

WINTER 2018

UCD

today



11. Building Better Predictions
for Prostate Cancer Patients

9. Philosophy at the
Crossroads of Civilisation

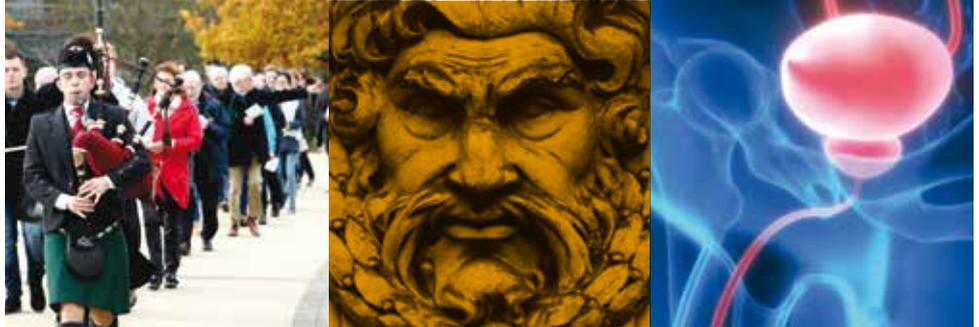
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Day Commemorations

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Save our Spark – sign the petition



EILIS O'BRIEN
Director of Communication and Marketing

When the presidents of the seven universities launched Ireland's Future Talent – A Charter for Irish Universities in September through the Irish Universities Association (IUA), they gave a commitment to supporting the objectives set out in the Government's Higher Education System Performance Framework 2018-2020 in return for urgently required State investment and a sustainable funding model for higher education.

Once again, the universities argued that investing in higher education is needed to achieve the "national ambition". Their call is supported by IBEC who, in its 2019 budget submission, argued that "the current funding model for higher education is unsustainable".

On this occasion, the IUA augmented its appeal to Government with a public awareness campaign, *Save our Spark*. The message to the general public is that universities need substantial investment to accommodate the 25,000 additional students entering the university system over the next decade. "We need resources to improve access, to become lifelong learning institutions and to ensure we continue as best in class research and innovation centres. A vibrant, well-funded, fit-for-purpose university sector can drive Ireland's future. This is what the seven universities through the Irish Universities Association are aiming to achieve".

For the first time, the IUA reached out to the public, to university staff and to students to sign a petition that calls on the Minister for Education and Skills to address the funding crisis in order to avoid a serious drop in quality or a shortfall in places for Irish students in the future.

This year's budget estimate for the Department of Education and Skills is €10.8 billion, an increase of 7% on the previous year. Pre-school, primary and secondary education account for €7.4 billion, a 5% increase; higher education comes in at €1.6 billion, a 1% increase. The two areas with larger percentage increases are skills development €436 million (16% increase) – funded in part by the National Training Fund levy on employers - and capital services, €852 million (23% increase) of which €150 million has been allocated for capital investment in higher education, further education and training, and research.

The seven Irish universities point to our relatively poor public funding position in international terms and argues that our output – in terms of the quality and number of graduates we educate – has a direct impact on Ireland's economic prosperity.

The petition aims to top 10,000 signatures by the Christmas break. If you haven't already, there is still time to sign and add your voice to supporting the campaign and *Save our Spark*.

UCD thanks...

Contributors: Emer Beesley, Alex Boyd, Jacqueline Boyd, Tara Byrne, Josh Clark, Lucy Collins, Kate Conroy, Mags Darcy, Damien Dempsey, Dympna Devine, Helen Dixon, Emma Donovan, Emma Dorris, Jenny Doyle, Georgina Dwyer, Alex Evans, Antonella Ferrecchia, Evelyn Flanagan, Ioanna Galeadi, Beth Gormley, Helen Graham, Liz Hannon, Judith Harford, Kellie Hughes, Mary-Beth Jennings, Margaret Kelleher, Anna Kelly, Naonori Kodate, Sylvia Leatham, Kate Manning, Niamh Moore-Cherry, Peter Moran, Conor Mulvagh, Bairbre Ni Chonchúir, Simon O'Connor, Darina O'Hanlon, Eoin O'Mahony, Eimear O'Reilly, Elaine Quinn, Geraldine Quinn, Claire Redmond, Suja Somanadhan, Seán Paul Teeling, Regina Uí Chollatáin, Miceal Whelan

Produced by: Eilis O'Brien, Mary Staunton

Design: Loman Cusack Design Ltd

Print: Fine Print

Thanks to: Diarmaid Ferriter, Pat Guiry, Ann Lavan, Damien McLoughlin, Regina Uí Chollatáin

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

Cover image: Children from St Colmille's Junior National School in Knocklyon at the launch of the Children's School Lives longitudinal cohort study.





Pictured at the Awards Ceremony are (l-r) Nicole Black, Director Alumni Development; Dr Mike Bryne, UCD Alumni Award winner in Science; Pat Kenny, MC and UCD Alumnus; Jane Ann McKenna UCD Alumni Award winner in Business; Dr Ann Derwin, UCD Alumni Award winner in Agriculture and Veterinary Science; Dr Rhona Mahony, UCD Alumni Award winner in Health Sciences; Professor Andrew J Deeks, UCD President; Fintan O'Toole, UCD Alumni Award winner in Arts and Humanities; Dr Gráinne Healy, UCD Alumni Award winner in Social Sciences; Rob Kearney, UCD Alumni Award winner in Sport; Dr Julie McEnery, UCD Alumni Award winner in Research, Innovation and Impact; and John Carey, UCD Alumni Award winner in Engineering and Architecture. Missing from the photo is Vincent Keaveney, UCD Alumni Award winner in Law.

UCD Alumni Awards 2018

Each year, the UCD Alumni Awards proudly celebrate the outstanding achievements of global alumni who are exceptional role models and whose lives and careers inspire us all. With almost 280,000 alumni living in 169 countries around the world, the UCD alumni network is influential, successful, active and truly international.

On Friday 9 November 2018, the fifth annual Awards Ceremony took place in O'Reilly Hall. It was a night of celebration, UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks was joined by over 350 alumni, sponsors, supporters, faculty, staff and friends of UCD to honour the outstanding achievements of ten of UCD's finest alumni. Nominated by peers, faculty, staff and students of UCD, the award winners demonstrate drive, leadership, commitment and the desire to make a difference.

The evening was a true celebration and Pat Kenny (BE 1969) was master of ceremonies. As well as the 2018 Alumni Awards winners, Pat also welcomed to the stage four young Irish hockey players and UCD Ad Astra alumni who were a source of inspiration and pride to the UCD Community and to Ireland this summer as Hockey World Cup finalists; Katie Mullan, Emily Beatty, Gillian Pinder and Deirdre Duke. These young alumni took time out of their busy schedules to return to UCD and share their stories from a very memorable summer in London and relive the highlights.

The evening closed with a performance from the UCD Choral Scholars, led by Dr Desmond Earley, Artistic Director. This was followed by after-dinner entertainment in the Conservatory.

Be inspired by the 2018 UCD Alumni Award winners:

Dr Ann Derwin, UCD Agriculture and Veterinary Science

Over her 25-year career, Dr Ann Derwin has held a variety of positions. Starting out in veterinary practice, she joined the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine in 1992. Ann is a passionate advocate in Ireland and internationally of the need to enhance the role of women in the agri-food sector. Since 2017, Ann has worked as Director General, Global Irish Services in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade where she also leads on gender equality and diversity initiatives.

Fintan O'Toole, UCD Arts and Humanities

The award-winning journalist Fintan O'Toole is one of Ireland's most influential public intellectuals and a critical voice on politics and the arts. In 1988 after a period as editor of *Magill*, he joined the Irish Times and his column has featured for 30 years. He has written books on theatre, politics, biography and cultural history. *Ship of Fools* was a bestselling account of the fall of the Celtic Tiger and Ireland's current postage stamps are based on his *History of Ireland in 100 Objects*. He is currently working on the official biography of Seamus Heaney.

Jane Ann McKenna, UCD Business

Through her work with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) over the past ten years, Jane Ann McKenna has built up extensive on the ground experience in delivering emergency medical aid to some of the most acute conflicts in Africa, Middle East and Asia. She was actively involved in engaging Irish audiences and advocating on humanitarian issues including Ebola, the Syrian conflict and the refugee crisis. Jane Ann is currently leading the development of MSF's Strategic Plan for 2020-2023.

John Carey, UCD Engineering and Architecture

John Carey is passionate about creating an inclusive and diverse organisation, which puts safety and the customer at the heart of the business. John graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering in 1983 and has built his career leading a number of global businesses.

He has lived and led businesses in Europe, Africa and the USA and has a unique skillset in transforming and growing businesses in highly complex and turbulent environments. Most recently, John as Deputy CEO of ADNOC Distribution in Abu Dhabi, led their recent IPO, the largest international IPO in the Middle East in over a decade.

Dr Rhona Mahony, UCD Health Sciences

As the first female master since the foundation of the National Maternity hospital in 1894, Rhona oversees one of Europe's largest maternity hospitals, delivering almost 10,000 babies each year, in a busy gynaecological unit with over 800 staff. She is a Fellow of the RCOG UK, and of the RCPI in Ireland. In 2016 she was awarded an honorary Fellowship of the American College of O&G and an honorary Doctorate of Medicine from NUI for her contribution to women and infant health.

Vincent Keaveney, UCD Law

Vincent Keaveney is a partner at international law firm, DLA Piper LLP, and a highly regarded practitioner having had a stellar career advising banks and companies throughout the UK and Europe on banking, finance and capital markets matters. He is an outstanding role model for UCD Law students, who he is supportive of and the firm is most accommodating with internships and student visits. Vincent is one of the City of London's 25 Aldermen since 2013 and was recently elected as one of two City of London Sheriffs for 2018-2019, a title dating back to the 14th century.

Dr Julie McEnery, UCD Research, Innovation and Impact

An astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Julie McEnery received her PhD in Physics from UCD in 1997. She has worked for over ten years in the field of high energy gamma-ray astrophysics, working with all elements of the mission as the Project Scientist for the Fermi gamma-ray Space Telescope. Alongside her work in NASA she is Adjunct Professor of Physics at the University of Maryland and at the George Washington University. In 2011, she was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society.

Dr Michael Byrne, UCD Science

Michael Byrne is a physicist who used theoretical knowledge from his degree to invent a new technology which he has turned into a global business. He graduated with a BSc in Physics and went on to complete a PhD in Atmospheric and Aerosol Physics in 1976. From his involvement in the development of the basic ionisation smoke alarm, in 1988, he and his colleagues were part of a management buyout. Ei Electronics was established in Shannon and employs over 700 people. It is the leader in residential fire products, and the originator of innovative products including smoke detectors, carbon monoxide sensors, unique electronic circuits, RF technology and sounders. It holds over 25 patents in these technologies.

Dr Gráinne Healy, UCD Social Sciences

As a long-standing feminist activist, Dr Gráinne Healy is a celebrated leader in gender equality and social justice. Working in activism for the past 40 years, Gráinne was instrumental in helping to turn Ireland into a nation of equals in May 2015 as co-head of the Yes Equality Campaign. Gráinne's global impact is also notable in the areas of violence against women, migrant rights and sex trafficking. She is Chairwoman of the European Women's Lobby Observatory on Violence against Women and is a former Chairwoman of the National Women's Council of Ireland.

Rob Kearney, UCD Sport

Having achieved at the highest level in his rugby career, international rugby player Rob Kearney is one of the top full backs of the modern era. His Ireland debut was against Argentina in 2007, and he has 84 caps for Ireland. He has four Six Nations titles and was on the winning British & Irish Lions team in their test series against Australia. In an outstanding achievement, Rob started every game of the 2014 and 2015 Six Nations-winning campaigns and every game of the 2009 and 2018 Grand Slam seasons. As an undergraduate Rob played with UCD RFC and was a UCD sports scholarship recipient, he continued to play with UCD RFC in the early period of his Leinster and Ireland career. Off the pitch, he is successful in business and advocates for concussion screening.

Centenary of the First World War Armistice

■ The UCD War List and Roll of Honour Dr Conor Mulvagh, UCD School of History

Two years ago, on the centenary of his death on 9 September 1916, UCD unveiled a plaque in honour of Tom Kettle, arguably the most famous of UCD's war dead, in the Rose Garden beside Belfield House. On that day, UCD opened a new chapter in remembering a cohort of students, staff and graduates who served in the British Military during the First World War. In November, as the world marked the end of a conflict that witnessed death and destruction on a scale previously unknown, the University examined its own relationship with the war in all its complexities and contradictions.

The First World War broke out at a time when the University was still in its infancy. At the time, the University had an enrolment of around 700 students, of whom 500 were eligible for service. In total, 116 students joined up during the war. This was by no means an insignificant absence in the corridors of Earlsfort Terrace.

The Rising and Ireland's participation in the First World War are intrinsically linked. The two events were at all times symbiotic and the violence of one echoed the violence of the other. Ireland on the eve of war was one in a state of complexity and anticipation. Between suffrage, the Lockout, and the question of Home Rule – the latter having reached fever pitch by the summer of 1914 – Ireland was in a state of intense political upheaval when the war broke out.

In the midst of all this, the newly established National University of Ireland was finding its feet. In Dublin, UCD was expanding its premises; freshly populated with a crop of new professors in subjects of national importance from Celtic languages and history to education, economics, law, and the sciences. One can imagine the discussions in the staff common room between Douglas Hyde, Eoin MacNeill, Agnes O'Farrelly, Tom Kettle, Mary Hayden, Thomas MacDonagh, and Thomas A Finlay, to name but a few of the extraordinary generation who filled the new professorships and lectureships at UCD from 1909 onwards. UCD's academics had been at the centre of founding the Gaelic League, the Irish Volunteers, Cumann na mBan, Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association, Irish Women Workers' Union, and the Dublin Industrial Peace Committee. In equal parts the war halted and jolted these social and political forces.

