



g today

University College Dublin

Celebrating the past, creating the future

JUNE 2006

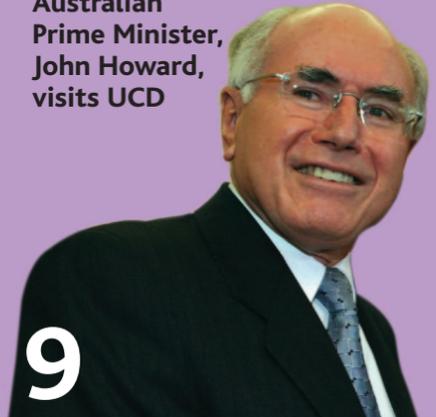
www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday

**Prof Mary E. Daly:
Remembering
Easter 1966**



7

**Australian
Prime Minister,
John Howard,
visits UCD**



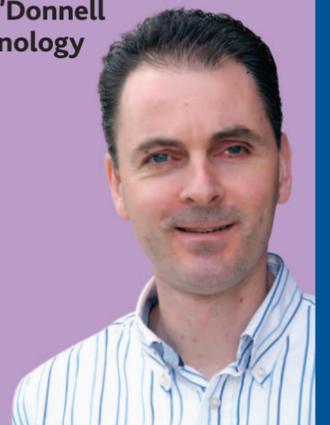
9

**A balancing act
of the senses:
Dr Emma Teeling**



12

**Dr Ian O'Donnell
on criminology**



13

Campus vision: 24-7 living is closer than just a dream

The voyage to the "next generation" of development on the Belfield campus has begun with a recently published footprint which will be used to chart out the building and amenity plans over the coming decade. Open days are being planned to outline the plans and give staff, students and the wider community an opportunity to take a look at the campus vision.

When the original campus plan was drawn up in 1964 by Andrej Werjchert for President Michael Tierney the vision was to create an infrastructure to meet the primary teaching and research objectives of the university through an expansive environment where students and academics could engage and work. Subsequent plans in 1973, 1986, 1998 and 2002 built on the principles of the 1964 plan while responding to social and physical changes.

But, nobody could have anticipated the explosion of development that occurred over the last five years when over 75,000m² of new buildings was constructed.

By 2005 it was apparent that a new vision of the campus plan was needed and following a tendered competition, architects Murray O'Laoire were selected to draw up the footprint that would facilitate the physical evolution of the campus.

Currently the UCD campus consists of 4% managed woodland, 10% roads and carparking, 9% building, 29% sports and 48% green space, amenity and development land.

Notwithstanding the perception of ample space, the university recognises that land for expansion and development is a diminishing, expensive and very valuable resource.

The campus plan has to address a number of issues. Principally, the university intends to rotate its inward focus and embrace and engage

with the wider community. The leafy Arcadian surroundings and vast open spaces give students and staff a great sense of openness as well as self-containment. The flip side is that the nature of university life leaves the campus quiet in the evenings and out of term. Countering this gap, while retaining the pleasant surroundings requires the development of a sustainable and living campus, the provision of facilities - be they commercial, educational or cultural - in locations that invite in the outside community of Dublin city and visitors.

Central to the achievement of this objective is the Gateway Project. It promotes the idea of year-round use of facilities by students, staff and outside communities. The development of economically viable facilities will ultimately benefit the student body and the academic community and in so doing, the culture of increased public engagement is seeded.

(continued on page 4)



what's inside

3 Tánaiste opens UCD-Mater Genome Research Unit

4-5 Campus Development Plan
An overview of the proposed new buildings and amenities planned to enhance Belfield campus over the coming decade.

6 Ag rince le háthas
Cúrsa Gaeltachta 2006

7 Remembering Easter 1966
Professor Mary E. Daly speaks to Eoghan Rice about a cross-border research project which paints the 50th anniversary of the Easter Rising in a new light.

12 A balancing act of the senses
Claire O Connell meets Dr Emma Teeling, whose research into the bat family tree raises questions in relation to the evolution of our senses.

13 Analysing perspectives on crime
Dr Ian O'Donnell is the newly-appointed Director of UCD's Institute of Criminology. He talks to Berni Dwan about crime and its various modern-day contexts.

16 UCD Open Days: working together to welcome the individual
A group of the almost 1,000 UCD staff and students, who participated in Open Days last March, share their views on what made these Open Days the most successful yet.

18 Sports roundup
A look at some of the recent sports successes, including the UCD Ladies Hockey team victory that bridged a 53-year gap.

UCD in the news

Although UCD Today tries to cover as many stories as possible we can only give a tiny sample of the range of activities being undertaken by UCD people. A quick scan through the online news pages on the UCD website gives a flavour of what's going on, of who's saying what, and of how well we are doing here and internationally.

At the macro level UCD has been busy. The President, Dr Hugh Brady, recently joined the board of Universitas 21 – bringing UCD into a major university network that promotes global learning, cross-national research, technologies and delivery mechanisms, public policy and community engagement. The Universitas 21 partnership strives to facilitate collaboration and co-operation between the member universities, creating entrepreneurial opportunities on a scale that no member would be able to achieve operating independently or through traditional bilateral alliances.

Back home in Ireland, The Minister for Finance, Brian Cowen TD (and UCD graduate, BCL) launched a strategic alliance between UCD and the Institute of Bankers in Ireland to enhance and develop education and research in banking and financial services in Ireland.

On the scholarship funding front, apart from the Australian Government's A\$1.5 million donation to the Keith Cameron Chair of Australian History (see page 9), UCD continues to attract substantial financial support for research. The Wellcome Trust has awarded UCD and the University of Ulster a joint Strategic Enhancement Award to explore the Social History of Medicine in Ireland. The award is valued at €400,000. The UCD Egalitarian World Initiative (EWI) has succeeded in winning a €1 million three-year Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge Programme award.

Meanwhile, taking a strong public stance, Professor Gabriel Cooney and his colleagues in archaeology have just published a foresight report on Irish archaeology that highlights the lost learning opportunities from a backlog of almost 4,000 excavations that are left unpublished.

Over in the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics, Professor Barry Smyth has been shortlisted for the Ernst & Young 2006 Entrepreneur of the Year®. The shortlist of 24 finalists was decided from a competitive pool of over 150 businesses and individual entries across Ireland.

Stephen Nolan, a postgraduate in the UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and Conway Institute, won first prize at the 'Science Speak' national intervarsity public speaking competition on scientific research for a non-scientific audience.

All these and more stories are accessible on www.ucd.ie/news. The online news on the UCD homepage aims to give you a view of what's happening throughout the university. Have a read for yourself and, of course, if you have a newsworthy story, do let us know.

Eilis O'Brien
Director of Communications

(Stories for consideration for external publication, for online news or for UCD Today should be sent to Dominic Martella, Communications Office.)

Contributors:
Suzanne Bailey, Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Michelle Brien, Hilary Carey, Elish Carr, Sarah Collins, Claire O'Connell, Eoghan Crosby, Gavin Cumiskey, Orla Donoghue, Sean Duke, Berni Dwan, Graham Finlay, Andrew Flood, Emma Kavanagh, Paul Kelly, Wolfgang Marx, Gerald Mills, Deirdre Moloney, Sean Morrish, Valerie Norton, Aaron Quigley, Eoghan Rice, James Reilly, Grace Sexton, Mark Simpson, Miceál Whelan.

Produced by:
Eilis O'Brien, Sorcha Duggan, Dominic Martella

Design:
Loman Cusack Design

Print:
eBrook

Thanks to:
Pádraic Conway, JP Donnelly, Catherine Godson, Maurice Manning, Cliona de Bhaldraithe Marsh, Damien McLoughlin, Patrick Wall.

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 Communications.

2006

Researchers target disease-causing genes

The UCD-Mater Genome Resource Unit (GRU) was officially opened by the Tánaiste and Minister for Health, Mary Harney, last April. Dr Peter Doran, Director of the GRU, met with Seán Duke (BSc 1987) to explain how this unit will lead to new treatments for many diseases by the analysis of patient-donated tissue samples.

The GRU is located on Nelson Street, just opposite the main entrance to the Mater in the heart of north Dublin city. Dr Peter Doran, Director of the GRU, is excited by the huge benefits the new unit can potentially bring to patients, through learning more about the genetic triggers for disease.

The way the unit will operate is to have a team of medical scientists working in the hospital seeing patients, but also conducting a research programme nearby. The samples will be sought by consent from patients, and will be extracted through biopsy. The greater the number of samples obtained, the greater the resources available for research, and this can be tapped into by other research teams and drug companies - for a price.

The response of patients at the Mater to the request for their tissue samples has been extraordinary and - unlike the experience in other countries - few, if any, patients refuse the request. "We have found that people want to help and Irish people have shown that they are very good in this regard," says Doran.

There has been talk for some time in Ireland about the need to create the time, space and the resources to allow medical doctors interested in research to become clinical scientists. The GRU is putting this into practice and a top-class team of medical scientists is doing research, which is being published in leading journals. This generates knowledge that can be transferred back into the care of real people in the hospital.

The new unit is impressive. The offices are roomy and filled with light; the equipment is new and state-of-the-art. The researchers, too, are among the best in the world. Everyone involved is aware of the over-arching mission to transfer research findings from the lab to the patient. This is called bench to bedside work, and is the way forward for UCD and all Irish hospitals if they are to compete on the international stage.

The general method used by the researchers at the unit is to first obtain samples by consent from patients located at the busy Mater hospital across the road. These samples are diseased, so the strategy then is to look at the genetic profile in the cells of the diseased tissues to find out what genes are 'turned on' and 'turned off'.

If, for example, the researcher finds that one particular gene is very active in a cell that is part of a colon cancer tumour, then this might imply that that gene has a role in causing colon cancer. This, in turn, could lead to the

development of a drug that is designed to turn off the gene in question, and to thus stop colon cancer developing.

Similarly, the opposite could be the case: cells taken from a person suffering from a lung disease may show that a particular gene is turned off and that this fact might be important in causing the disease. In this case, a drug company could attempt to design a drug that aims to turn the relevant gene back on, and the lung cancer off.

Everyone involved is aware of the over-arching mission to transfer research findings from the lab to the patient

The medical scientists at the GRU use what is called a micro-array to study lots of genes all at once in a sample of diseased tissue. Not so long ago, when scientists were studying genes these had to be studied one by one - a slow and expensive process. Now, with micro-arrays, thousands of individual genes can be placed in separate, tiny wells, and examined by a robotic instrument. So, if a gene in one particular well is highly expressed, or turned on, in a piece of tumour tissue from a person with colon cancer, then that gene will be singled out for further study to see if it has a role in causing the colon cancer.

The access to tissue samples from patients at the Mater is a huge plus for the researchers based at the GRU. Live samples are far better, the gold standard for researchers, as compared

with samples that might have been grown in the lab. The live samples - *in vivo* samples - are far better than the lab samples - *in vitro* samples.

The future is very bright for medical research at UCD as medicine enters the era of personalised medicine. Dr Doran can envisage a future where the prescription of medicines will be determined by the person's genetic profile. This profile could enable a physician to decide what medicines will work best for the particular person, and whether there are likely to be any adverse reactions to a certain drug type.

It's an exciting time for medical science, and UCD, with the opening of the GRU, will be in a position to compete with the best institutions in Europe and around the globe. For Ireland in general, it is a major plus that such a tissue resource is available here, as this will encourage the pharmaceutical industry to conduct more R&D jointly with UCD, and this, in turn, can help to further embed the industry into the local economy.

The availability of thousands of tissue samples, and patients that are willing to help researchers, also means that UCD could become a centre for clinical trials. Ireland has not been a place where a lot of clinical trials have taken place, but with this resource now coming on-stream, it has become a far more attractive prospect.

Seán Duke is joint editor of *Science Spin*

Gastric cancer gene

Dr Doran and his research colleagues have identified a gene called NET 1 that is highly active, or turned on, in cells in patients suffering from a range of gastro-intestinal cancers, whether of the gut, the oesophagus, the bowel or the colon. These cancers are extremely common and on the increase in many parts of the world. They are also deadly and the death rate is very high from people with such disease.

