UCD physiotherapy student knocked .14 of a second off the mark running 2.05.76



UCD's Ciara Everard wins Senior Women's 800m at National Indoor Athletic Championships in Belfast in February.



Martin Mulkerrins during his thrilling tie-breaker against Daniel Cordova.

Martin Mulkerrins takes world number one spot in collegiate handball

Martin Mulkerrins won the United States Collegiate Handball Open title in late February in Springfield, Missouri, becoming the first Irish champion in over seven years.

Mulkerrins, the first year UCD Agricultural Science student, overcame a number of top American and Irish players throughout the week. In the final, the Galway native showed experience beyond his years in dispatching University of Texas at El Paso's Daniel Cordova in a thrilling 11-10 tie-breaker victory to secure the title and the number one spot in collegiate handball in the world.



The UCD Senior Men's boat, from stroke to bow oar, Vincent Manning, Gearoid Duane, Turlough Hughes, Finbarr Manning, Dave Neale, Conor Walsh, Colin Barrett, and Simon Craven under cox Hannah Fenlon, on their way to beating Trinity College Dublin, to win the Gannon Cup.

UCD Senior Rowers take back-to-back Colours

UCD took three of the four titles on offer at a lively set of Colours Races in Dublin on March 19th. In the men's senior race, the Gannon Cup, Trinity took a surprise early lead, but as the crews passed the Four Courts, UCD had taken a lead they were not to lose. The Corcoran Cup for senior women saw UCD lead all the way,

though Trinity exerted serious pressure in the closing stages. In the men's novice race, UCD got off to an astounding start and won easily. The women's novice race was gripping to watch as leaders UCD could not hold off the late surge of Trinity, who won by over a length.

UCD bring Soccer's Collingwood Cup back to Belfield

Niall Hanley's 12th minute goal was enough for UCD to beat Mary Immaculate College in the Irish Universities Collingwood Cup title final at the University of Limerick.

UCD had a tough route to the final with the first match against DCU going to overtime and UCD finally won 6-5 on penalties. The further rounds were easy in comparison with

6-0 and 3-1 wins over RCSI and NUIM respectively.

UCD have Mark Langtry, named player of the tournament, to thank for rescuing them with late goals in their opening round games against DCU and NUI Maynooth and UCD now bring the Collingwood Cup back to Belfield for a 3rd time in 4 years.



Recognising his outstanding sportsmanship and achievements, Pdraig Harrington was presented with the James Joyce Award by Christine Simpson, Auditor of the UCD Literary & Historical Society



Pictured at the UCD Agricultural Science Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, 22nd November 2011 are final year UCD Agricultural Science students Joseph Breen, Paul Kelly (graduate) and Pdraig Kelly, who each received awards at the ceremony.



Pictured at the UCD Agriculture, Food Science and Human Nutrition Careers Day which took place on February 14th were final year Agricultural students, Paidi Kelly (Chair of the Agricultural Science Careers) Stella Davis, Fiona McGovern and Sean Foley. Over 32 exhibitors attended the Careers Day.



UCD Ad Astra Academy Scholars studying Engineering: l to r Luciano Van Rheenen, Mark McDonnell, Sinead Cullen, Conor Waldron, Ciara Keyes, Rory Gogarty

Ad Astra Academy Scholars Honoured

Thursday 19th of January saw O'Reilly Hall abuzz with activity as scholars, proud parents, secondary school principals and UCD staff came together to acknowledge and applaud the 2011 intake of Ad Astra scholars.

The Academy, which was formally established in 2011 and is generously supported by the UCD Foundation, is an initiative designed to support and encourage talented and gifted students, by providing scholarship opportunities on the basis of exceptional ability in academia, sports and the performing arts. Sixty five scholarships were awarded on the night, 39 to academic scholars, 17 to elite athlete scholars and 9 in the performing arts.

The President, Dr Hugh Brady presented each scholar with a commemorative scroll, after which they had their photo portrait taken and signed the leather-bound Ad Astra

Academy Register, symbolising the scholars' formal induction into the Academy.

Kate Cullen, UCD Denis O'Connor KPMG Doctoral Scholar, addressed the scholars and guests on the importance of philanthropy in providing opportunities for advanced scholarship.

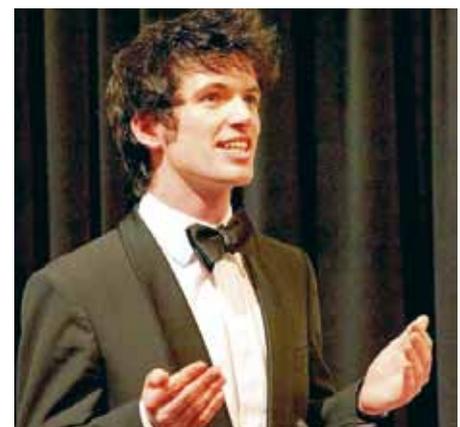
A highlight of the evening was the performance by the UCD Choral Scholars, joined by three Ad Astra Performing Arts vocalists. The group, conducted by Desmond Earley, performed A Hymn to the Virgin by Benjamin Britten, Cloudsong by Bill Whelan and All Night Long by Lionel Richie.

The Ad Astra Academy, under the directorship of Prof. Mark Rogers, is a key objective of the UCD Strategic Plan "Forming Global Minds". "My hope is that the UCD Ad Astra Academy will inspire these and all UCD students to achieve to the best of their ability. UCD has a tradition of producing leaders in all spheres and the Ad Astra Academy is one of a number of initiatives within the University to ensure that tradition continues into the future" said Prof. Rogers.

UCD is committed to expanding the Academy to its full complement of around 200 scholars over the next two years.

UCD student is individual winner of Irish Times Debate 2012

Michael Conroy of the UCD medical society was awarded the Christina Murphy memorial trophy as the individual winner of the Irish Times Debate 2012, for his debating prowess in supporting the motion: "That this house would abolish prisons". The Irish Times Editor, Kevin O'Sullivan was the presiding judge of the debate. He said that "debate is critical and at this time you can argue that debate is even more



important, whether it's in the world of politics or in Irish society".

The debate was chaired by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise, and Innovation, Mr Richard Bruton TD. Mark Haughton and Christine Simpson from the UCD Literary and Historical Society were runners-up in the team category.