At the outbreak of the war, at least two staff members were stranded on the continent. The Professor of National Economics, Tom Kettle was in Belgium, acting under the orders of Irish party leader John Redmond procuring arms for the Irish Volunteers. He was pitted in a race to Ireland's coastline with Erskine Childers and the Asgard. Kettle remained in Belgium after the successful conclusion of his gun-running mission and acted as war correspondent for the Daily News. Upon his return to Ireland, Kettle signed up to join the British Army initially being consigned to recruitment duties in Ireland.

The second UCD professor who was found to be absent after the summer holidays in 1914 was Heinrich Bewerunge, UCD's first Professor of Music. Bewerunge had been a leading light in ecclesiastical music in Ireland having arrived at Maynooth in 1888. In 1913, he was appointed Professor of Music at UCD. He delivered his one and only series of lectures in Trinity Term 1914, set and corrected exams, and took a holiday back to the land of his birth – Westphalia. In Germany at the outbreak of the war, Bewerunge decided to remain where he was rather than return to Ireland to face inevitable internment as an enemy alien in one of the sites of alien internment like Templemore in County Tipperary where not a few interned aliens succumbed to disease and death.

In 1914, the then President of UCD, Professor Denis J. Coffey, was keen for UCD to lead rather than follow the national mood at a time when the advent of Ireland's self-government seemed inevitable. Irish nationalists wanted to show that Ireland would be a loyal and active participant in the United Kingdom following Home Rule. President Coffey made a sincere offer to the War Office in the spring of 1915 to establish an Officers' Training Corps at UCD but the offer was rejected out of hand. This rejection of this earnest offer of assistance underlines the perceived lack of trust for Irish nationalists by the British military. In spite of the lack of support and official recognition, 488 UCD students, staff and graduates volunteered for service in the war.

Two-thirds of the UCD War List is comprised of individuals serving in medical rather than combat roles. Two-fifths of the wounded and a third of the UCD personnel killed were serving in medical roles.

What is striking about UCD's attitude to the simultaneous and sometimes antagonistic crises of war and revolution is UCD's spirit of equality in the way it treated both conflicts. In January 1922 at the foundation of the State, UCD's Governing Body decided that those who had fought in the Irish independence struggle would be treated in exactly the same way as those who had fought in the war resolving that 'exemptions should be granted to students of the College engaged in the recent struggle similar to war exemptions'.



On Friday 9 November, current faculty, staff and students walked from Memorial Hall to the Tom Kettle plaque at the Rose Garden, commemorating their counterparts who had served in WW1.

■ Commemorative Walk

At 11am on the Friday before the Centenary of the Armistice for the First World War, relatives, staff and students gathered at Memorial Hall, Richview beside the plaque commemorating those from the former masonic school who went to World War One. Then, led by third year Music and English student and piper from St Laurence O'Toole pipe band, James Stone, the group walked the length of the campus, each person carrying a light and the name of the UCD students, staff and graduates who lost their lives across the battlefields of Europe between 1914 and 1918.

The walk finished in the Rose Garden at Belfield House at the plaque commemorating Tom Kettle, who was Professor of National Economics at UCD, member of the Irish Parliamentary Party and poet.

The walk from Richview to the Rose Garden was a quiet and moving affair. Autumn leaves swirled ahead of an expected squall and the weather held off long enough for speeches by Dr Conor Mulvagh, School of History, and Professor Orla Feely, VP for Research and head of the Decade of Centenaries Committee.

Associate Professor, Lucy Collins read Kettle's famous sonnet *To My Daughter Betty*, the Gift of God, written just days before he died.



Winners of the Voices of War international poetry competition (l-r) David McLoughlin, Shannon Kuta Kelly, Molly Twomey and Theo Ejorh.

Voices of War

On Armistice Day, 11 November 2018, the winners of UCD's Voices of War international poetry competition were announced after a commemorative performance at the National Gallery of Ireland. The contest, supported by the UCD Decade of Centenaries Programme, attracted almost 700 entries from more than 25 countries around the world. Established poets and first-time writers offered moving and memorable responses to past and present conflicts, and many reflected directly on the challenges to representation that war brings. From schoolchildren in India to US servicemen, from poets who lost family members in World War 1, to those affected – personally and imaginatively – by conflicts in Kosovo, Rwanda

and Afghanistan, these writers demonstrate the necessity of continued response to the effects of war on combatants and communities today.

After reading all entries anonymously, the judging panel of Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, Professor Gregory Betts and Associate Professor Lucy Collins drew up a shortlist of eleven poems for the open competition, finally choosing David McLoughlin's Dispatch – a poem of striking immediacy set in Vietnam – as the winning poem. Shannon Kuta Kelly was awarded second prize for Kalinovik. The New Voices category was won by Molly Twomey for her poem Cilka, and Theo Ejorh's Akaldema was top of the Beyond Borders category.



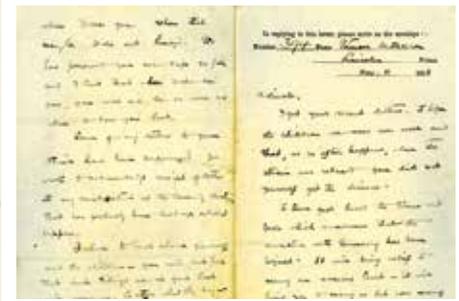
Ad Astra Performing Arts Scholars pictured at a performance of poetry and music to commemorate the centenary of the Armistice

A Moving Performance of Poetry and Music

The UCD Ad Astra Performing Arts Scholars and UCD Ad Astra Artistic Director Kellie Hughes, in collaboration with Associate Professor Lucy Collins from UCD School of English, Drama and Film, created Voices of War, a performance of poetry and music to commemorate the centenary of the Armistice. The performance drew on a range of work by poets from Ireland and abroad, including Eva Gore Booth, Ivor Gurney, Randal Jarrell, Thomas Kettle, Winifred Letts, Thomas McGreevy and Giuseppe Ungaretti, and

contemporary poets Kevin Higgins, Robyn Rowland and Michael J Whelan. The performance also featured excerpts from Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Winter and was presented with still and moving images chosen from the UCD archives and the collections at the National Gallery.

There were two performances of this programme, one on Friday 9 November in the UCD James Joyce Library and two further performances on Sunday 11 November in the National Gallery of Ireland.



Letter from Eamon de Valera to his wife Sinéad, 11 November 1918

UCDA P183/57 Private Correspondence of Eamon and Sínead de Valera © Used by permission.

“...and now the shells fall thick and fast”: Documenting WWI: a UCD Library Cultural Heritage Exhibition

To commemorate Ireland's involvement in World War 1, the principal custodians of UCD Library's cultural heritage collections, Evelyn Flanagan of UCD Special Collections, Crístoír Mac Cárthaigh of the National Folklore Collection UCD, and Kate Manning of UCD Archives, with assistance from Audrey Drohan in UCD Digital Library and Josh Clark and Catherine Bodey in UCD Library Outreach, curated an online Google Arts exhibition entitled “...and now the shells fall thick and fast”, documenting the course of the war and its aftermath, using archives, publications and recorded interviews held in their collections.

Exhibition highlights include the recorded interviews carried out as part of the Urban Folklore Project in the National Folklore Collection: James Mitchell vividly describes rats in the trenches; Una Ward discusses 'The Mad Mac Sweeney', who suffered from shell-shock, and Anne Espie speaks of her father's drowning at sea and how this impacted on her childhood.

The *First Report of the Irish War Hospital Supply Group* held in UCD Special Collections, concerns the contribution made by the Irish War Hospital Supply organisation who managed the collection of sphagnum moss from bogs all over Ireland. This was made into cloth for medical use and thus moss from Irish bogs was distributed to hospitals as far away as Palestine and India.

In a previously unseen letter written by Eamon de Valera from Lincoln Jail to his wife Sinéad on 11 November 1918, and held in UCD Archives, de Valera describes hearing “the sirens and bells which announce that the armistice with Germany has been signed. It will bring relief to many an anxious heart—it will bring joy to many—but how many homes when the joybells cease ringing will be plunged into a grief which at the moment is not felt but which will be crushing when those who remain return home and it is realised that those who have fallen will never return.”

The exhibition is available online at www.ucd.ie/library/exhibitions/wwi



Pictured are Prof Ronan O'Connell, Mary-Beth Jennings, Prof Steven Pennington and Prof Tadhg O'Keefe.

Conference Ambassadors Celebrated

Congratulations to our UCD Conference Ambassadors, who were honoured by Fáilte Ireland at the recent National Conference Ambassador Awards. The evening was about recognising and rewarding their contribution to the Business Tourism Industry. Together they have brought over 60,000 international delegates to Dublin, injecting over €84 million into the Irish economy during 2015/2016.

MaryBeth Jennings, UCD Conference and Events Manager said: "Thank you to our UCD faculty for putting themselves out there to bid and well done to them for winning those bids and bringing conferences to UCD and to Dublin. They provide the scientific, technical and industry knowledge, a network of contacts and programme ideas. UCD has the facilities to host and assist faculty with their conference needs."

Among those celebrated on the evening were Fiona McVeigh - 23rd European Congress on Sport Management – EASM; Professor Imelda Maher - Annual Conference of the Society of Legal Scholars of the UK and Ireland; Professor Ronan O'Connell - Scientific and Annual Meeting of the European Society of Coloproctology; Professor Seamus Fanning - Symposium of the International Committee on Food and Hygiene – FoodMicro; Professor Stephen Pennington - Annual World Congress of the Human Proteome Organization; Professor Tadhg O'Keefe - International King John Conference - History, Culture and Legacy; Professor Ciaran Sugrue - European Conference on Educational Research; Dr Joan Tiernan - European Association for Work and Organisational Psychology; Professor Lorraine Brennan - Annual International Conference of the Metabolomics Society; and Dr Tara Magdaliniski - European Congress on Sports Management.



Prof Harford with Minister Richard Bruton TD at the launch.

Education for All? The Legacy of Free Post-Primary Education in Ireland

Minister Richard Bruton TD launched Professor Judith Harford's latest book *Education for All? The Legacy of Free Post-Primary Education in Ireland* at the Royal Irish Academy on 10 October 2018. Commissioned to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of free post-primary education in Ireland, the book examines its origins, legacy and impact. With a foreword by JJ Lee, the book takes a long view, bringing new knowledge to the field by analysing previously unexamined primary sources, drawing on up-to-date research on educational disadvantage and assessing the changing emphases of Irish educational policy over time.

Speaking at the launch, Minister Bruton said: "Providing all our citizens with access to the highest quality education system is our ultimate goal. Professor Harford's new book provides a unique insight into the legacy of free post-primary education in Ireland, the progress we have achieved and the work that still needs to be done".

Professor Harford, Vice-Principal of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in UCD College of Social Sciences and Law told UCD Today: "The

democratisation of post-primary education – the notion that any child could continue their education, irrespective of their family's financial circumstances – while laudable as a principle and enshrined in the blueprint of the free education scheme, has proven complex than originally envisaged. Despite the introduction of free second-level education, educational expansion, while raising the national standards of education, has not led to any meaningful reduction in social-class inequalities."



The Wonder Panel! This group of primary school age advisors worked with the Science Apprentice team to form questions and answers that make the books invaluable to Irish schoolchildren (l-r) Abhinav Sathiasseelan, Anoushka Sathiasseelan, Angie Sewell, Aoibhlinn Steger, Andy Lowbridge, Callum McGrath, Gemma Whelan, Rachel Mulligan and Lauren Boyd Smith.

Photo Credit: Freddie Stevens

Science Apprentices

What kinds of superpowers do our bodies naturally have? How do we make sense of the world? What's in the air we breathe, and how are the things around us made?

The latest Science Apprentice series of books for primary school children was on the case figuring out the answers through hands-on workshops, teacher resources, augmented reality and by asking researchers who are themselves exploring these intriguing topics. The series was free to collect with the Irish Independent in November.

The books were produced by UCD and partners and supported by the Science Foundation Ireland Discover Programme and the Environmental Protection Agency. Written by Dr Claire O'Connell, the books open children's minds to a world of potential STEM careers. More detail is at www.ucd.ie/scienceapprentice/



Pictured are (l-r) Attracta Halpin, Registrar NUI; Maurice Manning, Chancellor NUI; Mrs Sabina Higgins; President Michael D Higgins; Lucy Sealy, Douglas Hyde's granddaughter; Prof Andrew Deeks, UCD President; Prof Sarah Prescott, Principal, UCD College of Arts and Humanities; and Prof Regina Uí Chollatáin, Head of UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore.

■ Léacht de hÍde 2018

The UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore, in collaboration with the National University of Ireland, hosted the inaugural Hyde Lecture – Léacht de hÍde, delivered by President Michael D Higgins in September on the theme of 'The Legacy of Douglas Hyde'.

Douglas Hyde was the first President of Ireland, serving from 1938 to 1945, the first president of Conradh na Gaeilge (the Gaelic League) and the first Professor of Modern Irish in

UCD from 1909. In that year, he was also appointed as a member of the first Senate of NUI and was an active member of the Senate until 1919. Given these strong connections, NUI and

UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore are pleased to honour his memory by collaborating in the establishment of this new lecture series. 2018 marks the 80th anniversary of Hyde's presidency. It is intended that the lecture series will be bilingual, with lectures alternating in successive years between English and Irish.

President Higgins delivered a lecture, in English and as Gaeilge, which delighted the packed house that attended.