The researchers have found - in research soon to be published in the *British Journal of Cancer* - that the NET 1 gene is crucial for assisting the cancer to damage the epithelial cells that line the stomach. The process is something akin to what happens over time when a new brick wall with nice mortar starts to disintegrate when the mortar becomes dry and can no longer hold the bricks in place.

The gene helps the cancer cells to invade the epithelial lining, and cause the formation of large fibroblast cells which wouldn't normally be there in such numbers or size. The cancer then can get through the lining of the stomach, or the colon, or whatever part of the GI tract it is located in, and cause secondary cancers, metastases, in other locations in the body. Once that happens it is impossible for all the cancers to be cut out of the body, and the patient will die.

However, the researchers believe that if the NET 1 gene is turned off, then the cancer would be prevented from entering the GI tract because the epithelial cells would remain intact. This would isolate the cancer tumour wherever it is, and the tumour could then be irradiated or removed surgically and the patient would likely live far longer. The research has thus opened the door for a drug company to develop a medicine that targets the NET 1 gene and turns it off. This research could well be done in Ireland, and Dr Doran would welcome approaches from industries that might be interested.



Left to right: Dr Peter Doran, Director of the GRU; Tánaiste and Minister for Health Mary Harney, TD; Dr Hugh Brady, President of UCD; Prof Bill Powderly, Head of UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science at the opening of the GRU.

Campus vision: 24-7 living is

continued from front page

Set alongside universities internationally, Belfield is a wonderful campus. With a daytime population of over 20,000 it is buzzing with activity during term time. The combination of on-campus amenities and facilities - academic, sporting, residential and recreational make it the best university campus in Ireland. Its size and population sometimes cause people to make comparisons with towns such as Athlone but its homogenous function means it doesn't have the 24-7 vibrancy of a bustling town.

Step one in any campus development plan is the list of woes - those issues that stir a moan in all of us and need to be addressed. At Belfield they inevitably include - volume of cars, lack of carparking, creaking transport infrastructure, dead space in the evenings, at the weekends and out of term, lack of urban heart that encourages people to stay on campus, reduced local private rental accommodation, inadequate facilities to display our historical and cultural treasures, wasted opportunities to promote the university to the thousands of visitors and conference delegates who spend time here, and of course the inevitable lack of working space for staff and communal spaces for students.

The plan proposed by Murray O'Laoire addresses these and other infrastructural issues. It divides the campus into five distinct land uses:

- the academic core, centred around the lake with a main pedestrian avenue running from UCD Quinn School of Business to the sports centre

- the Gateway area that runs from the main entrance to the core and incorporates new cultural, amenity, academic, alumni, retail and commercial facilities
- the residential areas that intensify on-campus residences, create a more vibrant living campus and reduce commuting
- consolidated sports on the west side of the campus, building on the current facilities to international standards
- the innovation park on the eastern end of the campus with the addition of NIBRT to the UCD Nova complex at Merville House

Core to good planning are embedded principles covering transport, land use density, green space and amenity, and utility services.

Despite the fact that Belfield is the largest bus terminus in Dublin, the significant increase in private car usage by students and staff has threatened the arcadian setting. The tendency for converting open space into temporary surface carparks is neither desirable nor sustainable and the plan sets out locations for a number of multi storey and semi basement carparks outside an extended pedestrian rim.

The protection and conservation of the campus open space is dependant upon good architectural design that discourages small building extensions or small stand alone pavilions in favour of higher density in designated areas. The plan also proposes an evaluation audit of some of the existing buildings with a view to long term planning for

replacement or increased height extension. The plan also recognises the value in retaining the original demesne houses of Roebuck Castle, Merville House, Belfield House, Ardmore House, Woodview and Richview.

The landscaping strategy aims to enhance the biodiversity of the campus through tree planting, amenity walks and the extension of the surface water feature from the lake through the Gateway area. UCD is known for its parkland setting and mature landscaping. Much of this was provided for and planted during the development of the original estates of the 18th and 19th centuries. The preservation and enhancement of these woodlands will form a 6km perimeter route designed for jogging, walking and cycling.

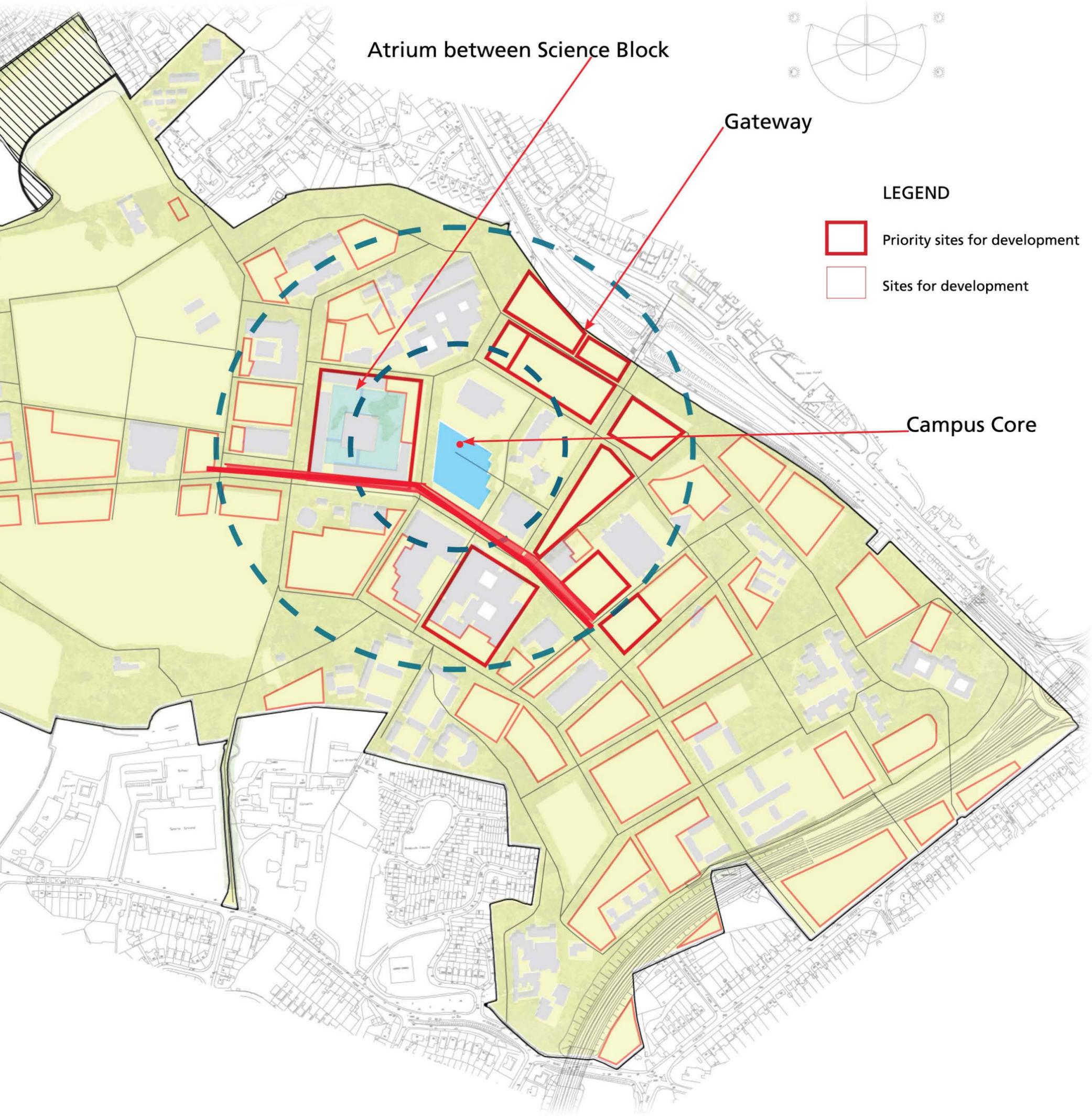
The provision of effective utility services in an area the size of Belfield is an economic necessity. Heat and gas, electricity, water and sewage have to be provided and paid for so the plan sets out the requirements for the coming decades, including suggestions relating to solar, wind and geothermal energy provision.

In the context of its local area, UCD is a major employer, generating substantial revenue for the local economy. The enormous campus is a valuable recreational and sporting amenity to the area and the volume of overseas conferences and visitors to the campus enhances the international reputation of Dublin.

The campus plan is naturally ambitious but the vision is truly attainable.



closer than just a dream



Atrium between Science Block

Gateway

LEGEND

-  Priority sites for development
-  Sites for development

Campus Core

Ag rince le háthas



Dún Chaoin, Contae Chiarraí

Tá an-chaint ar an nGaeltacht, faoi láthair. Ritheann dhá chlár teilifíse liom, go háirithe: 'Bean an Tí' agus 'Ní Ghaeilgeoir mé'. Cheanglófaí samhradh na hóige leis an gcaint sin ar fad. Is é an scéal céanna é, i gcás 'Jigs and Reels'. Bheifeá ag luascadh arís ag na rincoirí nua, tú ar urlár halla paróiste éigin i bhfad ón gcathair.

Is í an chuid is fearr nach bhfuil deireadh leis an óige- ná leis an damhsa- ag cuid againn. Tá foghlaimoírí Bhord na Gaeilge UCD ag déanamh ar chúrsaí Gaeltachta ón mbliain 2001 i leith. Tugann 30 duine againn aghaidh

ar an nGaeltacht chuile bhliain ar feadh 4 lá. Anuraidh bhíomar i nGaeltacht Dhún Chaoin Contae Chiarraí. Bhí baill foirne na scoileanna acadúla agus na n-oifigí riaracháin éagsúla ar an turas, chomh maith le mic léinn ollscoile. Is é a chuireamar ar fad romhainn, an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim agus blaise a fháil ar shaol na Gaeltachta.

Léachtaí ar an stair shóisialta, ar an tseandálaíocht, ar an bhfilíocht agus ar an teanga a bhíonn i gceist le cúrsa Gaeltachta an Bhoird, mar aon le ceardlanna damhse seite, amhránaíochta agus turasanna treoraithe. B'é

buaicphointe cúrsa na bliana seo caite, an chuairt a thugamar ar Oileán an Bhlascaoid Mhóir. Faoi stiúir an staraí Micheál Ó Dubhshláine a rinneamar an turas niamhrach sin. Tá d'ádh orainn go mbíonn deis againn buaileadh le daoine den phobal ar saineolaithe iad ar a gceantar féin, daoine a bhfuil clú bainte amach acu go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta, daoine a bhfuil bheith istigh acu ina mbaile féin.

Laethanta fada a bhíonn ag na rannpháirtithe gach bliain ach bíonn spraoi ag baint leis na himeachtaí, chomh maith agus deis ag daoine dul ag spaisteoireacht, ag snámh, nó ag cur aithne ar mhuintir na háite sna tithe tábhairne áitiúla. Tá aithne mhaith ag muintir Dhún Chaoin ar lucht UCD faoin am seo agus cuirtear fáilte romhainn i gconaí. Tá amuigh orainn go dtugaimid an aimsir linn, chuile bhliain!

Is í an Ghaeilge teanga an chúrsa seo, agus is cabhrach, cuideachtúil an comhar. Bíonn cúrsaí cultúrtha ag an mBord, i rith na bliana dóibh siúd atá ag cur tús le foghlaim na teanga agus bíonn na cúrsaí sin á reáchtáil go dátheangach in ionaid chultúrtha eagsúla ar fud na tíre.

Tá sé beartaithe Cúrsa Gaeltachta na bliana seo a reáchtáil deireadh mhí Lúnasa '06. Má tá spéis agat feabhas a chur ar do chuid Gaeilge roimhe sin beidh dianchúrsaí ag 3 leibhéal á thairiscint ar champas Belfield, 8.30am-10.am, 20-29 Meitheamh '06. Gach eolas ar fáil ón Oifigeach Gaeilge, Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Guthán: 716-8208 nó Ríomhphost: oifigeach.gaeilge@ucd.ie

Ceapadh téarma nua do Bord na Gaeilge UCD ar an 1 Feabhra '06 faoi stiúir an Chathaoirleach, an tOllamh Micheál Ó Dochartaigh, Scoil na Talamháíochta, Eolaíocht an Chothaithe agus an Leighis Tréidliachta.