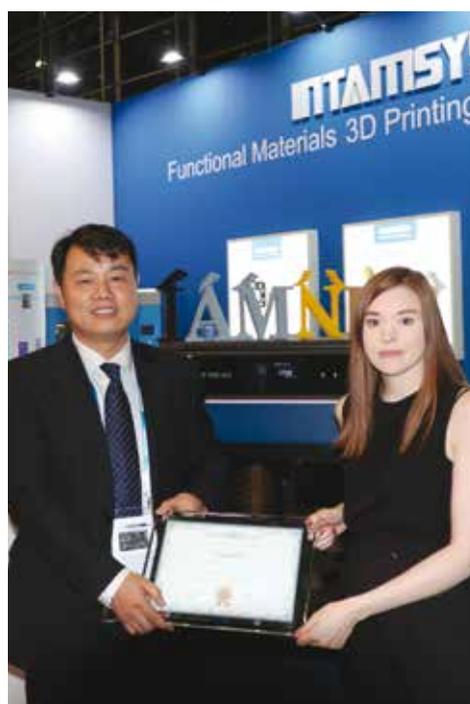
■ I-Form researchers win first prize in global 3D printing competition

A team of Irish researchers won first prize in a global competition for industrial 3D printing. The team – comprising UCD-based researchers in I-Form, the SFI Research Centre for Advanced Manufacturing – scooped a prize worth US\$10,000 for their project: the design and print of a disposable 3D printed reactor. The polymer reactor can be used to controllably mix chemical precursors used in the manufacture of pharmaceutical agents.

The competition was run by INTAMSYS, a manufacturer of industrial 3D printing systems with its headquarters in Shanghai, and was open to entries from around the globe. The Irish team secured a prize worth US\$10,000 – consisting of US\$2,000, an INTAMSYS 3D printer, and several kilos of printing filaments for use with the equipment. The prize was presented to Dr Sarah Brady at the Formnext additive manufacturing conference in Frankfurt.

The competition challenged participants to showcase examples of 3D printing (also known as additive manufacturing) in jigs and fixtures, with the aim of achieving cost and lead-time savings in manufacturing.

The winning entry was a cross-disciplinary collaboration from an engineering team based at UCD: the reactor was 3D printed by I-Form's Dr Sarah Brady, under the supervision of I-Form centre director Professor Denis Dowling. The reactor was designed by Dr Matthew Harding and Dr Steven Ferguson, UCD School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering, who are evaluating it for use in the intensified chemical synthesis of drugs. I-Form is an SFI Research Centre whose mission is to shape the future of manufacturing through high-impact research into the application of digital technologies to materials processing.



Picture 1 shows: Dr Sarah Brady, I-Form researcher, accepting the US\$10,000 prize from Charles Han, CEO, INTAMSYS.

■ UCD agricultural sciences ranked global top 20 by US News & World Report

Agricultural sciences at UCD are among the best in the world, according to the latest US News & World Report rankings. Now placed 19th globally, UCD is the only Irish university to make the global top 50 in the rankings for agricultural sciences. It is also ranked 5th in Europe.

Professor Alexander Evans, UCD Dean of Agricultural Science said: "This ranking reflects the hard work and commitment by our faculty, staff and students. Looking at the elements, it is noteworthy that UCD's normalised citation impact and the number of highly cited papers that are among the top one percent most cited in the area rank 7th and 3rd in the world respectively. The importance of agricultural science in society is increasing steadily and UCD is pleased to be acknowledged as a world leader in the area".



Pictured at the symposium are (l-r) Gordon Dunne, CEO Mater Hospital; Minister Jim Daly TD; Aileen Igoe, Adjunct Asst Prof UCD SNMHS; Sean Paul Teeling, Asst Prof and Lean healthcare programme director UCD SNMHS; Prof Gerard Fealy, Dean and Head of School UCD SNMHS.

Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People opens 6th Annual Lean Symposium

UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems (SNMHS) was delighted to host the 6th Annual Lean Symposium in the Fitzgerald Debating Theatre on Thursday 29 November. The Symposium, held annually with UCD and the Mater Hospital's Lean Academy, celebrates the work of graduates of the UCD Lean Six Sigma (LSS) healthcare programmes. Staff from 50 healthcare organisations have undertaken the programme to date. This is the first LSS healthcare programme nationally, using both LSS methodologies and person-centred approaches to transformation in diverse healthcare environments. The goal is to improve not just outcomes, but patient and staff experiences of care delivery. Students of the programme have delivered substantive and enduring change and have won seven national healthcare awards.

The Symposium was opened by Jim Daly TD, Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Mental Health and Older People, who also presented the prizes for Scientific Poster 2018 to winners Cappagh Hospital and the Beacon Hospital. The keynote was delivered by Mark Graban, international Lean consultant, author and speaker, with other session keynotes by Lorna Peelo-Kilroe, HSE Lead for Person-centred Cultures and Professor Peter Hines, Co-founder

of the Lean enterprise research centre at Cardiff business school. Presentations were also delivered by UCD Lean graduates on continuing process improvement projects in Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children Crumlin, The Mater Hospital, National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh, Saint Luke's Hospital Kilkenny, Louth County Hospital and Sligo University Hospital, with 18 hospitals displaying Scientific Posters throughout the day.

AI for good?

When asked to think about *artificial intelligence (AI)*, people might imagine a dystopian future where robots have taken over the world and humanity is holding on for dear life. But the reality of our future in partnership with AI looks far brighter. Big business, NGOs, charities and universities are coming together to deliver faster, more efficient responses to the problems of the world using AI and this could represent a major shift in how we respond to the needs of education, migration and even disaster.

On 5 November, UCD welcomed a distinguished panel of some of the world's foremost technology leaders to 'AI for Good', an event that brought together the UCD community to discuss a crucial concept for our modern societies: how to use technology and in particular artificial intelligence to tackle large scale and complex humanitarian challenges.

Dr Kristin Tolle, Director of Data Science Initiative in Microsoft Research Outreach told attendees that in September Microsoft and the UN General Assembly announced a new spoke to their five year AI for Good program called AI for Humanitarian Action. This new \$40 million initiative is focused on using artificial intelligence in four key areas of need: disaster response, refugees and displaced people, human rights and the needs of children.

Director of the UCD Institute for Discovery, Associate Professor Patricia Maguire said, "AI can provide a series of tools and approaches that have the potential to help non-profit organisations become more effective – doing more for less. This is a game changer when it comes to big operations. Of course, AI has its own challenges, from solution design and modelling, to technology implementation and ethics but that's why we invited such eminent speakers to UCD. We want to hear about real world examples where AI is saving lives."

The AI for Good event was co-organised by the UCD Institute for Discovery, UCD School of Computer Science, LERO, UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action and the UCD Complex Software Lab.



Women in Science Exhibition

Dr Siobhán McClean, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science organised an exhibition to highlight the work of the School's female researchers. The exhibition took its lead from the Royal Irish Academy's highly successful 'Women on the Walls' exhibition of 2016 and has two aims: to increase the visibility of female scientists among UCD's scientific community generally and provide vital role models for younger students and early career researchers. The first aspect serves to promote their own professional achievements and breakthroughs, while the second intends to boost students' confidence and sense of inclusion.

The exhibition consisted of large photographic profiles each featuring a researcher accompanied by something relating to or signifying their work, and a brief explanation of what they do and their achievements. These

were displayed on the ground floor of the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science during October 2018. There was also a digital display on screens at various locations across UCD to maximise its impact across the Belfield campus.

The Exhibition was one of a number of Athena SWAN initiatives, which the School organised as part of their Athena SWAN School submission.

Philosophy at the crossroads of civilisations



Mention Greek philosophy and one thinks of Plato and Aristotle but what about Proclus? Newly-appointed Associate

Professor at UCD School of Philosophy Dragos Calma hopes to make this 5th century thinker if not a household name than at least better appreciated by the modern academy.

Proclus (412-485) was the victim of one of philosophy's great misattributions - his work was passed off for several centuries as belonging to Aristotle. This creative mix-up is part of an intriguing story surrounding one of the last great custodians of 'the School of Athens'. It's a story of how a pagan text, reworked by Muslims, ended up being used in the Catholic Church to explain Christian doctrine.

Throw in forgery, impersonation and religious persecution and you have the ingredients of a Dan Brown novel. However, Dr Calma is not interested in fiction. He wants to uncover the truth behind a neglected chapter of medieval history which, he believes, can help us to address the so-called 'clash of civilisations'.

Associate Professor Calma's arrival in Belfield is fitting, given UCD's strong tradition in teaching Greek philosophy. The late Fr Fergal O'Connor introduced thousands of undergrads to Plato's Cave and the Neoplatonist Proclus saw himself as carrying the flame of Socrates' most famous disciple. In other respects, his appointment is a novel one. He brings with him the sort of EU research budget for a humanities project that would send a Brexiteer into apoplexy: a €1,992,643 European Research Council consolidator grant to develop Neoplatonism and Abrahamic Traditions (NeoplAT) over a five-year period. The project also has an inter-disciplinary flavour - incorporating scriptural interpretation and translation - that departs from "pure philosophy".

"I am interested in how ideas develop," explains Associate Professor Calma, who is proficient in seven languages from Latin to his native tongue of Romanian. "I am not trying to develop my own philosophical thoughts about the world - 'What's the nature of time?' and so on - but to see how ideas spread."

Proclus was no academic slouch himself. On an average day, he'd write ten pages and deliver four lectures, Associate Professor Calma says admiringly. His seminal work was *Elements of Theology*, which contains the Neoplatonic theory that there are different layers of reality - like turtles stacked on top of one another. Critically, Proclus shuns the idea of infinite regress - colloquially, "turtles all the way down" and instead posits an ultimate reality called 'The One' upon which everything rests.

Elements of Theology was reworked for a Christian audience by the theologian-cum-imposter Dionysius the Areopagite, who lied that he was a contemporary of St Paul's. The great Irish philosopher John Scotus Eriugena (the bald

monk on the old £5 note) translated Dionysius' writings, which were then used to explain core Christian teachings, including the hierarchy of bishops and priests. It also infiltrated the Islamic world and Proclus' metaphysics was distilled into a text called *The Book of Causes* (*Liber de Causis*), which was hugely influential in medieval times. In 1270, however, Thomas Aquinas realised it was not authored by Aristotle, as had been widely assumed, but was rather "a pagan text, transformed in the Muslim world". This was awkward, to say the least - "Imagine, at one point Aquinas used the *Book of Causes* to explain the Eucharist."

Part of Associate Professor Calma's project is to establish the fate of the book after 1270. It is widely assumed theologians lost interest but "this is not true", he says. He has discovered dozens of commentaries about the book "in Poland, Prague, Cambridge, Italy Uppsala, all over Europe", showing it was taught from the 13th century to the 17th century. "Why were Muslims, Jews and Christians all interested in this text? Why did authors comment on this book for centuries, even though they knew it had pagan origins?"

"I will give you my best answer in five years but my feeling is they found in Proclus and *The Book of Causes* the perfect match between philosophy and theology, between reason and faith. They found philosophical concepts large enough, generous enough to be accommodated to various theological traditions."

Associate Professor Calma, whose research team includes his wife Iulia Székely, says it was Professor Maria Baghramian, UCD School of Philosophy who convinced him to come to Dublin as she "really understood" the project, and how it helped to illuminate the overlap between western and eastern civilisations. "I want to leave a legacy to an institution - books, and pdfs of manuscripts - so that others who are willing to work on the same project or the same texts, or similar texts, will know where to go," he adds. "If someone wants to work on Neoplatonism at some stage in the future, they will know where to go; they will go to UCD."

Associate Professor Dragos Calma was in conversation with Joe Humphreys (BA Politics and Economics, 1992; MA Political Theory, 1994), an assistant news editor with The Irish Times for which he produces the weekly 'Unthinkable' philosophy column. He has authored books on religion, sport and the history of the Irish Catholic missionary movement. joehumphreys.com

Award Winning Cold Iron

Cold Iron: aspects of the occupational lore of Irish fishermen was published earlier this year by Dr Bairbre Ni Fhloinn, UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore and has received two prestigious awards in the UK in recent weeks.

Earlier this month the book was declared joint winner of the Ruth Michaelis-Jena Ratcliff Prize, an Edinburgh-based award for ‘an important contribution by an individual to the study of Folklore or Folklife in Great Britain and Ireland.’ Also this month, it was one of the prize winners of the Katharine Briggs Award, an annual award established by the London-based Folklore Society for Irish and British academic publications in the area of Folklore and Ethnology. Judges’ comments for the latter accolade included the observation that “this impressive survey ... is likely to be the benchmark study of this subject for years to come”.

Cold Iron explores an aspect of the work culture and occupational lore of Irish fishermen. Specifically, it focuses on the belief that certain entities should not be mentioned while at sea, or while engaged in the business of fishing, for fear of attracting misfortune. Objects of ill omen



Francis Devine with Dr Bairbre Ni Fhloinn and Prof Regina Ui Chollatain.

typically involve animals, such as foxes, rabbits, hares, pigs, etc, and certain categories of people, such as red-haired women. Often, stock euphemisms or circumlocutions are used for the entities in question, and the book takes

its title from a phrase which was often used by fishermen as one such euphemism. The study provides a lively and compelling insight into the use of such euphemisms, which form a part of the work culture and occupational lore of Irish fishermen, with material based on personal accounts and anecdotes from fishermen, and on historical sources.

As well as addressing questions of origin and function, the book examines the material as an element of contemporary folklore. Factors such as economic context and the risks inherent in the fishing industry are considered. The psychological and sociological dimensions of the material are also examined from a folkloristic perspective, with due emphasis on the essentially collective nature of the tradition. The study draws, to a considerable degree, on interviews conducted with fishermen and others involved in the industry from the late twentieth century to the present, and it includes previously unpublished material from the archives of the National Folklore Collection in UCD.

The book was published by Comhairle Bhéaloideas Éireann/The Folklore of Ireland Council, and was launched by Francis Devine, a former member of the Comhairle, on the MV Cill Áirne on 15 November.



Pictured at the conference are (l-r): Prof Stephen Heyworth, Dr Helen Dixon, Dr Rebecca Stephenson and Professor Roy Liuzza.

Conflicting Chronologies in the Pre-modern World

It started with the discovery of a shared interest in time in their own individual research projects. Then, thanks to funding from the College of Arts and Humanities and UCD Humanities Institute, Dr Helen Dixon (School of Classics) and Dr Rebecca Stephenson (School of English, Drama and Film) decided to explore this further by organising an international interdisciplinary conference on **Conflicting Chronologies in the Pre-modern World: Measuring Time from Antiquity to the Renaissance** at the UCD Humanities Institute, 4-5 October, 2018.

The two keynote speakers, Professor Stephen Heyworth (University of Oxford) and Professor Roy Liuzza (University of Tennessee), together with 16 academics from Ireland, Cyprus, Hungary, Italy, UK and the USA, gave papers to an audience of 50 international delegates. The themes of the conference included the materiality of time, looking back at Rome, creating chronologies, and the apocalypse and the end of time, with individual

topics ranging from measuring time in Antiquity using Olympiads, archon lists, medical time and calendars, in the Middle Ages using Anglo-Saxon sundials and chronologies concocted by history-writers, and multiple attempts to calculate the Apocalypse in the Renaissance. Both speakers and delegates enjoyed the stimulating discussions and friendly collegial atmosphere at the conference.



Pictured (l-r) are: Tom Flanagan, Director of Enterprise and Commercialisation, UCD; Max Gasparroni, Vodafone Ireland's Interim CTO on a holographic call from Germany; John Griffin, Managing Director, Ericsson Ireland; and Anne O'Leary, CEO, Vodafone Ireland.

UCD Partnering with Vodafone Ireland and Ericsson

UCD, through NovaUCD, the Centre for New Ventures and Entrepreneurs, is partnering with Vodafone Ireland and Ericsson to create a new 5G accelerator programme. Through the nationwide programme, participants will have the opportunity to develop and enhance their business plans and validate the commercial potential and technical feasibility of innovative 5G enabled products and services.

Candidates who successfully complete the 5G accelerator programme will be eligible for early-stage investment to bring their plans to fruition, launching a number of new 5G enabled products and services in Ireland. Furthermore, successful applicants can gain access to a range of support services and applications to foster the development of 5G use cases, including access to talent, mentors and investors; access to a range of programmes for venture creation and growth; Internet of Things (IoT)/5G use case development programmes; and access to finance.

Building better predictions for prostate cancer patients



Professor William Watson and colleagues in the Prostate Cancer Research Consortium have shown how drawing on multiple

sources of information could improve prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment decisions.

One in eight men in Ireland will have a diagnosis of prostate cancer in their lifetime. After that diagnosis, the disease can develop in different ways. The tumour may be aggressive and treatment may help to slow it down or even halt it. Or, in many cases, the tumour is 'indolent' or non-aggressive, and if left alone it would have no impact on the man's lifespan or quality of life.

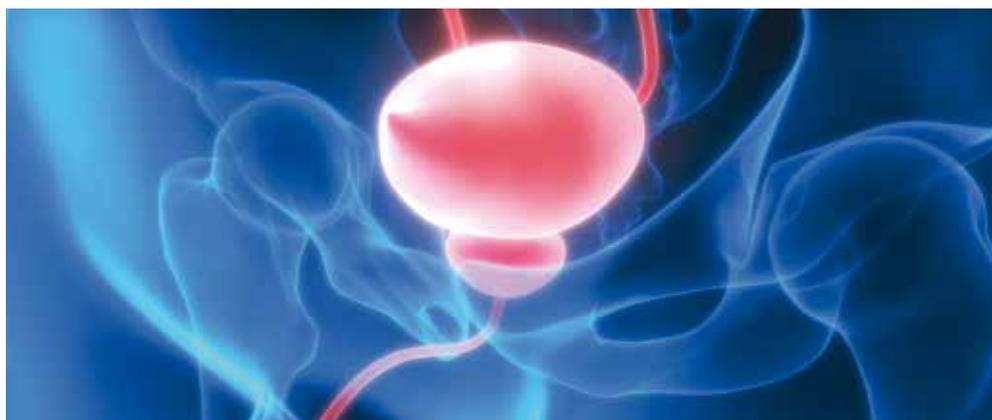
But how can we tell whether a tumour is slow or speedy? A new paper by UCD scientist Professor William (Bill) Watson and colleagues has successfully explored a new approach. By analysing the results of several types of information together, the research has shown a more accurate prediction of how aggressive a given prostate tumour is.

"In the vast majority of cases, men with a prostate tumour will die with their tumour and not from it," explains Professor Watson, who is Professor of Cancer Biology at the UCD School of Medicine. "Also, because prostate cancer is generally an ageing man's disease, and older men are more likely to have other conditions, you want to avoid interventions like surgery or radiation or chemotherapy unless they are really necessary."

Currently, when a man has suspected prostate cancer, a surgeon takes a small piece of the prostate tissue so that a diagnosis can be made. "This tissue biopsy can help to tell whether there is a tumour present in sample tissue, and whether the tumour is indolent or aggressive," explains Professor Watson. "But there can be a sampling error - there may be a tumour elsewhere in the prostate that hasn't been sampled, or that sample may not be representative of other parts of the tumour. So you don't always get a clear picture of whether you are dealing with an indolent or aggressive disease."

Professor Watson and colleagues are developing a more comprehensive approach to learning about the cancer in an individual. They are drawing on several types of information about the tumour, including changes to DNA, which genes are being switched on, levels of particular proteins and the nature of the sugars attached to these proteins in tissue and in blood.

"We set out to test the hypothesis that by combining these multiple sources of data from a patient, you would get a better prediction about the status of the tumour," he says.



The study was made possible by patients in Ireland donating removed prostate tissue and blood samples to the Prostate Cancer Research Consortium (PCRC) Bioresource, which is supported by the Wellcome Trust-Health Research Board (HRB) Dublin Centre for Clinical Research and the Irish Cancer Society.

"One of the things that makes the PCRC Bioresource stand out by international standards is that we have this comprehensive collection of paired blood and tissue samples from almost 1,000 men, and we have followed up with the patients to see whether and how the disease progressed clinically," says Professor Watson, who is lead Principal Investigator of the PCRC. "And because we have been building up this resource for more than a decade, it means we can now carry out these kinds of studies, which would not otherwise be possible."

Members of the PCRC were able to analyse biochemical features of tissue and blood samples and outcomes in more than 150 individuals. In a paper published earlier this year in the journal *Molecular Oncology*, the researchers describe how their process of drawing on multiple types of information from the blood and tissue samples at the time of diagnosis allowed much more accurate predictions about the status of the cancer - whether it was indolent or aggressive.

"When we looked at the clinical variables, the ones that are typically used now, we saw the prediction result was about 72% accurate, and when we integrated all the information, the result was about 94% accurate," says Professor Watson. "So we can see that our integrated approach was highly predictive."

The researchers are now seeking funding to validate the approach in larger groups of patients, and the ideal impact would be to more accurately match the correct treatment approach to the patient at the time of diagnosis. "If someone has been diagnosed and we predict he has an aggressive cancer then we know he could benefit from treatment," says Professor Watson. "Or if we predict he has indolent cancer, then he can avoid surgery and radiation and all the side effects that go with them."

"Another major benefit of the integrated approach is being able to learn more from blood samples", he adds. "Our current work is determining if any of the blood markers could be used to monitor patients with indolent cancer and who are on active surveillance sparing them the need for repeated tissue biopsies."

The research continues to rely on patient information and samples to move forward, but implementing the recent health data regulations in Ireland will introduce new challenges in the future use of this information.

"It's a question of resources," says Professor Watson. "Where we will comply with the new data regulation, the more resources we put into this there are less available for the research, and when we talk to patient representatives and advocacy groups about this, they say patients have already given consent and just want the research done."

What drives Professor Watson to keep going with the research is a desire to improve the decisions that in turn improve patient outcomes. "I am lucky that I work closely with clinicians on clinically relevant questions which will impact on patients," he says. "Translating the extensive scientific advances drives my interest in this space."

He is also motivated to train the scientists of the future who will further grow this translational work. "I co-ordinate the Biomedical Health and Life Sciences BSc honours degree in UCD, and we are training the next generation of translational scientists at the interface of science and medicine in how to progress scientific ideas into clinical utility," he says. "We also ensure that the students learn about patient engagement. This is such a big change from when I was doing my training where scientists tended to work in isolation. Now we get to engage with patients and understand their needs, and they help to inform the research we do."

Professor William Watson was in conversation with Dr Claire O'Connell (BSc, (Hons) 1992, PhD 1998), journalist with The Irish Times and Silicon Republic and Irish Science Writer of the Year 2016.



Medal recipients Shelley McNamara (left) and Yvonne Farrell with Prof Hugh Campbell.

Ulysses Medal Presentation

UCD presented its highest honour, the UCD Ulysses Medal, to Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara, the founding directors of Grafton Architects, one of the most celebrated architectural practices in the world.

Yvonne and Shelley visited UCD School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy during the day and took part in a student seminar at Memorial Hall, sharing some of their vast experience there and took part in a lively discussion. Later that evening, the medals were presented by UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks.

Reading the citation, UCD Dean of Architecture, Professor Hugh Campbell said: "What a pleasure and an honour to deliver this citation. To establish the entitlement of Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara to be awarded these medals, I would only have to list a fraction of their achievements, the awards and accolades they have achieved, including the World Building of the Year award in 2008, RIBA International Award in 2016, RIAI Gold Medal 2018, the distinguished academic positions they have held, including the Kenzo Tange Chair at Harvard and the Louis Kahn Chair at Yale, and their record of exhibition, including the award of the Silver Lion at the 2012 Venice Biennale, their Sensing Spaces exhibit at the Royal Academy and culminating in their role as Curators of the 2018 Venice Biennale."

Following the medal presentation, Yvonne and Shelley took part in a panel discussion with Professor Hugh Campbell, chaired by RTE's Anne Cassin, presenter of Nationwide. The audience had lots of questions for the panel and an interesting discussion took place.

The appointment of Yvonne and Shelley as curators of the 2018 Venice Biennale of Architecture is testament to their standing in world architecture. They were responsible for bringing together an exhibition of work, under the theme Freespace, from around the world. The Biennale is the most renowned and prestigious international exhibition of architecture – its six-month run attracted over 350,000 visitors.

Grafton Architects are at the very forefront of international architecture – renowned for their work and highly regarded by their peers. Yvonne and Shelley are UCD alumni, former lecturers and adjunct professors. They continue to show a commitment to their alma mater while their international profile and activity grows. Their achievements over almost forty years of practice and teaching and their contribution to the culture of architecture in Ireland and globally deserves the highest recognition.

Naiad Wins 2018 Start-Up of the Year Award

Naiad, an emerging life sciences venture, has won UCD's 2018 Start-Up of the Year Award. Naiad won the award, and a €32,000 prize fund, after being declared overall winner of the 2018 UCD VentureLaunch Accelerator Programme.

Naiad is developing a novel liquid-based 3D bioprinting technology that helps researchers fabricate highly-reproducible 3D tissue models that better mimic the rich complexity of human tissues. In replacing ineffective models currently used, Naiad's technology will help to improve drug toxicity and efficacy trials, thereby reducing the high attrition rates associated with drug discovery.

The founders of Naiad are Assistant Professor Emmanuel G Reynaud, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and Professor Brian Rodriguez, UCD School of Physics, both of whom are fellows of the UCD Conway Institute.



Pictured are the founders of Naiad, Assistant Professor Emmanuel G Reynaud and Professor Brian Rodriguez.

The overall objective of the annual three-month UCD VentureLaunch Accelerator Programme, which is delivered at NovaUCD, is to support the creation and to accelerate the launch of sustainable and profitable new ventures based on intellectual property emerging from UCD. The programme aims to equip UCD researchers with the knowledge, skills and understanding that is required to work as part of a team successfully leading a new commercial venture with global potential.



Pictured at the event on 12 November outside UCD O'Brien Science Centre were (l-r) Dr Antonella Ferrecchia; Prof Mark Rogers; Triona McCormack; Prof Yuko Takahashi; Prof Joe Carthy; Dr Sharon Shannon; Dr Naonori Kodate.

UCD Women@STEM Network kicks off a new phase in collaboration with UCD Japan

A network to support women in the sciences in UCD was boosted this month with a rebrand and a successful gathering that featured a lively panel discussion, an address from the Japanese Ambassador, Mrs Mari Miyoshi, and a keynote lecture from the President of Tsuda University, Tokyo.

The Diversity in STEM event, held in the George Moore Auditorium in the O'Brien Centre for Science on Monday November 12, attracted over 200 people. The event was opened by the College Principal and Dean of Science, Professor Joe Carthy and attended by Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Mark Rogers. Assistant Professor Jennifer Mitchell, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science spoke about the achievements of the UCD Women in Science (WITS) committee, which contributed towards the successful acquisition of UCD's Athena SWAN Bronze Award. Dr Antonella Ferrecchia, Insight Centre for Data Analytics, Co-Chair of the new UCD Women@STEM committee officially announced the relaunch of the group with Co-Chair Dr Sharon Shannon, UCD School of Physics.

The event also featured a panel discussion on promoting women in higher education and research, with contributions from Assistant Professor Fiona McGillicuddy, Professor Gerardine Meaney, Assistant Professor Saoirse Tracy and Director Triona McCormack.