Beidh Cúrsa Gaeltachta Bhord na Gaeilge á reáchtáil arís 24-27 Lúnasa 2006.

Recent television programmes such as TG4's *Bean an Tí* and *Ní Ghaeilgeoir mé* or RTÉ's *Jigs and Reels* have reminded many of us of the Gaeltacht courses we attended as teenagers. Many UCD staff and students still enjoy a taste of Gaeltacht life by participating on the Bord na Gaeilge UCD Annual Gaeltacht Course. Students and staff come together from a broad range of academic schools and administrative offices with the common purpose of improving their spoken Irish. Last year's course was held in Dún Chaoin, Co. Kerry. This four-day course consisted of lectures on social history, poetry and language as well set-dancing and traditional singing workshops. The highlight of the course was the glorious day spent on the Great Blasket Island when 30 UCD participants enjoyed a guided tour by local historian Micheál Ó Dubhshláine. Despite the full and varied schedule on these courses there is time to go rambling, swimming or to converse with native speakers in the local pub. Irish is the medium through which all activities are conducted in an easygoing friendly atmosphere. Bord na Gaeilge UCD also organises bilingual cultural courses during the year for those beginning to study the language.

The next Gaeltacht Course will be held in August 2006. For those who wish to brush up on the language in advance, a two-week, intensive Irish language course will be offered at three levels on Belfield campus from 20-29 June 8.30am-10.00am.

Further details are available from Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Irish Language Officer, Tel: 716-8208 or Email: oifigeach.gaeilge@ucd.ie

Bord na Gaeilge UCD commenced a new term of office on 1 February 2006 under the Chairmanship of Professor Michael Doherty, School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine.

This year's Bord na Gaeilge Gaeltacht Course will be held 24-27 August 2006.



Amuigh faoin aer i gCorca Dhuibhne



Foireann & mic léinn UCD ar Chúrsa Gaeltachta na bliana seo caite
Beidh Cúrsa Gaeltachta Bhord na Gaeilge á reáchtáil arís 24-27 Lúnasa 2006
This year's Bord na Gaeilge Gaeltacht Course will be held 24-27 August 2006

Remembering Easter 1966

Research undertaken by UCD and Queen's University as part of a cross-border project has painted the 50th anniversary of the Easter Rising in 1966 in a new light. Eoghan Rice (BA 2003) speaks to Professor Mary E. Daly, who led the UCD research team.

It is often described as the event that led to the Troubles - a provocative and aggressive display of nationalism that glorified violence and stoked tensions in Northern Ireland. However, according to Professor Mary E. Daly, Principal of UCD's College of Arts and Celtic Studies, many accusations today levelled against the 50th anniversary of the Rising are unfounded. Professor Daly says that the 1966 event was more about giving closure to the Rising than making a renewed call to arms.

"It is often suggested that the 50th anniversary of the Rising led to a renewed interest in the cult of physical violence," says Professor Daly. "However, if you look at the events that were held to mark the golden jubilee of the Rising and the speeches that were made, there is not much evidence to back that up."

The research team from UCD and Queen's analysed the events of 1966 to gauge the impact the commemorations had on subsequent events in Northern Ireland. Aiding Professor Daly and her Queen's counterpart Dr Margaret O'Callaghan were four PhD and postdoctoral students, Roisin Higgins, Carole Holohan, Catherine O'Donnell and Rebecca Graff.

What the researchers found was a commemoration based more on community and sporting organisations rather than military ones. Indeed, the recent ceremony held in Dublin to mark the 90th anniversary of the Rising was far more militaristic than the events of 40 years ago.

"The theme of the 1966 events was very much one of celebrating the present and looking forward to the future," explains Professor Daly. "There was a sense of putting history behind us and embracing the changing world. The economic theme was much to the fore. Seán Lemass even said that the true descendants of the Rising leaders were the students enrolling in technical colleges."

Ireland was in the midst of something of an identity crisis and was coming out of a sustained period of self-imposed isolation. The events were an attempt to positively engage the patriotism of the younger generations.

Interestingly, just as Fianna Fáil was accused of attempting to hijack the recent 1916 Rising commemorations, the party also faced those claims 40 years ago. Opposition parties were extremely critical of the fact that the Commemoration Committee in 1966 was made up of Fianna Fáil members and civil servants chosen by Seán Lemass, and argued that the event was being turned into little more than an extension of the campaign to re-elect Eamon de Valera as President of Ireland.

Ultimately, that campaign almost failed, with de Valera winning the election later that summer by just 10,000 votes. Indeed, it could be argued that the emphasis the 1916 commemorations had on looking towards the future worked against the aging de Valera. Fine Gael, deliberately fielding Tom O'Higgins, one of their younger TDs, almost caused a massive upset by tuning into people's desire to put the past behind them.

Rising commemorations were held in both the Republic and Northern Ireland, although they differed in both setting and nature. The southern commemorations were very much state-organised, whereas the events in the north were held amidst the backdrop of certain unionist elements calling for the commemorations to be outlawed.

Ian Paisley was the most vocal opponent of the commemorations, leading a counter-demonstration in Belfast as well as a 'thanksgiving' service for the defeat of the 1916 rebels in the Ulster Hall. The Ulster Volunteer Force also called for the banning of 1916-related events, and just two months after Easter 1966 declared war on the IRA.

The GAA had a strong influence on the commemorative events that were held in Northern Ireland over Easter 1966. Many speeches delivered in Northern Ireland were more militaristic than the ones heard down south. For example, a speaker addressing the crowd in Armagh said that the IRA had never ceased its physical struggle against Britain and would continue to seek the opportunity to continue that struggle by the only means possible, through physical force.

"There was some sort of attempt to rally nationalist feelings in the north but it doesn't add up to suggest that the 1916 commemorations were to blame for what was to happen three or four years later," says Professor Daly. "There was certainly no attempt by the government in the Republic to fan the flames."

Indeed, Professor Daly asserts that it was not necessary to hype up the Rising 40 years ago because the event was a lot more immediate to people in the 1960s. "The Rising had never gone away as a story. There were still lots of veterans around, so there was no need to have to remind people about what happened."

The recent commemorations marking the 90th anniversary of the Rising attracted a fair degree of controversy, with many commentators debating the role of the events of Easter 1916 towards the creation of the modern Irish state, and the influence the leaders of the Rising had on those who sought to maintain a violent struggle against British rule in Northern Ireland throughout the Troubles.

However, Professor Daly argues that the Rising was a significant event in the creation of the state and so deserves to be officially marked.

"Whether you are for or against the Rising, there is no denying that it was a major formative factor in the creation of an independent Irish state," she says. "As such, I think it is appropriate to mark it and also to debate it."

The findings of the research into the events of Easter 1966 will be debated through a series of essays in a book to be published towards the end of this year.

Eoghan Rice is a Sunday Tribune journalist and former editor of the College Tribune.



Prof Mary E. Daly

Research

Bank of Ireland scholarships for UCD Sinfonia

Over the last four years, the UCD Sinfonia has built up a reputation as one of the leading non-professional orchestras in the country. Bank of Ireland has now decided to support the work of the orchestra with a number of annual scholarships. After the Sinfonia's concert in the National Concert Hall on 27 February, UCD

President, Dr Hugh Brady, awarded the first Bank of Ireland Scholarships to seven members of the orchestra.

The first Bank of Ireland Scholars are pictured below, together with conductor Ciarán Crilly.

Back row (left to right): Caoimhín Ó Briain (cello), Ciarán Crilly (conductor), Fiona Crosbie (violin), Eoghan Doherty (oboe). Front row (left to right): Oisín Kennedy (percussion), Saerlaith Murphy (violin), Claire de la Forest (flute), Majella McDonnell (piano)



Celebrating the birth of Mozart

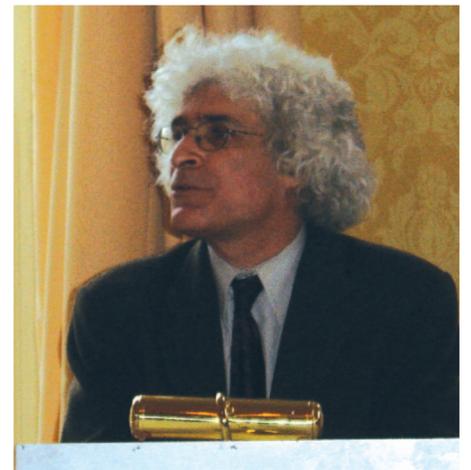
Mozart specialists from Ireland, the UK and Germany gathered in Newman House in February for an international conference entitled *Such People Come into the World Only Once in 100 Years - Mozart in the 21st Century*. The experts presented and discussed their latest findings as part of a year-long series of events in UCD to mark Mozart's 250th birthday.

In his keynote address, *Mozart and the Tyranny of Biography*, Cliff Eisen (King's College, London) - one of the world's leading Mozart experts - discussed the ways in which different biographers have "created" their respective Mozart in their writings, posing the question to what extent we can rely on biographic research at all.

Mozart's activity as a composer and teacher, his operas and his instrumental works were the subjects of the conference's three main sessions. Speakers included Klaus Oehl (University of Dortmund), Melanie Unseld (Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hannover), Harry White (UCD), Steven Jan (University of Huddersfield), Simon Keefe (City of London

University) and Julian Horton (UCD). A lively and controversial round table discussion concluded the proceedings.

UCD continues to celebrate Mozart's 250th birthday this year with other events in the *Mozart@UCD* series. For further information and updates, please consult the UCD School of Music's website at www.ucd.ie/music.



Dr Cliff Eisen (King's College, London), giving his keynote address at the conference

Responding to Beckett

Professor Wolfgang Iser, Emeritus Professor of English, University of Konstanz, Germany, recently visited UCD as part of the UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland's Distinguished Guest Lecture series. He gave a lecture in March entitled *Erasing Narration: Samuel Beckett's Malone Dies and Texts for Nothing*.

Professor Iser has taught at many universities in the US and UK and, with his colleague, Hans Robert Jauss, is an exponent of 'reception-theory', whose roots are in German literary criticism. Briefly, the theory views the text as subjective and not objective; the focus is on the way a reader 'receives' and interprets the text.

Iser privileges the experience of reading literary texts as a uniquely consciousness-raising activity and stresses the centrality of consciousness in all investigations of meaning. Iser's work, *The Act of Reading: a Theory of Aesthetic Response*, has a fuller exposition of his theory of the role of the reader.



Left to right: Prof Des Fitzgerald, Vice-President for Research, UCD; Prof Wolfgang Iser, Emeritus Professor of English, University of Konstanz; Dr Tony Roche, UCD School of English and Drama Studies (Chair of Lecture); Dr Anne Fuchs, UCD School of Languages, Literatures and Film; Dr Marc Caball, Director Humanities Institute of Ireland.

Funding to fight liver fluke

The European Commission has awarded UCD scientists over €400,000 in funding to lead the fight against liver fluke, a major parasite that causes annual losses of an estimated €60 million to Irish livestock and food production.

The scientists are from the UCD Conway Institute and UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine, and will work in a consortium that includes experts from Queen's University Belfast and the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute in Northern Ireland. The researchers' aim is to develop new environmentally friendly methods to control liver fluke disease in livestock, particularly cattle and sheep.

Liver fluke disease is currently treated using pesticides and anti-parasitic drugs, both of which are becoming increasingly ineffective and unpopular. The UCD team, which includes Professor Grace Mulcahy (UCD Professor of Veterinary Microbiology & Parasitology), Dr Theo de Waal and Dr Jane Irwin (lecturers in the UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine), aims to pre-empt the spread of liver fluke by developing vaccines and improving methods of forecasting the disease.

Australian Prime Minister visits UCD

The Australian Prime Minister, John Howard, visited UCD on 22 May to address a group of postgraduate students studying International Relations, Politics, History and Australian Studies.

Following his address, he engaged in a Q&A session with the students. The topics covered by the Q&A session included the handling of the stand-off with Iran over its nuclear programme, the penetration of the Australian economy by China and Eurasia, the treatment of gay marriage in Australian law and issues surrounding indigenous Australian peoples.