The debate, hosted by former Irish Times journalist and co-director of FH Media Consulting, Louise Holden, surfaced some of the challenges and opportunities facing Irish higher education

when it comes to addressing gender imbalances at professorial and funding level.

The Japanese Ambassador Mrs Miyoshi spoke to the representation of female leaders in political life and the recent developments in parliaments and cabinets in Japan, Ireland and France. The keynote speaker, Professor Yuko Takahashi gave a talk entitled 'Umeko Tsuda's Contributions to Modern Japan: A Pioneering Woman Educator and Her Transnational Collaboration', outlining Tsuda's remarkable life and outstanding achievements in promoting women's participation in higher education. A twice Fulbright Scholar at Stanford University and at Wellesley College, Professor Takahashi stressed the importance of transnational collaboration in fostering future female leaders.

The event was funded by UCD College of Science and Insight Centre for Data Analytics in UCD and the organisation was overseen by UCD Women@STEM executive committee and UCD Japan through co-chairs Dr Naonori Kodate, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice and Associate Professor Emma Sokell, UCD School of Physics. HE Mrs Miyoshi welcomed the organisers to her residence after the event during which future collaboration between UCD and Tsuda University was discussed.

The Women@STEM network is now in full swing, over the coming months expect to see lots of activity as the group ramps up its efforts to build the network and to promote for successful diversity initiatives in UCD STEM. For more information or to get involved contact UCD womenstem@ucd.ie and visit the website www.ucd.ie/wits/



Pictured (l-r) are: Dr Pamela Byrne, FSAI; Dr Leonard Lades, UCD Geary Institute; Prof Dolores O’Riordan, UCD Institute of Food and Health; Dr Stefanie Vandevijvere, University of Auckland; Dr Kerry Brown, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Prof Frank Monahan, UCD Institute of Food and Health, Mr Michael Moloney, Bord Bia; and Dr Ole Boysen, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science.

How can Public Policies change Food Systems to Promote Public Health?

Ireland is a leader internationally in the field of food safety for public health and on 15 November, UCD Institute of Food and Health hosted a seminar which explored how public policy in Ireland could change food systems to promote public health. The event, organised by Dr Celine Murrin, UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science brought together over 120 stakeholders from health, economics, food and agriculture, to consider current approaches and future opportunities in the development of policies that support public health

Throughout the morning, speakers outlined policy options that could be used to support healthier food choices, while highlighting the need for a food systems approach to ensure that healthy and sustainable food is at the centre of both national and global food policies. Recognising that there are already multiple approaches within the food system that propose to improve public health, it was agreed by the panel of expert speakers, that new developments

and changes require monitoring to ensure these are being implemented as intended. The keynote address was given by Dr Stefanie Vandevijvere, Senior Researcher, Scientific Institute of Public Health in Belgium, the French National Institute for Agricultural Research and the University of Auckland in New Zealand who presented the FOOD-EPI tool which aims to benchmark government policies that address some of the food-related determinants of obesity.

Professor Simon More Elected Chair of EFSA’s Scientific Committee

Professor Simon More has been elected Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) for 2018-21. The SC is EFSA’s overarching scientific panel, conducting scientific assessments and developing related assessment methodologies relevant to the broad remit of EFSA’s work. Previously, Simon was member (2009-12) then Chair (2012-18) of EFSA’s Animal Health and Welfare Panel.

EFSA works to protect European consumers from farm to fork. It is an agency of the European Union, providing independent scientific advice on current and emerging risks associated with the food chain. The agency considers a wide range of on-farm (including animal health and welfare, plant health, plant protection products etc) and post-farm (including food ingredients and packaging, contaminants etc) issues. It produces scientific opinions and advice that form the basis for European policies and legislation.

Professor Simon More is Associate Dean for Research, Innovation and Impact in the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine, Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis and is



Pictured is EFSA Vice-Chair, Prof Simon More.

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



Dr Ariane Watson, Systems Biology Ireland wins the 2018 UCD Conway Festival gold medal

2018 UCD Conway Festival gold medal

Postdoctoral researcher, Dr Ariane Watson won the 2018 UCD Conway Festival gold medal for her work to identify cross-talk between epigenetic (chemical alternations to DNA) and cell signalling pathways in cancer.

Dr Watson is part of a research team based in Systems Biology Ireland under the joint supervision of Conway Fellow, Professor Walter Kolch, UCD School of Medicine and Dr Colm Ryan, Assistant Professor, UCD School of Computer Science.

Ariane has been studying the patterns by which mutations in cancer genes occur; either two mutations always appearing together (co-occurrence) or when certain mutations never appear together (mutual exclusivity). This can indicate that there is an important biological relationship between the genes involved.

For example, co-occurring mutations often identify gene pairs whose mutations in combination result in a greater effect than each mutation alone. Mutually exclusive mutations can identify gene pairs that operate in common signalling pathways (e.g. BRAF and KRAS) or genes whose alteration in combination is lethal.

“I found statistically significant genetic interactions by analysing patterns of co-occurrence and mutual exclusivity between genetic alterations in 22 cancer studies from the Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), which can indicate meaningful biological relationships”, explains Ariane Watson.

Ariane was awarded the gold medal, sponsored by Cruinn Diagnostics at the closing ceremony of the 2018 UCD Conway Festival of Research and Innovation.

Professor William Gallagher, Director, UCD Conway Institute congratulated Ariane and nearly one hundred other early career researchers from across UCD Conway Institute who presented their research during the two day event.



Pictured (l-r) are Dr Emma Dorris, Prof Orla Feely, Prof Michael Keane, UCD School of Medicine, Stephanie Skeffington (Patient Insight Partner, representing The Patient Voice in Arthritis Research), welcome Minister Finian McGrath to the conference.

Together is Better: Transforming arthritis research

The first national arthritis research conference open to the public, medical professionals and academics took place in UCD on Friday 2 November. Involving patient expertise in the research that goes on to improve their quality of life seems obvious. However, traditionally, patients have not been involved in the decision-making processes around health research.

This conference promoted a more holistic approach to arthritis research and encouraged public involvement. The entire conference was accessible to the public and included patient speakers and moderators, workshops designed by patients and workshops specifically for the public to demystify what research is, and how they can get involved.

Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact opened the conference and said: "The ethos of UCD has always been embracing and inclusive, and we continue to expand this in all areas, including our research involvement and impact. We value the mutual benefit of engaging with wider society. Through initiatives such as this conference, we are strengthening our holistic, strategic partnerships with public, community, educational institutions and professional organisations. In this way UCD can maximise our relevance and impact for our community and on society as a whole."

The conference is part of The Patient Voice in Arthritis Research initiative led by UCD Centre for Arthritis Research and supported by the Health Research Board of Ireland. Here, researchers are working together with patients, family members, carers and the interested public to improve research, health and quality of life for those living with arthritis.

Arthritis is the biggest cause of disability in Ireland and is a catch-all term for over 100 different conditions. It is a costly disease; both personally to those living with the disease, and to the economy. Ireland punches above its weight in terms of research into arthritis and other rheumatic diseases. There is a very active research community with flourishing international partnerships. Significant investment has been focused on research by Arthritis Ireland, the Irish arthritis charity.

Dr Emma Dorris, UCD Centre for Arthritis Research said: "Through The Patient Voice, we are working to reframe research to focus on the patient, rather than the disease. By working together, people with lived expertise of their disease, doctors, nurses, health professionals, scientists, economists, researchers and policy makers, will greatly increase the relevance and impact of research, and improve the quality of life for those living with arthritis, faster."



Pictured are Prof Regina Uí Chollatáin, Evelyn Flanagan, Prof Mark Rogers and Assoc Prof Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail.

Seoda Scripte: A Glimpse into Ireland Manuscript Heritage

On 30 November 2018 an exhibition entitled Seoda Scripte: A Glimpse into Ireland Manuscript Heritage was launched in the Special Collections Reading Room by Professor Damian McManus, Trinity College Dublin, following speeches by Professor Regina Uí Chollatáin, Head of UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore, and Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President.

This exhibition showcases for the first time a selection of Irish-language manuscripts held in Special Collections. These manuscripts bear witness in their own way to the significance and longevity of a script tradition in the Irish language. It was curated by Associate Professor Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail, UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore, in collaboration with UCD Library Special Collections.

The launch was preceded by a seminar on some of the manuscripts in Special Collections,

with talks by Dr Ní Úrdail and Dr Caoimhín Breatnach (UCD), Dr Aoibheann Nic Dhonnchadha (DIAS), Dr Gordon Ó Riain (UL), Dr Lesa Ní Mhuinghaile (NUIG) and Dr Nollaig Ó Muraíle (NUIG).

The exhibition will run until May 2019. For more information please see www.ucd.ie/specialcollections/exhibitions/seodascripte

Pictured are Prof Regina Uí Chollatáin, Evelyn Flanagan, Prof Mark Rogers and Assoc Prof Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail.

2018 UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science Awards Ceremony

On 29 November, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science celebrated the annual student awards ceremony. The event was attended by student and graduate prize winners, invited guests, award sponsors, industry stakeholders, faculty and staff.

More than 40 students and recent graduates received prizes based on the 2017/18 academic session. A number of the awards are sponsored by industry including The Fertilizer Association of Ireland, Carbery, AIB, the Agricultural Trust, Grant Thornton, Kerry, Danone, FBD Insurance, Nutricia, Teagasc, Glanbia and the Institute of Biology of Ireland.

A number of new awards were established in 2018 including the KEPAK Best in Class Awards and KEPAK PWE Excellence Awards which were presented by UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science graduate Mick O'Dowd, Agribusiness Development Manager KEPAK.

Additionally a number of scholarships are awarded by the School to commemorate the life and work of UCD faculty, staff, graduates and students who have sadly passed. These include the Ian Gordon Award, the Hussey Prize in Agribusiness, the Patrick Dempsey Memorial Prize, the Patrick Hogan Memorial Scholarship and the Paddy O'Keeffe Dairy Business Project Award.

The PWE Excellence Awards were also presented at the ceremony recognising a number of outstanding students who excelled in their



Pictured are (l-r) students Rachel Feely, Samantha Sapien with her dog Caoimhe and Amy Sproule at the awards ceremony.

Stage 3 Professional Work Experience placements.

The guest speaker for the evening was UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science graduate Pat O'Keeffe, Corporate Affairs Director Glanbia who provided an inspiring and honest assessment of his career to date as well as offering some great advice to all scholars in attendance.



Pictured are (l-r) Prof Mark Ferguson, SFI Director General and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland, Prof Eoin Casey and Dr Orlaigh Quinn, Secretary General, Department Business, Enterprise and Innovation.

UCD Researcher Named 2018 SFI Entrepreneur of the Year

Professor Eoin Casey, Head of UCD School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering, has been named the 2018 Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Entrepreneur of the Year at this year's SFI Science Summit. Professor Casey's research activities are focused on the exploitation and control of bacterial biofilms in water treatment processes. He is also a principal investigator in the BEACON SFI Research Centre.

In 2007 Professor Casey filed his first patent on a new technology, the Membrane Aerated Biofilm Reactor (MABR), to treat wastewater. Initial small-scale experiments at UCD, and a scaled-up experiment in a large wastewater plant, demonstrated that the MABR technology used up to 75% less energy, when compared to the dominant air bubbles process used for the last 100 years, to support bacteria for wastewater treatment.

Following patenting of the MABR technology, with the support of the UCD technology transfer

team at NovaUCD, Professor Casey co-founded OxyMem, as a UCD spin-out company to commercialise the technology, with Dr Eoin Syron and Wayne Byrne. Initial seed funding enabled OxyMem to establish its manufacturing facilities, in Athlone, Co Westmeath, and complete field trials of its technology. Following the success of these field trials the OxyMem technology has now been deployed, at commercial scale, in 30 major water treatment projects in 14 countries around the world. The company currently employs a staff of 25 people.

Newcomer of the Year Award



Congratulations to Associate Professor Emilie Pine, UCD School of English, Drama and Film who won the highly-coveted Newcomer of the Year Award at the An Post Irish Book Awards, for her best-selling essay collection *Notes to Self*, and was also nominated in the Non-Fiction Book of the Year category. She was also recently awarded the Irish American Cultural Institute Butler Literary Award for *Notes to Self*.



Pictured is Dr Peter Gleeson with Ad Astra Elite Sports Scholars Emily Beatty, Elena Tice, Gillian Pinder and Deirdre Duke, part of the historic Irish Women's Hockey Team that achieved Silver at the 2018 Hockey World Cup.

Elite Sports Scholars Reception

The UCD Ad Astra Academy held a reception on 13 November in the O'Brien Centre for Science, celebrating some of its Elite Sports Scholars' incredible achievements over the last year. The evening included speeches from Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Colin Boreham, Elite Sports Strand Director and a gift presentation to each of the Scholars on the night. This was followed by a superb Q&A session with the Academy Director, Professor Barbara Dooley and Scholars from Hockey, Soccer, Rowing and Rugby, with a reception for guests and family members after. The UCD Ad Astra Academy is part funded by the very generous support of individuals and organisations via UCD Foundation.

Scholars celebrated on the evening included 7 on the Women's Irish Hockey Team which won silver at the 2018 World Cup; 6 on the Irish Rugby team that won the 2018 Six Nations Championship and the historic Grand Slam, Ireland's third on record; 9 that represented Leinster Rugby which won the 2018 Guinness

PRO14 Championships and the 2018 European Rugby Championship; A modern pentathlete who won silver at the Pentathlon World Cup in Hungary; 2 rowers that won gold at the Under-23 World Rowing Championships, whilst another achieved silver; A badminton Scholar who won his first senior European title at the

Polish Championships and several scholars that were part of UCD AFC which had a phenomenal year. UCD AFC were promoted back to the Premier Division after winning the SSE Airtricity League Division One, whilst also winning the College and Universities League and the Collingwood Cup in 2018.