After the Q&A session, Mr Howard was presented with an Honorary Fellowship of UCD's Literary & Historical Society, the

highest honour that the society can bestow, in recognition of his enthusiastic engagement with students and his widespread achievements as prime minister.

UCD maintains one of the longest-running programs for Australian history in the world. During his visit to UCD, Prime Minister Howard announced that the Australian Government would provide funding of 1.5 million Australian dollars to support the continuation of the Keith Cameron Chair of Australian History at UCD.

Prime Minister Howard's visit to UCD was part of an official visit to Ireland during which he met with An Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern, TD, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Brian Cowen, TD and President Mary McAleese.

Ross McGuire, Auditor of the L+H, presents Australian Prime Minister, John Howard with an Honorary Fellowship of the society



BComm students win Merrill Lynch competition

UCD Quinn School of Business students have won first prize in the Merrill Lynch Europe Case Study challenge held in London last March. First year BComm students Niamh Prenderville, Stephen Brosnan, Andrew Flood and Daniel Tanase were the youngest participants in the final and the only representatives from an Irish university. A total of 94 teams entered the competition from across Europe, from which eight teams were selected for the final.

In the first round, the teams had seven weeks to submit a report analysing a specific European Industry such as Energy, Real Estate or Pharmaceuticals.

For the final round, the students travelled to London to prepare and give a 10-minute presentation followed by a Q & A session in front of a judging panel of Merrill Lynch executives. Team members also had the opportunity to interview for the 2007 internship programme and received an invaluable insight into business activities at Merrill Lynch.

Niamh Prenderville, Stephen Brosnan, Andrew Flood and Daniel Tanase pictured handing over the award to Dr Martin Butler, Director, UCD Quinn School of Business



UCD Ulysses Medal awarded to global philanthropist

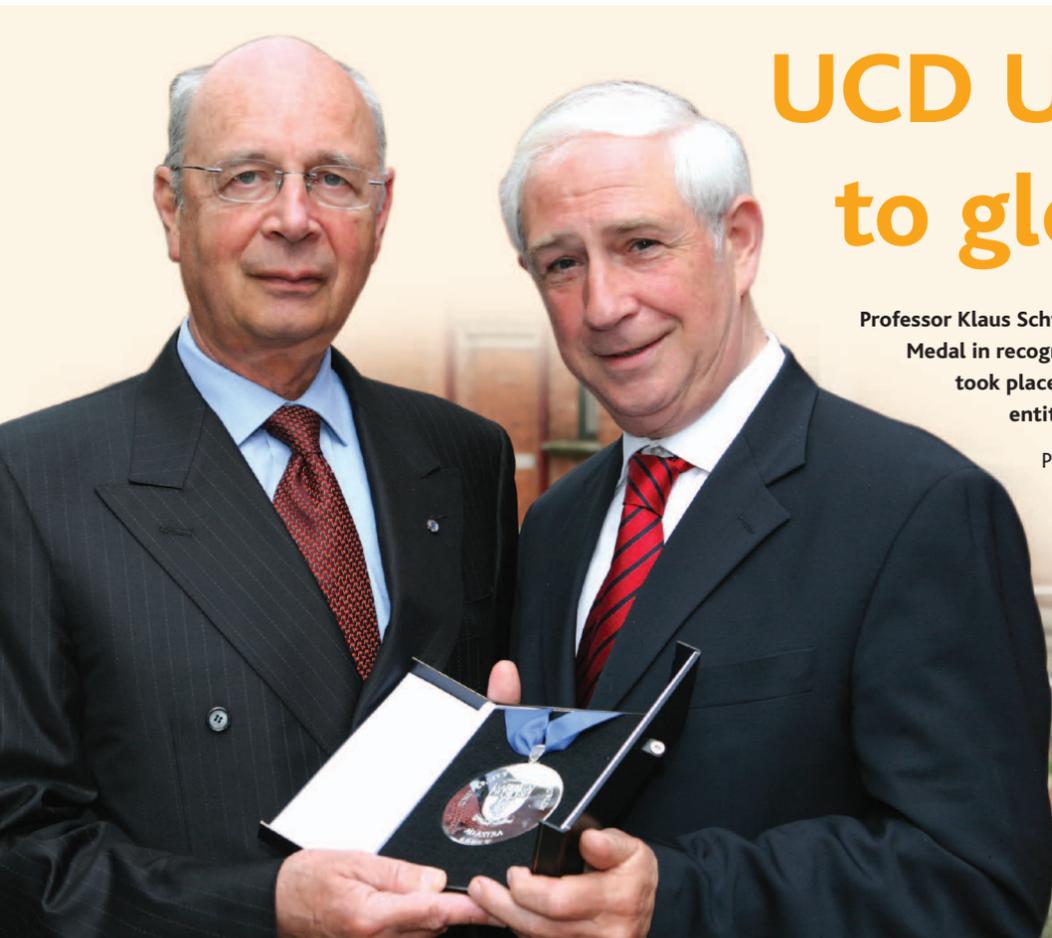
Professor Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum, has been awarded the UCD Ulysses Medal in recognition of his work for entrepreneurship in the global public interest over the past 35 years. The ceremony took place in the UCD Smurfit School of Business on 13 May and was followed by an address by Professor Schwab entitled *The Global Economy 2006: Implications for Ireland*.

Professor Schwab was Professor of Business Policy at the University of Geneva from 1972 to 2002. He holds doctorates in Economics and Engineering, and a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard. He has also received six honorary doctorates, and is the author of several books, including the *Global Competitiveness Report*, which he has been publishing annually since 1979.

He founded the World Economic Forum in 1971 as a non-profit foundation, and under his leadership it promotes global partnership as a means of tackling issues such as third world debt, international trade, the global TB epidemic and the Middle East peace process.

In his career Professor Schwab has served on a number of high-level United Nations advisory groups and has founded other non-profit organisations dedicated to social entrepreneurship and global partnership.

Prof Klaus Schwab (left) pictured with Mr Kieran McGowan, Chairman of UCD's Governing Authority



Royal Irish Academy honours UCD academics

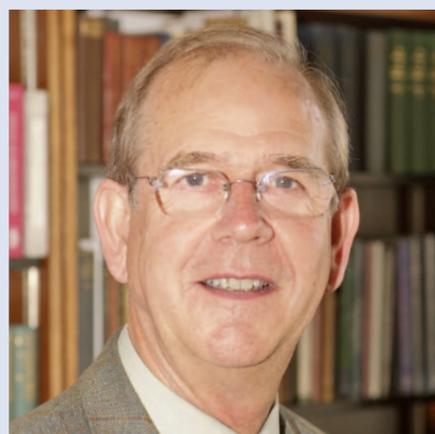
Five UCD academics have been newly elected as members of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA), the principal learned society in Ireland. This is the highest academic honour in the country and rewards candidates that have made a significant contribution to scholarly or scientific research, as shown in published academic work.

The new UCD members are: Andrew Carpenter, Associate Professor of English; Therese Kinsella, Associate Professor of Biochemistry; Patricia Lysaght, Associate Professor of Irish Folklore; Peter Mitchell, Associate Professor of Experimental Physics; and Harry White, Professor of Music.

They join many of Ireland's leading scholars as RIA members, including Seamus Heaney, Garrett Fitzgerald, Mary Robinson and Mary McAleese.



Prof Patricia Lysaght
Associate Professor of European Ethnology



Prof Andrew Carpenter
Head, UCD School of English & Drama



Prof Therese Kinsella
Associate Professor of Biochemistry



Prof Peter Mitchell
Associate Professor of Experimental Physics



Prof Harry White
Professor of Music

Exploring real-world applications of social justice theories

A major international philosophical conference, 'Social Justice in Practice', will be held at UCD from 28 June to 1 July. Hosted by the Association for Legal and Social Philosophy, and sponsored by the UCD School of Politics and International Relations, the UCD School of Social Justice and the UCD College of Human Sciences among others, the conference aims to explore new connections between philosophical debates about social justice and real-world policy dilemmas.

The conference will attract over 200 delegates from Ireland and around the world. Distinguished keynote speakers include Russell Hardin (NYU), Philippe Van Parijs (Harvard/Louvain), Doris Schroeder (Central Lancashire), Jonathan Wolff (UCL) and Avner de-Shalit (Hebrew University), among others. Over 150 papers will be presented on a variety of topics, including health care ethics, genetics, the welfare state, family values, equality and global justice.

For more information, visit the conference webpage at: <http://www.ucd.ie/alsp2006/>

Researchers at the Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB) have been working on synthesising a new anti-cancer drug for the treatment of renal cell cancer, the most common type of kidney cancer.

Every year over 100,000 people worldwide die from renal cell cancer; in Ireland alone some 266 new cases are reported each year. Surgery can be used to treat the disease, but if it has reached an advanced stage, removal of the kidney and/or radiation therapy are the only options - options that are compromised because renal cell cancer has proven very resistant to chemotherapeutic drugs.

Dr Matthias Tacke, Senior Lecturer at the UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, and a researcher with the CSCB, has been working on known anti-cancer drugs belonging to the titanocene family for five years.

"Titanocene dichloride is a cytotoxic anti-cancer drug, which means that it can selectively kill cancer cells. However, in Phase II clinical trials carried out in Germany in 1998, titanocene dichloride was found not to be cytotoxic enough to justify further trials," explains Dr Tacke. "We decided to focus our

research in UCD on making derivatives of titanocene dichloride, which we hoped would be more efficacious."

This research approach led to Dr Tacke's group synthesising 25 new compounds in the laboratory. These compounds were structurally identified and then biologically evaluated. Testing was carried out and one compound was found to be 100 times more cytotoxic than titanocene dichloride. This novel compound also significantly reduced tumour growth in mice.

The testing carried out on mice (who had been infected with a human form of renal cell cancer) shows that Dr Tacke's novel compound has a very promising profile: it is not very toxic for the liver and kidneys, it does not interfere with the blood formation and it activates the immune system instead of weakening it like most other anti-cancer drugs.

According to Dr Tacke, "Our research is aimed at promoting a further improved titanocene into a clinical Phase I study against renal cell cancer in the near future. This could mean that we are on our way here in Ireland to finding an improved chemotherapy product for treating renal cell cancer."

Pictured: James Claffey, Clara Pampillón, Dr Katja Strohfeldt, Dr Matthias Tacke and Nigel Sweeney

CSCB researchers on the trail of new anti-cancer treatment



Robots compete in tense tournament

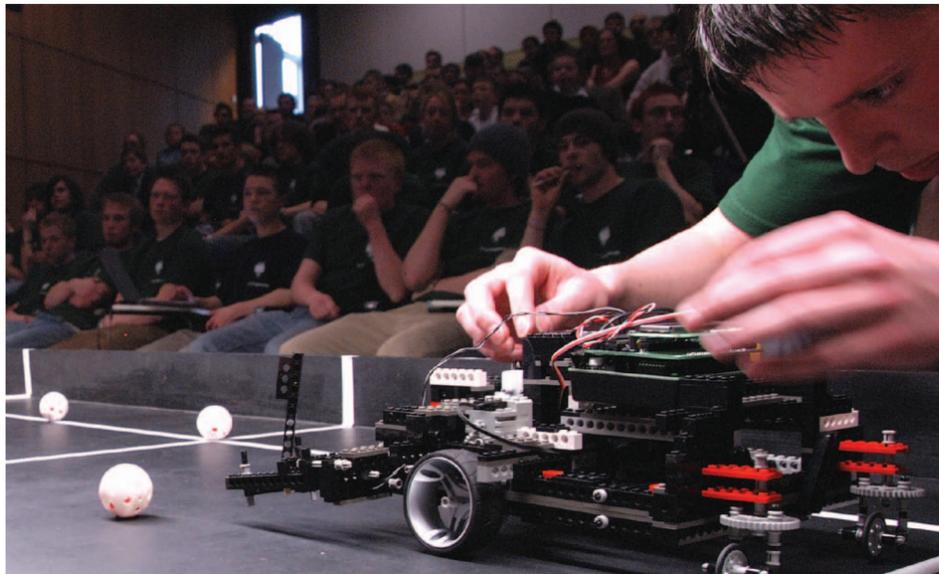
After many weeks of hard work, the teams of first year students from the UCD School of Electrical, Electronic & Mechanical Engineering finally witnessed their robots compete in the UCD Siemens RoboRugby Tournament on Thursday 20 April. All 19 participating robots were built from the same standard kit of parts. A RoboRugby match involves two robots and many balls of different colour and value. Each match lasts for 60 seconds, and the position of the balls at the end of the match determines the score. The robots are controlled by an on-board computer, programmed in advance of the competition – so the team cannot intervene during a match!