University for All Week

UCD held the inaugural University for All week from 26-29 November. Hosted by Access and Lifelong Learning, this event coincided with the first World Access to Higher Education Day on 28 November and celebrated our progress towards becoming an accessible and inclusive institution for all students – in other words, a University for All.

The week comprised a series of events. The week began with Professor Grace Mulcahy, Chair, UCD Widening Participation Committee, hosting a town hall meeting, attended by in excess of 100 faculty and professional staff. Enthusiasm, commitment and ambition for diversity and inclusion was much in evidence. The discussion gave rise to a series of further steps and actions and these will be considered at the next Widening Participation Committee meeting. Associate Professor Marie Clarke, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, gave the closing address, where she offered her reflections on the role, power and value of education for people on the margins.

The Minister for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD gave the opening address at the celebration of 21 years of 'New ERA' - the initiative that provided a direct entry route to students from communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. At this event also, the pivotal role played by Professor Pat Clancy, Professor Kathleen Lynch and Dr Kevin Hurley in establishing 'New ERA' were recognised and each was presented with a Pioneer for Change medal.

In his remarks, Professor Mark Rogers, Registrar and Deputy President addressed the issue of mainstreaming, saying: "Inclusion is not an add-on. It should be at the heart of a University's mission in achieving excellence in education and scholarship. University for All is a whole-institution approach to inclusion."



Pictured are (l-r) Dr Eva Egron-Polak, Dr Lisa Padden and Dr Anna Kelly.

Dr Eva Egron-Polak, former Secretary General of the International Association of Universities, formally launched the 'University for All Toolkit for Inclusive Higher Education Institutions – From Vision to Practice'. Authored by Dr Anna Kelly and Dr Lisa Padden, it is a how-to guide to enable higher education institutions to move diversity and inclusion from the margins to mainstream. It is the first of its kind and expected to have a widespread impact on both the national and international higher education sectors. Dr Kelly said: "With this, we are embarking on the next phase of our development in access and inclusion. Our staff and faculty were enthusiastic and committed to supporting students who enrol via access, but there was an absence of know-how and confidence around these issues that hindered our progress. That's why we designed the Toolkit as a practical resource for use by university and college leaders, faculty members, and professional and administrative staff. Our goal is for every student – no matter what their background or the institution they attend – is that they feel welcomed, that they belong, and that they are valued".

The inaugural UCD See One Be One Awards, which formally recognise access role models were also a highlight of the week. Four UCD Access alumni were honoured: Conor Moore, Solicitor, Mason, Hayes & Curran; Dr Paula Williams, Process Engineer, Intel; Charlotte Bryne, Education Officer, Irish Refugee Council; and Kate Farrelly, Secondary School Teacher, Kingswood Community College.

The final event of the week marked the designation of UCD as an Age-Friendly University and launched the UCD Year of Lifelong Learning 2019. In his address, Professor Joe Carthy, Principal, College of Science, noted that the University, through its research activities and the Lifelong Learning programme, had much to contribute to the achievement of the National Positive Ageing Strategy. This event showcased a range of research, teaching, engagement and featured addresses by Margot Slattery, Sodexo Ireland and Northern Ireland, Mark O' Neill, MoLi – the Museum of Literature Ireland. Dr Bairbre Fleming officially launched the 2019 - Year of Lifelong Learning, marking 70 years of adult education.

Children's School Lives Launch

The landmark Children's School Lives longitudinal cohort study was launched on 25 October at UCD. This national cohort study of children's lives in primary school is being led by Professor Dympna Devine and Assistant Professor Jennifer Symonds, UCD School of Education. The study will follow the lives of 4,300 children as they progress through their primary schooling years. Prioritising children's voice and experience, and drawing on a range of mixed methodologies this ground-breaking study will provide rich insights into the everyday lives of children in our primary schools as they transition through the system. The study will also explore how these experiences both shape and are shaped by schools as communities, institutions, and as a system.

Children's School Lives (CSL) was launched by UCD Registrar and Deputy President Professor Mark Rogers, the Chairperson of the NCCA Brigid McManus and Professor Dympna Devine. Speaking at the launch Professor Devine said: "This landmark study recognises the centrality of children's educational experience, not only their lived experiences as children but also their capacities to flourish throughout their lives. Over time it will facilitate curricular and wider policy planning informed by a rich evidence base located in the Irish context".

The launch was attended by a range of stakeholders and academics working across the education system. Children were very much at the centre of activities, with 2nd class

children from St Colmcille's Junior National School in Knocklyon performing a poem they wrote for the occasion and with St Thomas' Senior National School in Jobstown, Tallaght sending a video capturing their lives in school. Asst. Prof Deirdre McGillicuddy, Co-investigator, stated that this was particularly apt as children are at the core of the work of CSL.

The launch seminar was led by Assistant Professor Jennifer Symonds, Co-Principal Investigator. She provided a detailed overview of the study design and its methodologies. Assistant Professor Seaneen Sloan, Co-Investigator, welcomed Professor Maurice Galton, University of Cambridge and Professor Anne Trine Kjørholt, Norwegian Centre for Child Research, who contextualised the study in light



Pictured are 2nd class children from St Colmcille's Junior National School in Knocklyon.

of international research and highlighted the potential international impact of the research at the intersection of studies of childhood and schooling.

The study has been funded by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) and will inform their work in reviewing and updating the primary curriculum to ensure it continues to provide a strong foundation for teaching and learning. The findings will likely also be useful to schools in reviewing and further developing their own policies and practices.

New Appointments at MoLI

The Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI) at UCD Newman House has made three significant appointments in recent months. Simon O'Connor, Director of MoLI welcomed the appointments with the core management team growing as the museum moves closer to opening in 2019.



Donna Marie O'Donovan is MoLI's Development Manager, responsible for shaping and implementing MoLI's development, sales and marketing strategies. She joins the museum from the Abbey Theatre, where her work as Development Officer focused on delivering fundraising strategies and driving shared-value partnerships. A graduate of UCD's MA in Cultural Policy and Arts Management, she has since worked with some of Ireland's foremost arts institutions and cultural projects, including Irish Design 2015, the Arts Council and the OPW.



Benedict Schlepper-Connolly joins the MoLI team as Digital Curator and Media Manager, where he will pioneer a ground-breaking digital platform for the museum. A curator, producer and composer, Benedict is a founding director of Ergodos, a record label, production house and concert promoter. His career to date has spanned the digital and cultural domains, including work as a magazine editor, podcast producer, web developer and lecturer.



Mark O'Neill comes to MoLI from London's Design Museum, where as Visitor Experience Manager he was responsible for the hiring, training and management of over 100 staff and volunteers as the museum moved to its new premises in Kensington in 2016. Having studied his Masters in Museum Studies at the Amsterdam University of the Arts, Mark has since worked at the National Museum of Ireland, the William Morris Gallery and Vestry House Museum.

Mapping UCD Research competition and exhibition

UCD Library, in conjunction with UCD School of Geography, recently held a competition entitled Mapping UCD Research. For this competition, UCD researchers, faculty and staff created maps which visualised their research and interests.

On 25 October, an exhibition of the maps submitted was launched. At this event the winner, Dr Paul Cuffe, UCD School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering was presented with his prize of €500 generously sponsored by Ordnance Survey Ireland. Mr Usman Ali, UCD School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering was awarded second prize of a place on the UCD School of Geography course Data Mapping for Research.

The purpose of the competition and subsequent exhibition was to showcase the diverse ways in which maps can be used to present and share research findings visually and to demonstrate how maps can illustrate data in an accessible and impactful way.

Entries received spanned a wide range of disciplines, including engineering, agriculture, folklore, medicine, architecture, mathematics, physics, biosystems and veterinary medicine. This diversity was noted by the four invited



Pictured: Dr Paul Cuffe receiving his first prize of €500 from Mr Tony Murphy, Business & Marketing Manager at Ordnance Survey Ireland, the competition's main sponsor.

speakers at the event, who were impressed by the variety of entries and praised the initiative for its interdisciplinary character.

Associate Prof Niamh Moore-Cherry, Vice-Principal for Teaching and Learning, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law welcomed guests to the event and invited Dr John B Howard, University Librarian, Professor Orla Feely, Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, UCD and Mr Tony Murphy, Business and Marketing Manager, Ordnance Survey Ireland to address the audience.

In her remarks at the opening, Professor Orla Feely, expressed the hope that this would be an annual event, as it exemplified UCD's commitment to communicating knowledge both internally and externally.

The maps are available to view at: libguides.ucd.ie/findingmaps



Dr Conor Sweeney, Gary Tyrrell, Prof Peter Clinch, Prof Andrew Deeks, Norwegian Ambassador to Ireland Else Berit Eikeland, Prof Tasman Crowe, Assoc Prof Patricia Maguire, Dr Michael John O'Mahony, An Taisce.

Norwegian Ambassador joins UCD researchers to discuss the challenges of climate change

UCD hosted an event on Wednesday 10 October in conjunction with the Norwegian Embassy and An Taisce to discuss the challenges facing climate researchers in the face of increasing anti-expert sentiment in public and political discourse. In the same week that the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published its special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, this timely event brought together a panel of experts from research, education, policy and international affairs.

Opening the discussion, UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks welcomed the Norwegian Ambassador to Ireland, Her Excellency Else Berit Eikeland, who encouraged the students and researchers present to work collectively to bring about change in climate policy, and extended an invitation to the University research community to collaborate with Norwegian Polar researchers.

The event marked the launch of *On Thin Ice*, a photographic exhibition tracking the six-month Norwegian Polar Institute research expedition to understand the impacts of climate change in the Arctic. The launch event was co-organised by UCD Earth Institute, UCD Institute for Discovery, the Norwegian Embassy, An Taisce Climate Ambassador Programme and the UCD Biological Society

UCD and Chang'an University launch dual award BE

This semester saw the UCD School of Civil Engineering and The School of Highways at Chang'an University (CHD) in Xi'an, China launch their new dual degree programme, a BE in Civil Engineering Infrastructure. This four-year programme, initiated and led by Associate Professor Paul Fanning (UCD School of Civil Engineering and UCD Deputy Vice-President for Global Engagement), brings the best of Irish education to China and also high achieving Chinese students to UCD.

The programme was formally opened on 17 October when Associate Professor Paul Fanning, Associate Professor Shane Donohue, Assistant Professor Daniel McCrum and Ms Beini Chen visited Chang'an University.

The visit commenced with an address by Associate Professor Fanning and the traditional UCD Scarfing Ceremony. His introduction to UCD, our core values, and the opportunities that UCD will afford the students was enthusiastically received by the 117 students commencing their studies.

Following the morning formalities, Associate Professor Donohue and Assistant Professor McCrum led the students in a very successful, and extremely competitive bridge building competition – armed with balsa wood pieces, string and some pins students were challenged to design and build model bridges – winners were those with the bridge able to support the largest weight.

This new collaboration is a significant milestone for both universities. For Chang'an University it is their first dual degree programme accessible to Chinese students through the

Gaokao system. The initial launch, from Ministry of Education approval in February 2018, has been extremely successful with 117 students recruited nationally from 11 different provinces, and has allowed CHD to invest in state of the art teaching facilities for its delivery – including renovated teaching areas with a distinctively Irish identity.

The programme is being taught, through English, at Chang'an University with 50% of the programme delivered by visiting UCD academics. At steady state there will be 480 students spread over the four years of the programme and students may transfer to UCD for Year 4 before continuing to our Masters programmes.

For UCD this collaboration is providing the most significant injection of human and capital resources to the UCD School of Civil Engineering in its long history. It is funding six new full time faculty positions, an almost 50% increase, and will also enable new investment in laboratory facilities at UCD. These newly recruited academics will of course generate research income and funding for additional postdoctoral researchers and PhD students.



Pictured are (l-r) Prof Alan Carr, Head of UCD School of Psychology, Professor Elizabeth Loftus and Prof Mark Rogers.

Ulysses medal presented to Professor Elizabeth Loftus

UCD School of Psychology, in celebrating sixty years of UCD promoting psychology professional development, organised a series of public lectures delivered by eminent psychologists. At a recent event one of the speakers, world-leading psychologist, Professor Elizabeth Loftus from the University of California, Irvine was awarded the UCD Ulysses Medal. The medal is the highest honour the University can award and it was presented to Professor Loftus by Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President. The official citation for Professor Loftus was read by Dr Ciara Greene, Assistant Professor, UCD School of Psychology.

Professor Loftus is the undisputed world leader in the field of false memory and eyewitness testimony. Her key research insights include the recognition that human memory is malleable and suggestible; that false memories of childhood events can be easily implanted; and that leading questions can have a dramatic effect on the memory and testimony of eyewitnesses. Her work has revolutionised both academic investigations of memory and

legal procedure for eyewitness testimony. Her expertise is widely recognised, and she has given expert testimony at high profile trials such as the OJ Simpson trial, the Ted Bundy trials and the Bosnian war tribunals in The Hague.

Professor Loftus' lecture at UCD was entitled The Fiction of Memory and discussed the key insights into human memory gleaned from her decades of experience in the field.

U21 international Teaching Excellence Award



Associate Professor Mary Codd, UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science, receiving the Universitas 21 Teaching Excellence Award from Professor Andre Swart, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Johannesburg and Chair of the U21 Executive Committee.

The U21 International Teaching Excellence Award was set up in 2014 by Deans of Medicine as a way to celebrate and reward exceptional educational scholarship, particularly amongst research intensive universities, across the U21 Health Sciences Group Network. It also helps to nurture international co-operation, one of U21's key objectives, by offering faculty from different universities, and regions, to work together on exciting, interdisciplinary projects.