A total of 36 matches were played to decide this year's winner, 'The Big GC', which was designed and built by Cathal Finch, Conor Keane Kennedy and Michael Dowd. Second place went to the rank outsider 'Shovel-headed Kill Machine'. With its spring-loaded defensive wall and two projectile ball-collecting carts,

designers Paul Cuffe and Timothy Brosnan were always confident that their robot would reach the final stages. The seemingly random strategy applied by the 'Nutella' robot managed to secure third place for designers Ben Frederiks, Jennifer Murphy, and Michael Leonard on the night. 'Team Elec XL' built by David Kavanagh, Ming-Tak Shum and Talieh Zarab Zadeh rounded out the top four. This small, slow, but solid and consistent robot won a series of close matches before losing to the 'Shovel-headed Kill Machine.'

The Darius RoboRugby Innovation Award, named in memory of the late Darius Vasseghi, was presented to designers John Stokes and Paul Myles for their ingenious scoop and shoot robot 'Pooper Scooper'.

This year, the RoboRugby design exercise forms the basis of a module: EEEN 10020 - Robotics Design Project. It is available as an elective module under the UCD Horizons system, to students who have taken an introductory module in Electronic and Electrical Engineering.



New location technology system at UCD

UCD has teamed up with Ubisense, the leading provider of precise, real-time location technology, to install the largest ever real-time location system (RTLS) in Ireland.

The Ubisense system has been installed in the UCD Computer Science and Informatics building to support the university's research into pervasive computing and the efficiencies of wireless applications. The platform is capable of locating people and assets within 30cm in 3D. This will allow developers to build context-aware applications and manage sensor-based systems in pervasive computing environments.

"We are relying on the Ubisense system to track staff and students so we can build a log of all the data, and identify patterns of movement and associations with their context," said

Paddy Nixon, professor of distributed systems and head of the Systems Research Group, UCD. "This data will help us realise existing issues and limitations associated with current and future wireless applications. For example, the data can be used to locate staff, patients and equipment in hospitals, or create physically interactive multiplayer games to help tackle childhood obesity."

Using the Ubisense platform, UCD is able to precisely monitor and record interactions between people, and between people and devices, such as cell phones or handheld devices. This level of detail will allow UCD to develop pervasive computing systems that can be customised to respond to the smallest changes in a user's movement or location.

Six student media awards for UCD

UCD student newspaper, *The University Observer*, scooped five awards, including newspaper of the year, journalist of the year (Sorcha Nic Mhathúna), news and current affairs writer of the year (Billy Jones) and sports writer of the year (Alan Burns), at the National Student Media Awards 2006 in Dublin in April.

Other student media awards for UCD on the night included Simon Ward for layout and design (UCD's *College Tribune*) and John Holten for the short story category.

The editors of *The University Observer*, Nathalie Márquez Courtney and Sorcha Nic Mhathúna,

were overjoyed with their success at this year's awards. Both Nathalie (Arts and Human Sciences) and Sorcha (Business and Legal Studies) are recent UCD graduates.

The University Observer has won the newspaper of the year award more times than any other student newspaper in Ireland. With over 250 UCD students contributing to the fortnightly publication, it is distributed throughout the UCD campus. Next year's editors have been named as Stephen Carroll, a Law and European Legal Studies student (editor), and Michelle McCormick, an Arts and Humanities student (deputy editor).



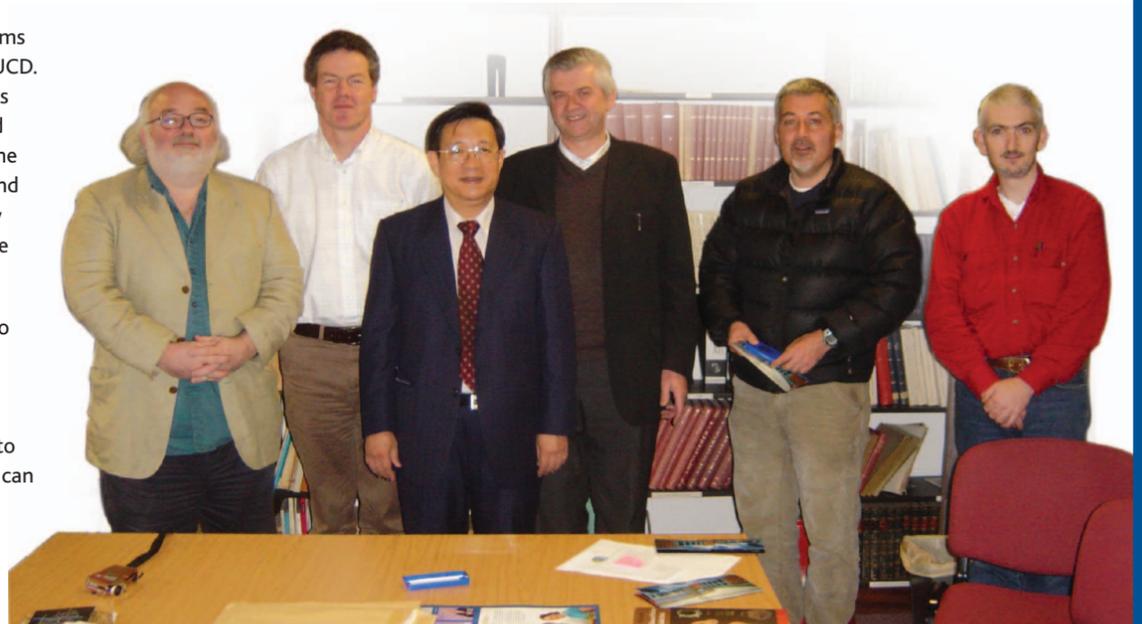
Sorcha Nic Mhathúna (left) and Nathalie Márquez Courtney

Taiwan in Prehistory

Dr Cheng-Hwa Tsang, Director of the National Museum of Prehistory in Taiwan, visited the UCD School of Archaeology and the UCD School of Classics last February with Ms Huei-Chun Wu, Senior Cultural and Educational Officer, Taipei Representative Office in the United Kingdom. Dr Tsang was in Dublin to deliver a lecture at the National Museum of

Ireland on 'Taiwan in Prehistory'. During his visit Dr Tsang talked about the museum of prehistory in Taiwan and the exciting development of a cultural park at Peinan which consists of a visitor centre, ecological park and an archaeological site. He was very interested in learning about archaeological legislation and practice in Ireland.

From left to right: Dr Alan Peatfield, Professor Gabriel Cooney, Dr Cheng-Hwa Tsang, Dr Muiris O'Sullivan, Dr Aidan O'Sullivan, Mr Conor McDermott.



zoology

A balancing act of the senses

Claire O Connell (BSc 1992, PhD 1998) meets Dr Emma Teeling, lecturer at UCD School of Biology & Environmental Science, whose groundbreaking restructuring of the bat family tree has opened up new questions relating to the evolution of our senses.

Everyone knows the expression 'as blind as a bat', but it's not terribly scientific. In fact, large 'megabats' have big eyes with reflective layers to help them see well at night. Meanwhile, smaller 'microbat' species navigate by sound through echolocation, a sophisticated process where they emit high-pitched sound waves and detect how they bounce off objects.

UCD zoologist Dr Emma Teeling is looking at the balance and trade-off between senses in different bat species, and she hopes her approach will shed new light on human conditions such as deafness.

Dr Teeling, a lecturer in the UCD School of Biology & Environmental Science, admits that most people are horrified by bats, but she has a soft spot for the flying mammals, and has recently devoted much of her research to them.

During her undergraduate degree in zoology at UCD, Dr Teeling developed an interest in studying animal behaviour. For her final year project she charted female mating behaviour of fallow deer in the Phoenix Park. Then, for her master's research in Edinburgh, she examined the traits of endangered swift foxes in Canada.

But she soon became aware that other approaches could help her address the larger puzzles her research was opening up. "I suddenly realised that for a lot of the questions I wanted to answer in ecology and evolution I really needed to bring in the molecular aspect," she says.

So she embarked on a PhD in Queen's University Belfast, looking at bat genetics for clues as to when echolocation evolved in bats. Halfway through her project, her supervisor got scooped by a pharmaceutical company, so she finished her doctoral studies in California and then moved to the National Cancer

Dr Emma Teeling

Institute at Frederick, Maryland to work in the laboratory of genomic diversity.

And the emphasis was on diversity. As well as studying bats, Dr Teeling analysed and compared the genetic make-ups of a range of other animals, such as elephants and armadillos. "We looked at trying to reconstruct the evolutionary history of mammals," she explains. "In doing so you can find a pathway or a network of how mammals evolved, so you can work out whether or not certain species are closely related to each other."

Ultimately, her studies there led Dr Teeling to the lead authorship of a paper in the prestigious journal *Science*. It was a groundbreaking piece of work that rearranged the bat family tree.

Previous research on morphology had suggested that the large, seeing megabats evolved first and the echolocating microbats were a more recent development. But the new, genetic analysis showed that the microbats had appeared first, pre-dating their larger, seeing counterparts.

I suddenly realised that for a lot of the questions I wanted to answer in ecology and evolution I really needed to bring in the molecular aspect

Now Dr Teeling wants to use this updated map of the bat lineage to address some interesting questions, such as the consequences of bat species selecting for different senses as they evolved. If the echolocating microbats came first, this suggests that the megabats had, and then later lost, the ability to echolocate. "And if it was lost in megabats, this perhaps resulted from the fact that they started to select for vision," she says.

This balancing act between the senses is the subject of her current research. "If you think about microbats, they selected for hearing, and perhaps there has been some trade-off or some consequence in the selection for their other senses, such as vision and olfaction," she says.

She notes that humans selected sight over smell in our evolution, and now we carry many non-functional genes relating to smell. "The question is, 'what's happening in bats?' If they are selecting for their hearing, is it going to have a consequence on their olfaction; also, what's going to happen with their vision?"

And bats are the perfect model species to look at sensory trade-off, according to Dr Teeling, because they live in such a bizarre niche and they appear to have undergone an important switch in senses relatively recently.

Already, the issues are lining up to be addressed. "What is the consequence of selecting for hearing? What are the consequences for visual genes? Will you have a functional repertoire of proteins in your eye to allow you to see?" asks Dr Teeling. "Can you look at the genomic effects of this relaxed selection and see are there changes over time that make the genes non-functional?"

The work will have implications for other species, including ourselves. "Not much is known about deafness in humans or mammals," Dr Teeling notes, "so if we could find genes that are changing subtly in these auditory specialists, and in other mammals that don't rely as much on their hearing as the bat does, and compare these to the genes in humans, I think this is a really good insight into how auditory function evolved, and it will have direct implications for how we interpret these diseases."

And while part of the research involves "full-on sequencing" of these sensory genes in the lab, there is also a strong element of adventurous fieldwork. One of Dr Teeling's students, Sebastian Puechmaile, is currently tracking populations of the tiny bumble-bee bat in Myanmar (Burma) and Thailand to look at the effects of changing the frequency of echolocation.

"When bats change echolocating call frequency, say, an average of 8-10 KHz, in certain species they suddenly render themselves deaf to each other's calls," explains Dr Teeling. "Bats may speciate very rapidly when they change their echolocating call frequency, and this could perhaps explain why there are huge numbers of different species."

And while Dr Teeling's research on bat hearing, vision and smell will hopefully be able to tell us much about senses, she is also keen to get to grips with the genes of their immune systems in the future. She notes that the tiny mammals could hold important clues about fighting infectious disease because they may have some innate immunity to certain viruses.

"They are very unusual creatures," she says fondly. "And it's wonderful that we now have this tree that we can use to navigate these species and compare them to other species."



Analysing perspectives on crime

Berni Dwan (BA 1981) speaks to Dr Ian O'Donnell, Director of Ireland's first Institute of Criminology, an academic centre located within UCD's School of Law.

Dr Ian O'Donnell outlines his broad definition of criminology: "It covers the causes of crime, different manifestations of crime, how the criminal justice system and society respond to crime, how the media reports it, how the police police it. It covers how the probation service manages the people it works with, how the courts react - what they are thinking about when they are punishing, what kind of penalties they impose, what happens to somebody when they go to prison, how long they serve, what the environment is like from a therapeutic point of view, what the impact is in terms of them re-offending."

When you consider O'Donnell's career before taking up this position, including service as a magistrate on the Oxford bench and a member of the Board of Visitors of Pentonville Prison, you will understand why his definition is so comprehensive. After graduating from Trinity College Dublin with a degree in Psychology he took an MPhil in Criminology at Cambridge. He then became a research assistant at the University of London where he was involved in a study on suicide attempts on the London underground railway system. The epidemiology of suicide later became the topic for his PhD.

O'Donnell was then offered a position as a researcher in the Centre for Criminological Research at the University of Oxford, working on a study of armed robbery in London, which had increased considerably in the early 1990s. "We found that in most cases real loaded firearms weren't used at all because the perpetrators didn't think it was necessary, or didn't want to be put into a situation where they would have to use them."

Also at Oxford, he was involved in a mandatory drug testing study, an issue which is topical in Ireland today: "Cannabis leaves a detectable trace in urine for much longer than heroin, and the universal fear in England was that by introducing mandatory drug testing people were going to switch from cannabis to heroin to beat the test. Now people are saying in Ireland that if we introduce mandatory drug testing we are going to create a heroin epidemic. In the Oxford study we found that this fear is grossly exaggerated. It was very rare for someone who had never used heroin to start using it in order to avoid detection."

After his Oxford stint O'Donnell returned to Ireland as Director of The Irish Penal Reform Trust, just after the general election that followed the killings of Veronica Guerin and Jerry McCabe. "As a lobbying organisation, The Penal Reform Trust tried to contribute to the discussion about how to create a penal system that was humane and effective and decent. But the emotional tone in the debate about crime had changed and there was quite a bit of work to be done to try and address that. The public were being given the message that things were

worse than they had ever been and that a particularly punitive response was needed. It was an attempt by politicians to use the law and order issue to their electoral advantage. They saw that this was something that could be the focus of a campaign and which could be a vote generator. Issues like this had long been politicised in other countries, but this was novel in an Irish setting. The irony was that the crime rate was falling quite steeply in the late 1990s. Part of what I was trying to do was correct this impression that things were out of control and that the only way to respond was with more Gardaí and less tolerance."

O'Donnell became Director of the Institute of Criminology in 2005. The Institute tenders for research, and that's where the funding comes from. He is just finishing off a study for the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, looking at child pornography and how it is handled by the criminal justice system. "The purpose of this project is to look at how the police handled the cases resulting from operation Amethyst, what the DPP did when they were brought to his attention, and how the judges sentenced."

He is also conducting a three-year study of prisoner recidivism in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Missouri, St Louis, with major funding from the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences. "As well as being of academic interest it's really important baseline information that has not been available in the past. If you don't know what the recidivism rate is how can you compare imprisonment against another sanction?"

O'Donnell recently edited a source book of criminal justice statistics launched by Minister for Justice, Michael McDowell. "We are keen to showcase what we are doing. That's the drive - get the funding in to do the research, but always with an

Dr Ian O'Donnell

eye to making sure that that research generates the right kind of outputs. These could be reports for government bodies or recommendations for policy change, but also articles appearing in the leading academic journals."

Where does the Institute go from here? "As well as completing commissioned studies we pursue our own research interests. Currently the staff is largely contract-based, and part of the development plan is to increase the number of permanent staff over the short to medium term. The dearth of research in criminology to date in Ireland makes it an attractive destination for students from abroad, allowing them to introduce a comparative dimension to their work. But then you need the staff to supervise postgraduates, and that is why we need to build the PhD constituency and to structure that process."



Journal of Criminology

ChangingWorlds expands research centre

ChangingWorlds, a spin-out from the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics, has expanded its Advanced Research Centre at NovaUCD. The company opened its Advanced Research Centre in August 2005 with 10 research staff, and has now expanded this team to a total of 17 highly-qualified software engineers. These engineers work together with researchers at the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics to develop advanced personalisation technologies for the mobile telecommunications industry.

ChangingWorlds was co-founded in 1999 by Professor Barry Smyth and Paul Cotter to commercialise their research into personalisation and artificial intelligence technologies at UCD's Smart Media Institute. It is now the leading global provider of personalisation and mobile portal solutions and has rolled out its flagship ClixSmart™ Intelligent Mobile Portal platform to over 30 mobile network operators worldwide, including Vodafone, O2, TeliaSonera, Mobikom and Wataniya Telecom groups.

ChangingWorlds currently employs over 70 people and is headquartered in Sandyford, Co. Dublin. The company has recently opened new offices in San Francisco and Kuala Lumpur to support its business development activities in North America and Asia.



Mr Vincent Ryan, Vice-President Sales & Marketing, ChangingWorlds; Dr Pat Frain, Director, NovaUCD and Mr Luke Conroy, CEO, ChangingWorlds.

Cancer research funding for psychology students

Four UCD doctoral psychology students have been awarded funding for psycho-oncology research. The Irish Hospice Foundation recently awarded Mary O'Regan, a postgraduate student on the doctoral programme in Clinical Psychology, a grant for her research entitled *Validation of the Demoralisation Scale in an Irish Oncology Sample*. Mary is supervised by Dr Barbara Dooley, Head of UCD School of Psychology, and Dr Eoin Tiernan, St Vincent's University Hospital.

In addition, Cancer Research Ireland has awarded Oncology Scholars Travel Awards (OSTA) to three PhD candidates in the UCD School of Psychology to travel to the 8th World Congress on Psycho-Oncology in Venice in October 2006 to present their work.

Aidan McKiernan's project is titled *Developing and Evaluating a Coping-Skills Programme for Breast Cancer Patients*. This research is funded by St Luke's Institute of Cancer Research and is supervised by Professor Alan Carr, Director, Doctoral Programme in Clinical Psychology, UCD and Dr Sean Steggles, St Luke's Hospital.

Emma Meyler's project is titled *Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Therapeutic Recreation Family Programme in Reducing the Psychosocial Impact of Childhood Cancer*. This research is funded by Cancer Research Ireland and is supervised by Dr Suzanne Guerin, UCD School of Psychology, Dr Gemma Kiernan, Dublin City University and Dr Fin Breatnach, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin.

Mary Ivers's project is titled *The Cansurvivor Project Rehabilitation Programme: Meeting the Bio-Psycho-Social Needs Of Post-Treatment Cancer Survivors in The East Coast Area*. This research is funded by the HSE-East Coast Area and is supervised by Dr Barbara Dooley, Head of UCD School of Psychology, and Ms Ursula Bates, St Vincent's University Hospital.



Pictured left to right: Emma Meyler, Mary Ivers, Dr Barbara Dooley, Aidan McKiernan, Mary O'Regan

Advancing research in information and library studies

The UCD School of Information and Library Studies has appointed three new postdoctoral research fellows. Dr Heiko Haubitz, who obtained his doctorate from The University of Texas at Austin, is carrying out research on "The Use of Public Web Portals by Undergraduate Students". Dr Claire McGuinness, a UCD graduate, is researching the topic of "Information Literacy in Academic Institutions". Dr McGuinness has lectured for a number of years in the UCD School of Information and Library Studies on this emerging area. Dr Clare Thornley, who obtained her PhD from the University of Strathclyde, is pursuing research interests in information retrieval, language and meaning. Dr Thornley is also driving strategic research initiatives within the School, with the goal of obtaining external funding for research projects.



Dr Claire Thornley



Dr Claire McGuinness



Dr Heiko Haubitz

Odysseus computer summer school

Sixteen talented undergraduate students, both local and international, have been granted paid internships with Odysseus (ODCSSS), the Online Dublin Computer Science Summer School, which will run this year from 6 June to 25 August. The summer school is a collaboration between the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics and the School of Computing at Dublin City University and is supported by Adaptive Information Cluster. The goal is to get students involved in leading edge research projects and perhaps

inspire them to pursue careers in research. Projects are distributed across research labs in DCU and UCD and are arranged into the four thematic research strands of Imaging and Visualisation, Speech and Language Processing, Pervasive Computing and Software Engineering. The summer camp will also include industry visits, workshops, careers talks and social outings. Applications for Odysseus 2006 are now closed, but for more information on next year's summer school, visit www.odcsss.ie.

Back to the future

Imagine you left college 20 years ago. You are thinking back to blackboards, large cramped theatres, hunting the library for that elusive journal and wondering where exactly you are meeting up for a few drinks that night.

For graduates of the BComm at UCD, the reality of life for current students could not be more different. The class of 2006 decided as part of this year CommDay activities, that alumni should come see for themselves how things have changed in UCD and witness the future of business education.

On 6 April last, graduates were invited back to UCD Quinn School of Business to experience life as a business student in 2006. Organised entirely by current students and sponsored by Price Waterhouse Coopers, the theme was to highlight how technology now impacts and enhances the learning environment of business students.

For example - "Blackboard" is now an intranet site providing students with all the information they require on all courses, classes are small, journals can now be located online and emailing allows instant communication with friends. The alumni were also able to view some of the projects and practical work undertaken by students and learn about how international UCD Quinn School of Business has become including the new BComm with Chinese Studies programme.

Over 100 graduates arrived for the event, which involved viewing some of the projects and practical work undertaken by students, a tour of the modern UCD Quinn School of Business, and speeches from BComm Graduate, Senator Feargal Quinn, Dean Tom Begley and a current student.

Pictured at the UCD Quinn School 'Back to the Future' evening (left to right) Feargal O'Rourke, PriceWaterhouseCoopers; Michelle Kurtz (BComm); Senator Feargal Quinn; Rebecca McCready (BComm); Paul Haran, Principal, UCD College of Business & Law; Mark Byrne (BComm)



Revolution in mapping

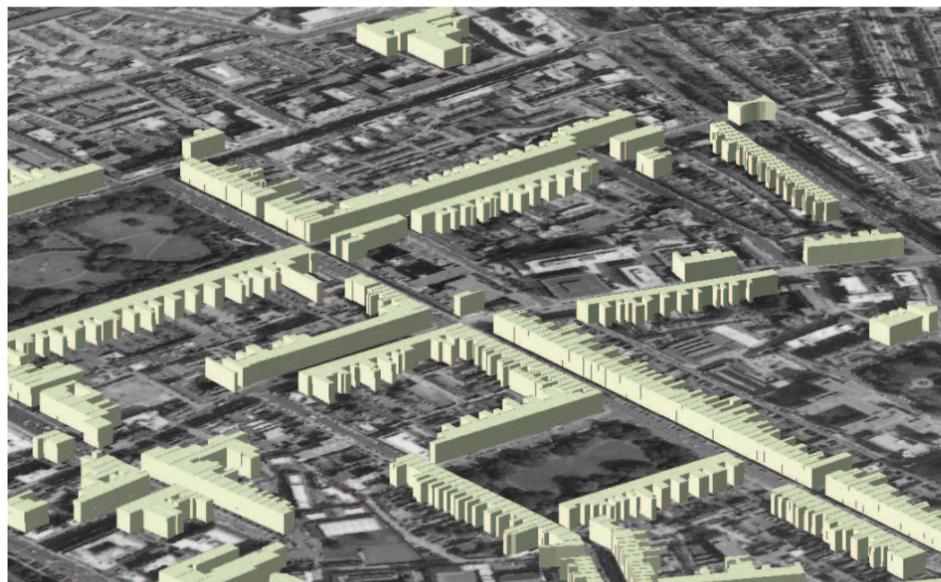
Over the past three years there has been a quiet revolution going on in the field of mapping. Web mapping sites such as Google Maps/Earth allow you to zoom from a global perspective down to street level using high resolution satellite images where available. While these sites have shown the power of mapping and the relevance of the spatial information, they are often not very useful for scholars or researchers who are looking for more focused local information such as the change of population in the Dublin metropolitan area between 1996 and 2002 or the change in agricultural land use between 1990 and 2000 for the west of Ireland.