Books



The Kenmare Occurrences

Professor Harry White, UCD School of Music

Kelsay Books

ISBN: 9781947465725

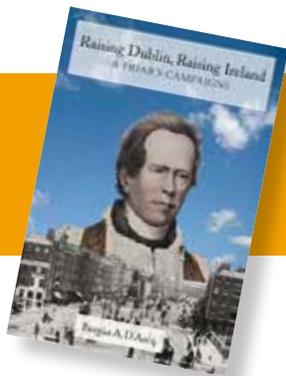
Though most highly regarded as a musicologist, Professor Harry White's poetry pedigree was established as far back as 1984 when he was awarded the EJ Pratt medal for poetry at the University of Toronto.

The Kenmare Occurrences is his second collection. Among a number of the poems, *Living Quarters* dips into his past with personal honesty and constantly touches on the Catholic Ireland in which he grew up. *The Spare Room* tells us in twelve lines of the stark suppression that pulses through his thoughts to the point of rejection in the title poem, *The Kenmare Occurrences*.

Beyond his own experiences, White's observation of people gives him the capacity to articulate their thoughts. The people are 'ordinary' in that Elliot way and his words lilt with a musical quality that brings the reader – or better still, the listener into what was rather than what could have been.

In Ireland, poets are held a special place of regard, often reserved for philosophers in other societies. This collection places White in that company.

My favourite: *Old Photographs*. **EOB**



Raising Dublin, Raising Ireland - A Friar's Campaigns *A Biography of Fr John Spratt, O.Carm. (1796-1871)*

Professor Fergus A D'Arcy, Professor Emeritus, UCD Dean of Arts (1992-2004)

Carmelite Publications

ISBN 978-1-5272-2177-2

John Spratt, Carmelite and Dubliner was one of the foremost campaigners in a host of social, religious and political causes in 19th Century Ireland.

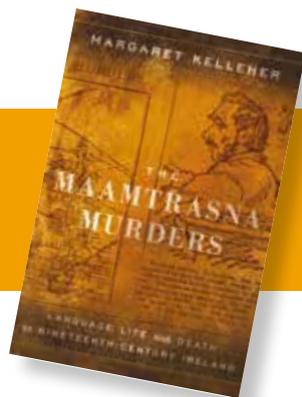
This is the first modern biography written about this champion of the poor and dispossessed of Dublin and of Ireland.

24 detailed chapters take us through his life, focussing on the causes he held so dear – and in those, he was ahead of his time. His philanthropic nature was ahead of the state poor law system but was an advocate for those in need and a supporter of those on the outskirts of society.

Alongside this Christian charity and philanthropy, he was committed to forging a liberal middle ground in the politically uneasy times in which he lived.

He was to the fore in producing and disseminating some of the first in a wave of published devotional literature, becoming the most prolific of the Carmelites in the 19th Century.

The author details his life, his many charitable causes, his political zeal, his compassion and generosity to those in need – and wonders if perhaps, he should be better remembered. **MS**



The Maamtrasna Murders: Language, Life and Death in Nineteenth Century Ireland

Professor Margaret Kelleher, UCD School of English, Drama and Film

University College Dublin Press

ISBN 978-1-910820-42-1

Margaret Kelleher's new publication is a timely sociolinguistic exploration of Ireland in the 19th century, contextualised through the infamous Maamtrasna murders that saw the wrongful conviction and subsequent execution of Myles Joyce in 1882.

The incident has been the topic of earlier books – in Irish as well as in English - a docudrama and a long-running campaign to redress the injustice. In March of this year, President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins, awarded a posthumous pardon to Myles Joyce, following a commissioned report by Dr Niamh Howlin, UCD Sutherland School of Law, which found the conviction was unsafe.

The book is a fascinating study of evidence-based research sourced through the National Archives, the National Library, the Royal Archives at Windsor, the British Library, the National Folklore Collection at UCD, Royal Irish Academy and various university special collections.

Maamtrasna Murders takes the reader on the journey that references the significance of the Phoenix Park murders of the British Chief Secretary of Ireland, Lord Cavendish, and Under-Secretary, Thomas Henry Burke in May 1882. Coming closely, and brutally, after these assassinations, the case was widely followed in England as well as in Ireland. The trial was held in Dublin rather than Galway for fear of influence on local juries. Myles Joyce did not have the services of an interpreter until the delivery of a guilty verdict and eyewitness accounts of his 'botched' execution kept journalists, commentators, elected representatives and indeed surviving family members active, trying to highlight the injustice.

Language, Life and Death in Nineteenth Century Ireland – Margaret Kelleher's subtitle – gives the reader a sense of what she covers. She explains why there was a shift in spoken language, particularly in rural Ireland where some had become migrant workers to England. She describes the poor homes of the victims and how they would have been seen by English commentators. She links James Joyce and his 'imaginative reconstruction' in Italian, of the events of his unfortunate namesake. And she leaves the reader with the impact of dying declarations, which were suppressed or ignored at the time but "encountering them all these decades later, in the immense sheaf of papers that constitution the National Archives' 'Maamtrasna file', was an especially powerful moment in my own years of research".

This is a powerful and accessible research publication. In the year that also saw the first Irish famine movie 'Black '47' it is bound to have many readers whose interest in 19th century Ireland has been heightened. **EOB**



Identity Change after Conflict: Ethnicity, Boundaries and Belonging in the Two Irelands

Professor Jennifer Todd, UCD School of Politics and International Relations

Palgrave Macmillan

ISBN 978-3-319-98503-9

This book is a comparative study of how ordinary citizens in nationally and religiously divided societies respond to major social and political change. It is based on very extensive qualitative research in both parts of Ireland with a control study in France, and it uses new measures, methods and concepts of analysis. Its focus on individual identity innovation – set against analysis of social boundaries and cultural grammars – allows comparative empirical analysis of incipient processes of identity change in very different social settings.

Its typology of identity change, oriented to project, content and argumentation, shows the obstacles specific to each type of change and the existence of social traps, where individuals' resources and opportunities lead them to types of change almost certain to fail. Its conclusions go against contemporary wisdom. Identity change is pervasive, even more so in conflict-ridden situations than in consensual ones. It takes a limited number of forms, working from given national and religious bases rather than rejecting them. And it meets predictable social traps. Thus gradual cumulative micro-level change has led to threshold-like cultural transformation in the Republic of Ireland; more extensive, intense and radical micro-level change in Northern Ireland has ended in social and political stasis. Pluralist and cosmopolitan ideologies have failed to grasp the process: the book argues for constitutional signposts beyond identity politics. **MS**

UCD² Transatlantic One Health Alliance Launched

A delegation from the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine recently travelled to the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) to officially launch the UCD² Transatlantic One Health Alliance. The delegation was led by Professor Steve Gordon and included the Dean and Head of School, Professor Michael Doherty and the former Dean of Veterinary Medicine, Professor Grace Mulcahy. The UCD² initiative is supported by Zoetis, and builds on existing links and partnerships between the Vet Schools in UCD and UC Davis to promote and support collaborative research in the One Health arena. The UCD team was also there to celebrate International One Health Day on 3 November, and attended the One Health Symposium with staff and students from UC Davis. The theme of the Symposium was 'Resilient Solutions for Growing Populations.' Many thanks to Dean Michael Lairmore, Dr Pat Conrad and all of the UC Davis team for their wonderful hospitality.



UCD Smurfit School launches First Masters in Retail Leadership

Ireland's first Masters Programme in Retail Leadership was launched at the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School in September. Recognising the rapid rate of innovation and growth in the retail sector, the MSc in Retail Leadership ensures that Ireland's industry expertise and educational system work hand in hand to create a co-ordinated approach in developing a real-world and relevant curriculum.

The goal of the programme is to provide students with a detailed understanding of the retail landscape as the business world undergoes fundamental technological and commercial challenges. Students develop critical skills and competencies to enhance their management careers in retail and related industries.

Working with leading, international companies, the programme will offer students practical experience as they gain a deeper understanding of the implications of different retail propositions and practices from various sectors and cultures.

The MSc has emerged from a unique collaboration between the Garfield Weston

Foundation which is the philanthropic arm of the Weston Family and UCD leadership. Inspired by Breege O'Donoghue's outstanding achievements and dynamic career with Primark, one of the world's leading popular fashion retailers, the Garfield Weston Foundation has honoured Breege's contributions to the sector by funding the creation of the MSc in Retail Leadership programme alongside numerous scholarships in her name.

The programme is open to graduates from a wide variety of disciplines including general business, social sciences, digital technology, philosophy and financial management who want to pursue a leadership career in the retail



Pictured are Breege O'Donoghue and Prof Tony Brabazon, Dean and Principal, UCD College of Business.

and allied sectors. Modules on the course include retailing fundamentals, leading retail in a digital age, marketing insights and analytics, marketing strategy, retail consumer experience, omni-channel marketing, retail and digital procurement as well as an industry project. The course will commence in September 2019.



Our photograph shows (l-r) Zoe Liston, UCD VO; Shauna Hughes, Office of Global Engagement; Caroline Mangan, UCDVO; Prof David FitzPatrick, UCDVO Board; Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD; Prof Dolores O'Riordan, VP for Global Engagement; Douglas Proctor, UCD International; Niall McLernon, College of Arts and Humanities; and Maura McGinn, Institutional Research.

UCD Volunteers Overseas Recognised

UCDVO hosted its annual Volunteer Recognition Evening on Friday 5 October and was honoured to be joined by the Minister of State for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD, who through her speech to the 250+ audience, reinforced the value and importance of volunteering and development education programmes within higher education.

During the event, eight teams of volunteers spoke about their experiences during the Summer of 2018, spanning projects in India, Tanzania, Haiti and Uganda. Since UCDVO was established in 2003 by Fr Tony Coote, 1,533 international volunteer placements have been undertaken by UCD students, staff and graduates.

Speaking about the event, UCDVO Manager Caroline Mangan said: "This event is

such an important part of the UCDVO calendar as it provides an opportunity for us to showcase our impact on both the volunteers who participate in the annual programme and for the communities we work with overseas. It's also great to be able to share these achievements with the families of volunteers and those who have supported them with their preparation and fundraising".



Pictured (l-r) are John Hutchings, Stage-4 BSc student; Dr Claire Magner, Asst Prof in Children's Nursing, UCD; Rachel Howe, Asst Prof in Children's Nursing, UCD; Norma O'Keeffe, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Children's University Hospital Temple Street; Prof Bernie Carter, Professor of Children's Nursing, Edge Hill University; Dr Suja Somanadhan, Asst Prof in Children's Nursing, UCD; Dr Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children; and Cian Milofsky, Stage-4 BSc student.

International Children's Day: A UCD Student Symposium

To mark International Children's Day 2018, the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems hosted a student-led symposium on 16 November. Titled *Celebrating International Children's Day*, the symposium provided undergraduate and graduate students in children's nursing with a platform to showcase their research and related academic work among their peers, clinicians and faculty.

Examining a range of issues in child health, children's nursing service and clinical practice, the symposium consisted of oral presentations and scientific posters. The symposium also incorporated eminent guest speakers, including Dr Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children, who spoke on the topic of children's rights and child-centred healthcare in Ireland. Professor Bernie Carter, Professor of Children's Nursing, Edge Hill University, gave the keynote address

on the topic 'A child is a child through their family', in which she discussed child and family-centred care in the context of beliefs and values in children's nursing. Suzanne Dempsey, Chief Director of Nursing for the Children's Hospital Group, gave the closing address, in which she discussed the design and development of the new National Children's Hospital and its associated treatment and care services.



Pictured is Dr Elaine Sullivan, co-founder and CEO of Carrick Therapeutics.

2018 EY Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year

Dr Elaine Sullivan, co-founder and CEO of Carrick Therapeutics, has been named the 2018 EY Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year TM (EOY). The Award was presented to Dr Sullivan at the 21st annual awards ceremony held in Dublin.

Carrick Therapeutics was established in 2016 with the aim of building Europe's leading oncology company. It brings together world-class cancer researchers and drug development experts, backed by some of the most eminent scientific investors. The company, which has raised \$95 million in funding, is a UCD spin-in company and is headquartered at NovaUCD, the Centre for New Ventures and Entrepreneurs.

Carrick has also assembled a team of internationally recognised clinicians and scientists for its scientific advisory board, including Professor William Gallagher, Director, UCD Conway Institute.

Dr Elaine O'Sullivan said: "I am delighted to have won the Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year Award. It was a privilege to take part in the EY Awards programme and the award is a great recognition of the hard work of the whole Carrick team."



Pictured with their award are (l-r) Claire-Doohan, Meadhbh Murphy and Evelyn Flanagan.

UCD Library Cultural Heritage Collections blog

In May 2017 UCD Library Cultural Heritage Collections (CHC) launched a blog to highlight and share the historical riches housed within UCD Archives, UCD Special Collections, the National Folklore Collection and UCD Digital Library. The blog is edited by Meadhbh Murphy, Archivist in UCD Archives.

A schedule was created so that every two weeks one of the CHC units would research, write and prepare a blog post on anything from a collection being catalogued, an exhibition being launched, marking an anniversary of an individual or event, to whatever might have caught the eye of one of the professional curators about which they would like the wider world to know more.

From its launch up until September, there have been 42 posts averaging over 890 views a month and over 6,700 visitors since May. The majority of online views come from Ireland and the United States (4,771 and 1,482 respectively). The blog has also had visitors from countries in Europe, Canada, Brazil, Mexico and as far afield as the Philippines, Russia, Australia, Japan, Bermuda, China, Oman and Fiji.

The Blog Awards Ireland 2018 contacted the CHC in July to say they were nominated in two categories: Arts & Culture and Education & Science. After receiving over 1,000 entries and competing in four rounds of judging, UCD Library Cultural Heritage Collections blog was named Winner in the Arts & Culture category. By showcasing the immensely significant and, sometimes, unknown historical material in the CHC units, the curators have added the blog to their other outreach activities, to further open up their collections and to continue to engage academics, students and the general public with their fascinating material and thereby facilitate new and exciting avenues of research.

View the blog, and subscribe to new posts, at ucdculturalheritagecollections.com

2018 UCD Allergan Innovation Award for novel drug delivery device

Dr Nicky Bertollo won the 2018 UCD Allergan Innovation Award in recognition of the innovative potential within his research to develop a new microneedle patch design to improve drug and vaccine delivery via the skin.

Dr Bertollo is an early career researcher in the UCD School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, working with Dr Eoin O’Cearbhaill, Fellow of UCD Conway Institute and Assistant Professor in Biomedical Engineering. This award will provide Dr Bertollo with a research bursary of €7,000 to enable him to bring his novel microneedle patch design to the next stage of development.

Microneedle patches (MNP) have enormous potential for painless drug and vaccine delivery via the skin and for health monitoring. However, at present, a significant limitation to the use of MNPs is the consistency and uniformity with which the payload is delivered into the skin. Repeatable, full-length exposure of individual microneedles coated with therapeutics and vaccines to skin is



Pictured l-r: Francis Bates, VP Global Solid Oral Dosage Manufacturing, Allergan; Dr Nicky Bertollo, Barbara Hughes and Prof William Gallagher, Director, UCD Conway Institute.

paramount. Conventional MNPs that are pressed onto the skin achieve between 15-45% exposure, as the skin is effectively pushed away and deformed during manual application.

Dr Bertollo is hoping to overcome this limitation with his two-part MNP design that is simply ‘clipped’ onto skin. This novel approach using arrays of angled microneedles draws skin towards the MNP during application, which achieves repeatable, full-length microneedle exposure.

A second bursary prize of €1,000 was presented to Barbara Hughes, a doctoral candidate with Professor Sabine Koelle, UCD School of Medicine and UCD Conway Institute.



Pictured is Crystal Fulton (left) with Prof Orla Feely, Vice-President for Research, Impact and Innovation, UCD.

National Study on the Impact of Gambling Wins Research Impact Competition

Associate Professor Crystal Fulton, UCD School of Information and Communication Studies, has been declared overall winner of the 2018 UCD Research Impact Competition. Harmful gambling can devastate individuals and their families financially and socially and Associate Professor Fulton won this competition for her first national study on the social impact of problem gambling in Ireland.

Her study has helped to drive the conversation regarding an issue that negatively impacts many thousands of people in Ireland. The research is being used by the Department of Justice and Equality to inform new regulations around gambling, and also by service providers, such as addiction counsellors, in helping those affected by addiction.

Associate Professor Crystal Fulton, said: “When I began this research, I discovered I had uncovered the tip of a very large iceberg. As I spoke to addiction counsellors, recovering gamblers, and their families and friends, the wide-ranging impact of an invisible social issue became evident. Participants spoke of multiple means of addressing harmful gambling in Ireland, and legislative reform and regulation policy development, and education were central to this process”.

Further evidence of the impact that Associate Professor Crystal Fulton has had is demonstrated by the direct application of her research to the content of new legislation in Ireland, with the Gambling Control Bill 2018, which has passed Stage 2. Additionally, her research is being leveraged by addiction counsellors, researchers and others, in Ireland and across the EU, to increase awareness and to develop services to assist people affected by harmful gambling. Funding for her research has come from the Department of Justice and Equality and from the Irish Research Council with support from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection.

Now in its second year, the research impact case study competition was established by UCD Research, Impact and Innovation to build capacity throughout the University in the area of capturing and articulating research impact. The competition offers UCD researchers an opportunity to develop a short written case study to highlight the impact of their research to predominantly external and non-specialist audiences.



Pictured at the opening of the conference are (l-r): Dr Jessica Davies, Lancaster University; Prof Alex Evans, Head UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science; Prof John Ryan formerly with International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas, Aleppo, Syria; Prof Olaf Schmidt, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and Prof Orla Feely, UCD Vice President for Research, Innovation and Impact.

Soils for Society – A conference to mark World Soil Day

Did you know that 5 December is designated as World Soil Day by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations? This global initiative stems from the realisation that on the one hand, soils and soil management are central to many different Sustainable Development Goals, including Zero Hunger, Economic Growth, Clean Water, Life on Land, and Climate Action, while on the other hand soil is a finite resource, because soil loss and degradation is not recoverable within human lifespans and available land per capita is shrinking inexorably.

This year’s World Soil Day was marked in UCD with the conference Soils for Society, organised by UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science, in conjunction with the UCD Earth Institute and the Soil Science Society of Ireland. Attended by 200 delegates from diverse backgrounds, the conference aimed at enhancing engagement and knowledge exchange between universities, public research bodies, the land-based industries, policy makers, NGOs and citizens concerned with the importance, manifold uses, management and protection of soils.

Presentations illustrated diverse case studies, where understanding of soils and their functions is central to tackling societal challenges, from agricultural production, environmental protection, climate regulation and engineering projects, to

archaeological preservation and sustainability in business. A particularly striking example for the fundamental importance of soils for society came from Wolaita Sodo University in Ethiopia, which is partnered with UCD, where low soil fertility and soil degradation threaten basic nutrition and livelihoods. The importance of education was highlighted repeatedly during the conference and UCD was identified as the leading provider of soil science education at third-level in Ireland. Moderated by journalist Ella McSweeney, a panel discussion distilled the main themes covered during the day and concluded proceedings with a call to research, value and protect soils as part of our Natural Capital. The conference received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning

UCD Sport was honoured to be presented with a Team Award for their Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning. The Awards recognise individuals or teams who have made outstanding contributions to student learning in a specific area. The UCD Sport team were delighted to have been nominated by students and colleagues and honoured at a reception hosted by Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Mark Rogers and Dean of Students, Professor Jason Last.

Due to the standard of the nomination and the application, the UCD Sport team has been put forward for a University Award in Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning.



UCD and Dublin player Brian Fenton with his All Star and Senior Player of the Year awards.

UCD GAA

Following Dublin's All Ireland four in a row success, recent graduates Jack McCaffrey, Paul Mannion and Brian Fenton were presented with All Stars with Brian Fenton winning Senior Player of the Year.

UCD graduate and former Ad Astra Camogie scholar, Grace Walsh received an All Star for Kilkenny.

The ladies UCD football teams have had tremendous success of late with the first team capturing a first Gourmet Food Parlour Ladies HEC Division 1 league title since 2007, thanks to a ten-point win over UL in Stradbally. A two-goal blast from Westmeath's Lucy McCartan gave the UCD girls a 3-12 to 0-11 victory and after the game, McCartan received the Gourmet Food Parlour Player of the Match Award; while UCD captain Molly Lamb accepted the Cup from Ladies HEC Chairman, Donal Barry.

The Ladies GAA raised another trophy for UCD as the D4 team beat Mary I 4-06 to 2-11 in the Division 4 All Ireland Final at Annanough GAA Club. Congratulations to Player of the Match Róisín Forde, joint captains Maebh Johnstone and Darielle Ronan, the players and the management team of Brendan Wallace, Padraig Walshe, Liam Quinn, Iarlaith Daly and Eimear Mullin.



It was a proud night for UCD Soccer Club as they finished off a wonderful season at the PFAI awards. UCD Manager Collie O'Neill was named Manager of the Year and Captain Gary O'Neill was named First Division Player of the Year.



UCD's Leinster and Irish stars Andrew Porter and Dan Leavy were there on finals night to present the winners with the trophy.

UCD Rugby

UCD hosted the Irish Rugby #GiveATry Festival for women's fresher's rugby squads giving six third level institutions the chance to play rugby and compete against each other. A fantastic initiative in the continued attempts to get women involved in sport, an added bonus on the day saw UCD come away with the trophy.

The UCD Tag Rugby finals were held on the last Wednesday of term as 28 teams and over 300 students participated in this semester's league. The league was set up to increase participation and has grown every year.



Pictured are some of the students who received scholarships on the evening.

Graduate Sports Scholars

Eighteen students from six different programme areas were honoured as this year's Graduate Sports Scholars reception.

Director of Student Services, Dominic O'Keefe acknowledged the contribution these students have already given as undergraduate students and hope that now, as graduates they continue to set examples, for both athletes and students to aspire towards and become leaders both on and off the field. Director of Health

Promotion, Brian Mullins thanked everyone who supported the programme.

The scholarships this year were awarded in Science, Computer Science, Law, Economics, Sports Management, Business, Education and Agricultural and Food Science. With the scholarship programme continuing to grow every year it is hoped that it expands ever further to assist and support our talented sporting students as they continue their education into masters level.



Ben Moore (left) rowing with UCLA

Fulbright Student Award

The Ad Astra Academy was thrilled to see its first Academic Scholar, Ben Moore awarded a Fulbright Student Award earlier this year. Ben was recently awarded a BE in Mechanical Engineering and has been an integral member of the Academy since he joined UCD in 2014. With the Academy's support, Ben was able to attend a department open weekend at Stanford University during his final year, to meet with faculty and learn more about their research. It was an incredible opportunity to explore cutting edge research in space engineering. During his time at UCD, Ben was able to

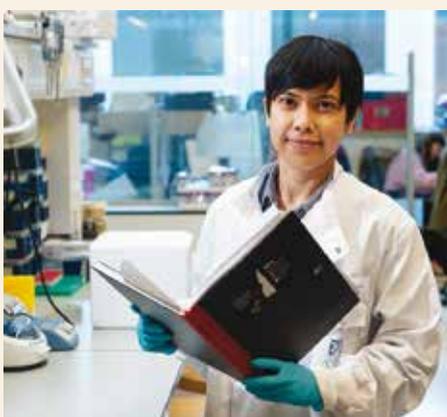
participate in the Engineering Study Abroad Programme for one year at UCLA. Here he was able to join their Men's rowing team, as he was an active member of the UCD Boat Club, winning the Men's Club 8+ National Championships in 2016.

As a Fulbright Student he is now pursuing a Master of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University, conducting research into satellite design and control. Ben is one of 15 Academic Scholars from the Ad Astra Academy 2018 class pursuing further studies in the World's Top 10 Universities.

Student retraces Tove Jansson's life after winning Maeve Binchy Travel Award

The Maeve Binchy Travel Award was inaugurated to commemorate alumnus Maeve Binchy, one of Ireland's best-loved writers. Rosa Jones was selected as this year's winner of the coveted literature bursary, which gives students the opportunity to travel so they can retrace the footsteps of the authors who inspired them. The annual award, valued at €4,000, is sponsored by the Binchy/Snell family.

A recent undergraduate from the UCD School of English, Drama and Film, Rosa will head to Finland to research the work of Finnish author and illustrator Tove Jansson, best known for her Moomin characters. In her application Rosa outlined how she plans to move to Helsinki and travel to the islands and peninsulas where Jansson lived with her partner for most of her later life.



Universitas 21 3 Minutes Thesis® 2018 Competition People's Choice Award

The Universitas 21 3 Minutes Thesis® competition brings together the very best of doctoral students from around the world in a global arena to find the best of the best. Having been chosen as the 3MT® finalist in their own university, the challenge for students is to present their research in a 3-minute video, using only one slide, to a non-specialist audience and win a world title.

PhD student Roshaida Abdul Wahab, UCD Institute of Food and Health, winner of this year's UCD ThesisIn3 competition, won the People's Choice Award at this year's global competition. Her talk *Food Biomarker: The Truth, the Whole Truth and Nothing but the Truth* focuses on dietary biomarkers, a new method of capturing people's dietary intake more objectively using metabolomics approach. These biomarkers offer a more objective measure of people's diet and have a potential to give a huge impact on the connections between diet, health and diseases.



Pictured are (l-r) Brian Mullins, UCD Director of Sport and Health Promotion; Dominic O'Keeffe, UCD Director of Student Services and Facilities; Dr Sandra Tighe, Director of Student Health; Melissa Plunkett, UCD SU Welfare Officer; Prof Jason Last, UCD Dean of Students; and Jason Masterson, Head of Service, UCD Student Services.

Launch of Online Wellbeing Support for Students

On World Mental Health Awareness Day on 10 October UCD Student Health announced and welcomed a new online wellbeing support called SilverCloud to its portfolio of support services for students.

SilverCloud is a safe and secure online space which offers dedicated self-help programmes to assist students who are experiencing feelings such as anxiety and stress in their life. The online support platform has a range of self-taught courses providing positive coping mechanisms and currently has over 80,000 users across six countries.

Dr Sandra Tighe, Director of Student Health said: "In recent years, University counselling and mental health services have experienced an increase in the number of students seeking

assistance. We are not alone in this, as this trend has been observed at many universities in Ireland and in Great Britain. Together with our colleagues in the broader student supports, we are keen to look at the different ways of meeting our student's needs.

"We know that our students are digital natives and I am delighted to announce the addition of SilverCloud's user friendly digital platform to our already existing supports such as our counselling, psychiatry, doctor, chaplain, student advisers and SU support officers. SilverCloud is essentially an online wellbeing support where students can use it at any time of the day, on any of their electronic devices. The feedback from other Irish universities using this platform has been very positive."

Once registered, students can complete modules with content relevant to their current needs, at their own pace, where and when it suits them. The content comprises of audio, text and videos and is intended to be easy to use, and interactive. Students also have access to a variety of tools that help them with setting goals, problem solving and other practical life skills.