The URBIS (Urban Information System) Geodatabase is a new resource available within UCD to support specialised map analysis. UCD's Urban Institute and UCD Richview

Library have been working on organising and making available the multitude of spatial data available from various sources such as Ordnance Survey Ireland, the Central Statistics Office and the Environmental Protection Agency. URBIS enables the integration, querying and analysis of spatial and non-spatial data, to give researchers a better understanding of the changing landscape of the country.

Currently, the types of mapping that can be done include:

- Administrative:** boundaries from county down to Electoral District and Post Code
- Environmental:** land use, rivers, lakes
- Transportation:** road, rail, airports
- Census:** Small Area Populations Statistics from 1981 to 2002
- Architectural:** the Dublin Environmental Inventory.



This view of central Dublin is based on an oblique aerial photograph of the area around Merrion Square and Fitzwilliam Square in Dublin. The listed buildings in this area are shown as three dimensional shapes that have been geocoded and superimposed on the photograph.

UCD Students Awarded World Heritage Fellowships at UNESCO

Two UCD postgraduate students, Sandra Flavin and Julian Machange, were awarded fellowships at the official launch of the first International Fellowship Programme for future World Heritage Site managers. The awards took place at UNESCO in Paris

Both students are enrolled on the Masters in World Heritage Management at the UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science. This Masters programme, the first such programme worldwide, has been running since 2003 in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre at UNESCO which coordinates the management of 812 World Heritage Sites worldwide. The aim of the programme is to support and promote the education and training of World Heritage Site managers.

Julian Machange, from Tanzania, received the award for his proposal to study the impact of the reintroduction of livestock on the socio-economic life of Maasai people and on the ecological integrity of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. Sandra Flavin will explore the natural values of the Japanese Island of Iriomote and examine the need for an

Julian Machange receiving his award from Mme F. Riviere, Assistant Director General of UNESCO (picture courtesy of Didier Plowy)

integrated management plan reconciling tourism and conservation of the island. Iriomote has been described as the 'Galapagos of Asia' and the 'last remaining wilderness of Japan', as up to 90 per cent of the island is still undeveloped.



Sandra Flavin, who is currently an exchange student at Charles Darwin University in Australia



UCD Open Days: working together to welcome the individual

In an increasingly competitive higher education environment, where both national and international universities are working hard to attract Ireland's best secondary school students, the need for UCD to actively promote excellence in its undergraduate and postgraduate programme offerings to potential students is clear. UCD has responded to this - Student Recruitment at UCD is gathering momentum and a College Recruitment Network has been established to develop successful recruitment activity.

The first main undergraduate recruitment event since the establishment of both the new UCD Student Recruitment Office and the College Recruitment Network was the UCD Open Days, held on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March 2006. Over 15,000 students and teachers from 25 counties across Ireland travelled to the Belfield campus over the 2 days. 87% of those attending were fifth year students, who will be making their CAO applications in January 2007.

UCD Open Days have a number of objectives. They provide prospective students with an opportunity to speak to staff and students about the various programme and career options open to them at UCD, including new opportunities available through our modular undergraduate curriculum, UCD *Horizons*. They also allow prospective students to sample the atmosphere and life as a UCD student, and to check out campus facilities and services including the on-campus student residences and outstanding sports facilities.

In total, there were 15 campus venues hosting on-site talks, demonstrations and displays. Close to 1,000 UCD staff and students participated, which indicates the level of involvement across the UCD community. And the hard work paid off. This year, feedback gathered from schools indicates that students spent a significantly increased number of hours at Open Days than in the past, and found Open Days very interesting and enjoyable.



Close to 1,000 UCD staff and students participated in March Open Days 2006

New initiatives for 2006 Open Days

"By the Students, for the Students"

One of the exciting new features of March Open Days was a new series of talks run "By the Students, for the Students" which were chaired by James Carroll, SU President and Dan Hayden, SU Welfare Officer and President Elect. These "Students' Perspective" talks were held from 11-12 and 1-2 on both days: each hour included four student speakers from different programme areas speaking for 10 minutes on their experience of studying at UCD followed by a five minute Q&A. This feature was a great success and will be developed further for next year's Open Days.

Career Guidance Counsellors' Colloquium

This year, all dedicated events for careers guidance counsellors, including the colloquium, coffee and lunch, were held in O'Reilly Hall. There was an increased UCD staff attendance at these events, providing a greater opportunity for networking and communication between career guidance counsellors and UCD staff.

Prize-winning exhibition stands

For the first time prizes were given for the Best Programme Area exhibition stand and the Best Student Experience exhibition stand. The winners this year were UCD Engineering and Architecture (Best Programme Area stand) and UCD Accommodation (Best Student Experience stand).

UCD Open Days staff

Close to 1,000 UCD staff and current students were involved in UCD Open Days last March. Staff members and students from across this community share their perspective of working at UCD Open Days:

Frances Payne: UCD College Network Rep for Engineering and Architecture



As co-ordinator for Engineering and Architecture at Open Days, Frances Payne was delighted that they won the Best Programme Area exhibition stand, and stresses that it was very much a team effort:

she got staff involved through the schools liaison committee, and they were enormously enthusiastic and supportive. Their main objective was to show how exciting Engineering is at third level, and they aimed to make each stand as interactive and engaging as possible. The 'Build your own burglar alarm' feature, for example, was extremely popular with students, and ensured they were constantly surrounded by a crowd of enthusiastic students. Describing the experience as "exciting, nerve racking and very enjoyable" Frances is looking forward to the next UCD Open Day.

Siobhan Kelly, UCD Accommodation Rep



The UCD Accommodation exhibition stand, which won the Best Student Experience display was co-ordinated by Siobhan Kelly, who says they are already planning their stand for the next Open

Days in December 2006. The key message they wanted to convey was that UCD is a welcoming, lively and supportive place to live, a home from home for many people moving away from their families for the first time. The Accommodation stand used a range of branded promotional items to attract students to their stand, such as yo-yos, fliers, pens, balloons and short and snappy PowerPoint presentations. A huge part of this year's success, in Siobhan's perspective, was that staff came out from behind the stands to talk to students, giving a more approachable and friendly impression of UCD.

Dr Joe Carthy (Senior Lecturer, UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics)



Joe Carthy worked with the Science Programme Office which co-ordinated stands for each school at UCD Open Days as well as representing the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics. An

increased effort was made this year to recruit postgraduate students to staff stands which worked very well, and was a welcome addition to a team which is very often the same people every year. 'Think Science...Think UCD' was the key message of the Science stands, using visual displays, posters and fliers to promote the diversity of Science programmes available at UCD. Joe also participated in the Career Guidance Colloquium which he felt was a valuable forum for the exchange of ideas and feedback. The highlight of the day, however, was interacting with interested students - "that's what makes it all so worthwhile".

Peadar Grant, UCD Student Steward



Peadar Grant is a final year Electronic and Electrical Engineering student at UCD. He volunteered to be a Student Steward as he felt he could contribute by talking to school-leavers about student life

and providing an insight into the area he is studying. The highlight of his day was talking to two fifth-year students, who noted that when they arrived at UCD Open Days, they had no intention of going to UCD. However, having met and talked in detail to a Student Steward from Medicine, one of the two students had decided she wanted to do Medicine at UCD. Through stories like this, there was a real sense of making a difference: "It was great to see everyone pulling together and saying 'Let's do the Open Day, let's do a brilliant Open Day', which I think really did happen. I think you get more out of it than you put into it."

Moss Garde, UCD Student Adviser and Open Days Student Stewards Co-ordinator



Moss Garde was involved in the management and recruitment of Open Days student stewards and the UCD Astra Hall visitor registration and welcome pack collection. Moss sees UCD Open

Days as the university's chance to showcase itself to the secondary students of Ireland and is, therefore, well worth the effort and hard work that is involved in the lead-up to the event. The highlight for Moss is the collective buzz which is generated throughout campus by the event, and which prospective students pick up on: "I think when you get a very large group of students together for a worthwhile event they create a synergy of their own and this grows and the effect is felt throughout the campus community and by the visitors."

Siobhan Curtis, UCD Student Perspective Speaker



Siobhan Curtis, a first year DN010 (Agricultural Science Omnibus) student, gave the "Students' Perspective" talk for the Agricultural Science area. In her talk, Siobhan covered her own attendance at UCD

Open Days, the reasons behind her CAO choices, her first week at college, freshers' week, clubs and societies, Ag Soc, what you'd do on a typical day in first year including labs, practicals and meeting classmates. She also noted how she had benefited from UCD *Horizons* by choosing an elective from outside her core area, and listed the possible career areas that some of the Ag Science graduates had chosen. Siobhan felt that the school students who attended genuinely benefited from her talk: "I started off by saying that two years ago I was sitting in the same seats that they were sitting in - I think that got a lot of them to listen up."

Conferring of NUI honorary doctorates

On Friday 7 April the NUI Chancellor, Dr Garret FitzGerald, conferred NUI honorary degrees on the following recipients:

Dr H.E. Louise Arbour, UN High Commissioner For Human Rights, (Degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD)); Dr Caroline Casey, humanitarian activist, (Degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD)); Dr William C. Harris, Director General, Science Foundation Ireland, (Degree of Doctor of Science (DSc)); Dr John McCarthy, Director, International

Centre for Career Development and Public Policy, (Degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD)); Dr Michael Elmore Meegan, Founder, International Community for Relief of Starvation and Suffering (ICROSS) (Degree of Doctor of Medicine (DMed)); Dr Martin Sheen, actor, (Degree of Doctor of Arts (DArts)); Dr Philip Treacy, designer, (Degree of Doctor of Fine Arts (DFA))



Dr Caroline Casey pictured at the NUI Honorary degrees conferring ceremony with Dr Martin Sheen.

Empires of religion

A conference sponsored by the UCD Australian Studies Centre, the UCD School of History and Archives, and the Micheál Ó Cléirigh Institute will be held from 20–21 June at the Global Irish Institute. The 'Empires of Religion' conference will consider the many ways in which religion has accompanied the expansion and overthrow of empires during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Keynote speakers at the conference include Professor Catherine Hall (University College London) and Dr Anne O'Brien (University of New South Wales, Australia). For further information contact conference organiser Hilary Carey at hilary.carey@ucd.ie.

Retired UCD staff dinner

On Monday 24 April a reception and dinner was held at O Reilly Hall to honour UCD staff who retired during the academic session 2004/05. Almost 100 retired staff attended the event, at which the president, Dr Hugh Brady, thanked those present for their significant contributions, in particular their contributions to the UCD change programme. Professor Frank Hegarty, former VP for Research, spoke on behalf of the retired staff, and acknowledged their appreciation of the event.



Left to right: Brendan Riordan, Mary Riordan, Sister Marcellina Murphy, Sheila Murphy

UCD joins Universitas 21

UCD has recently become a member of Universitas 21, the first major network for international higher education. Universitas 21 was founded in 1997, bringing together some of the leading research-led universities around the world. It has evolved into an internationally recognised partnership, which strives to facilitate collaboration and co-operation between the member universities, creating entrepreneurial opportunities on a scale that no member would be able to achieve operating independently or through traditional bilateral alliances. Together, Universitas 21 members work to achieve a programme underpinned by four key elements: Global Learning, Cross-National Research, Technologies and Delivery Mechanisms, Public Policy & Community Engagement.



Left to right: Colin Ireland, Vic Connerty, Honóra ní Chríogáin

SPORT

Congratulations to Derval O'Rourke

Former UCD sports scholar Derval O'Rourke took the gold medal in the 60-metres hurdles at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Moscow, beating Glory Alozie (Olympic silver medallist in 2000) of Spain into second and reigning European indoor champion, Susanne Kallur of Sweden into third.

Derval is the first Irish woman to win an indoor world gold and achieved this mighty feat in a new Irish record of 7.84 seconds. Derval was a UCD sports scholar during her undergraduate years. She graduated with a BA in 2003 and a DBS in 2005. Sending best wishes to Derval, Director of Sport, Brian Mullins said that he hoped her success would be an inspiration to the current sports scholars.



Derval O'Rourke

UCD women's hockey win Leinster Senior Cup

Gavin Cummiskey (BA 2001) met with Roisin Flinn, who scored two crucial goals for UCD to secure the Leinster Senior Cup

The UCD women's hockey team won a second Leinster Senior Cup on St Patrick's Day - bridging a 53-year gap since they last annexed the province. The president of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady, honoured their landmark achievement with a reception at University Lodge, where he met and congratulated the team and their support crew.

From the start of the game, the team displayed a resilient streak that had been missing from previous meetings with Railway Union. In a league match last year they coughed up a three-goal lead against Railway, eventually losing 4-3. This season they repeated the trick in the league by going 1-0 up only to allow their rivals prevail 2-1.

Roisin Flinn's first goal in the final was cancelled out 15 minutes into the second half by Sinead Dooley, but that nauseating feeling that so regularly seeps into the young psyche when in pressurised scenarios never came: "It didn't really cross

my mind when they levelled it in the Cup final but it was great to put that issue to bed," said Flinn.

The Limerick girl, who moved up to Dublin just in time to sit her Junior Certificate at St Andrews College in Booterstown, had given UCD a dream start by taking advantage of a clever pass from Sarah Gleeson to fire into the net before half-time.

The goal that decided the contest was thanks to being in the right place at the right time. "The second goal came off a shot from our captain Jane Bourke. I just stuck my stick out and in it went." There wasn't enough time for Railway to generate a revival and spoil the party again.

The brace of goals put Flinn's name up in lights but as her descriptions of the build-up prove, she prefers to deflect the plaudits onto others. Still, her sporting pedigree is unquestioned. Before hockey became a complete priority, she played under-17 international soccer for Ireland and has played for Leinster at every underage level.

Individual senior honours are an aspiration but they remain in the distance. "This is my last year at under-21 and it is a big step up to



Roisin Flinn (left) UCD Ladies Hockey

senior level so hopefully in about a year I will have developed enough to attain representative honours. Of course, I'd love to play for Ireland but that's another day's work."

Winning Leinster ended the long absence of silverware for women's hockey at Belfield but victory also provides an invaluable benchmark for all third level hockey teams to aspire to.

"We found out that it was 53 years since UCD last won the Leinster Cup at a training session just before the final. Nobody realised it had been so long as UCD have always produced good hockey teams, with a good few campaigns in recent years. It was great that we bridged the gap not just for us but for college hockey in general."

Flinn doesn't remember seeing a broader smile on coach Tom O' Donoghue's face than on March 17th. "Tom's levels of commitment have been extraordinary. He expects more from the team than any other coach I have ever come across. It seemed like winning the Cup was the greatest day of his life."

UCD Ladies Hockey team pictured with (front row, left to right) former Club President, Lorna Mitchell; UCD Director of Sport, Mr Brian Mullins; Team Captain, Jane Bourke; President of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady; Club President, Elaine Anthony; Team Manager, Pete Johnson and (third row, far left) Team Coach, Tom O'Donoghue.



A trio of wins at the boat races



Annual Colours Boat Race, UCD v Trinity, 2006

UCD's Senior Women secured the Corcoran Cup for a second year with a two-length win over Trinity at the 56th Annual Colours Boat Race. The race also saw the Novice Women trounce Trinity by six lengths, while the Novice Men pulled off what judges described as an easy victory over that rival Dublin university.

This year the race was incorporated into the St Patrick's Festival, and consisted of teams from Trinity and UCD taking part in a unique 2,200m regatta-style race on the River Liffey (from O'Connell Bridge to the Guinness Brewery). The unusual effect of the tidal flow against the walls of the Liffey, as well as the winding nature of the course itself, provided for a thrilling and unusual twist to the traditional regatta style of side-by-side racing seen at the World Championships and Olympic regattas.

The Novice race is strictly for students who have never rowed before, but the UCD teams proved their natural aptitude for the sport with easy wins against Trinity.

The main events of the day were the Senior Men's and Senior Women's races, as UCD sought to repeat last year's victorious performances to retain their titles.

The UCD Senior Women showed a cool head when rowing through Trinity's early lead. Coaxed by Aven McGreel, the crew secured a convincing victory of two lengths over their Trinity opposition to hold on to the Corcoran Cup.

For the Gannon Cup, the UCD Senior Men had a good start, but a strong Trinity crew took a lead of a canvas early on in the race. UCD held them to this lead, and coming past the Four Courts, pushed hard, drawing back level. The bend in the river then saw Trinity pull ahead once again going into the final straight. A last push by UCD saw them pull back slightly, but their efforts were not enough to prevent Trinity winning by half a length.

Still, the women and the novices made UCD overall winners of this year's Colours race.

Varsity victory

UCD Senior Men's basketball team emerged as intervarsity champions at the 54th intervarsity tournament in the University of Limerick. UCD co-captain Kevin Foley was also found Most Valuable Player of the tournament, which took place in March.

Three wins in the group competition - against UCC, the Royal College of Surgeons and DIT - put UCD firmly into the quarter-finals, where they were to face arch-rivals, Trinity. After a tough game against the Dublin team, UCD came away with a well-earned win to get through to the semi-finals.

UCD went on to trounce the varsity holders, Queen's, in a game that saw an excellent first-half performance from UCD, and gave them a comfortable lead going into the half-time break. In the final two quarters Eddie Crudden and Chris Doyal were in excellent form underneath the boards, and with Ian O'Boyle providing some baskets off the bench in the final quarter, the win was sealed to put UCD into the varsity final.

Led by coach Pat Glover on the sideline, and co-captains Padraig O'Donoghue and Kevin Foley on the court, UCD came up against home team UL in a final that saw

UCD race to a quick 14-point lead. The key was on the defensive end, where a suffocating man-to-man defence did not allow UL any points. The second quarter, however, was one to forget for the UCD team; no baskets scored and too many given away put UL back in the game.

But the colossal performance of UCD's Chris Doyal, and some big baskets from Kevin Foley and James Donnelly, meant that UCD was down by only a point in the last minute. With

only 13 seconds left, Eddie Crudden hit the biggest shot of the tournament and put UCD one point ahead of UL. Foley pulled off an amazing defensive play and scrapped UL's chances of a comeback. Doyal sealed the win with two free throws that resulted in a three-point win for UCD at the final buzzer.

As a bonus to the champions of Irish college basketball, UCD's Eddie Crudden, Chris Doyal and MVP Kevin Foley were deservedly selected to the all-star team.



UCD Men's Basketball Club - Intersvarsity Champions 2005/2006

The future is bright for UCD rugby

As the rugby season comes to an end, UCD players can look back on a successful season, both at a domestic level for the club and at representative level for many UCD players.

The First XV team finished mid-table in the AIB League. November's colours match against Trinity was eagerly awaited due to last year's draw between the sides. However, it was evident after 80 minutes that last year was a once-off when UCD stretched the lead and retained the colours trophy for the 10th year in a row.

At under-20 level both the A and B sides brought home silverware to Belfield. The Under-20 As beat Seapoint 47-7 in the last match to win the JP Fanagan League for the fourth year in a row. The Under-20 Bs had an equally successful season, winning the Purcell Cup.

The past season has seen a record number of UCD players being selected on various representative sides, both at interprovincial

and international level. In March both Stephen Grissing and UCD club captain, Kevin Croke, were named in the AIB Irish Club International side for the clash against a Scottish side in Donnybrook.

Prior to the Club International, UCD Academy players represented Ireland against Wales at various levels. At under-19 level, UCD had four students represented in the starting XV. These included Ian Keatley, Richard Sweeney, Kevin Sheahan and Conor McInerney, who captained Ireland. At under-21 level, Fergus McFadden and Sean O'Brien had a very positive game with Ireland against Wales. Even though the side lost, RTÉ commentators singled out both McFadden and O'Brien for praise, in a match shown live from Athlone.

For the St Patrick's weekend, a number of UCD RFC Academy players gained both interprovincial and international honours. UCD had nine players travelling to England on Ireland duty, with two players on the Ireland A

squad (Robert Kearney and Ronan McCormack), two on the under-21 squad (Fergus McFadden and Sean O'Brien) and five on the under-19 squad (Ian Keatley, David Gilchrist, Conor McInerney, Kevin Sheahan and Richard Sweeney). All five of the above were selected on the recent Irish under-19 World Cup squad that won four out of five games in Dubai.

In Leinster, UCD's contracted players were joined by five of their AIB League team-mates with six players named on the Leinster squad that played Petrarca Padova on the Friday night in Donnybrook and five players named on the Leinster A squad that played Munster A in Roscrea RFC on the Thursday night.

All of the above young players are part of the UCD Rugby Academy and play for the UCD Under-20 or Senior side. It is clear that both UCD and Ireland will benefit greatly from the development of these players. The future is certainly bright for UCD.

UCD RFC First XV Winners of Annual Colours 2005



Images of Research Competition

UCD Research has announced a new images competition called **Picture This** which aims to find the most innovative and imaginative research images from across the university.

The competition encourages everybody engaged in research, in UCD and its affiliated teaching hospitals, to submit compelling images created in the course of their research, or related to it. The competition is open to academics, researchers, technicians, postdoctoral fellows and research postgraduate students. Individuals can enter as often as they like and images from multidisciplinary teams are also welcomed.

One of the aims of the competition is to showcase the range and diversity of research underway at UCD, so a selection of images submitted will be exhibited in an online gallery. Winning images will also be featured in university publications and on the website and the 12 winning images will create the first research calendar for UCD. Prizes, which include laptops and iPods, will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and there will be nine other prize-winners.

Further information is available on www.ucd.ie/research along with an online application form. Queries can be emailed to researchimages@ucd.ie



A new competition, Picture This, will have prizes for innovative research-based images

Grant awarded for history of medicine research

The Wellcome Trust has awarded UCD and the University of Ulster a joint **Strategic Enhancement Award** to explore the social history of medicine in Ireland. The award, which is valued at €400,000, will be used to fund PhD scholars, research assistants and conferences to further develop the discipline in Ireland. The UCD project leaders are Professor Mary E. Daly, Principal, UCD College of Arts and Celtic Studies, and Dr Catherine Cox, UCD School of History and Archives.

Established in 1936, the Wellcome Trust is an independent charity that was founded by Sir Henry Wellcome. As laid out in his will, its mission is to foster and promote medical research, with the aim of improving human and animal health. With an endowment of around £11 billion, it is the UK's largest non-governmental source of funds for biomedical research.

The Strategic Enhancement Award supports groups of historians of medicine within UK and Irish universities and is given to institutions with a demonstrable commitment to the area.

Correction:

In the March 2006 issue of UCD Today, page 8, it was incorrectly stated that in June 1997 President Mary McAleese, as Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, led a delegation to Shenzhen University. President McAleese in fact held the position of Pro-Vice Chancellor of Queen's at this time.

Students bring computer science to Ethiopia

This summer, nine students from UCD's School of Computer Science and Informatics will journey to Ethiopia to share their technical skills with local teachers, as part of an innovative aid programme that seeks to bring technology and expertise to the developing world. Ethiopia has a population of 72 million people, yet in 2004 produced only 100 degree-level computer science graduates.

The trip has been organised in collaboration with Camara, a non-profit organisation that has already sent over 100 computers to Africa in the past 12 months, for use in teacher training colleges and secondary and primary schools. Camara was founded by Cormac Lynch, a graduate of UCD's MA in Development Studies.

Camara's plan is to match outgoing expertise with need in Africa. On this trip, the UCD students will instruct local teachers in the town of Awassa, south of Addis Abbaba, in basic computing skills. In future years the goal will be to provide the participants with a formal IT qualification.



UCD volunteers left to right: Nicola Hoey, Paula Maguire, Zara Shiel, Abey Campbell, Eoghan Crosby, Rory McCann, John Stafford.