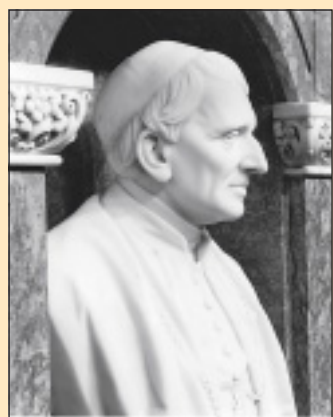




TIMELINE: In 1855 there were just 17 students. Today UCD has 22,000 students



1854/55 - FIRST ACADEMIC YEAR: In 1854, the movement spearheaded by Cardinal Cullen and led by John Henry Cardinal Newman (left), succeeds in opening the doors of a new university to bring higher education to a broad sweep of Irish people. The Catholic University opens on November 3rd 1854 - 17 students enrol, the first Daniel O'Connell, the Liberator's grandson. The university opens with three houses: St Patrick's or University House at 86 St Stephen's Green, St Lawrence's at 16 Harcourt Street, and St Mary's at Newman's own house, 6 Harcourt Street. The Catholic University Medical School opens in Cecilia Street - by the end of the century it is the largest medical school in the country.
17 STUDENTS

1856 - UNIVERSITY CHURCH: The beautiful University Church is opened on St Stephen's Green. Apart from religious services it is used for public university functions, the opening of academic sessions and the making of awards.

1879 - ROYAL UNIVERSITY: The University Education (Ireland) Act 1879 brought in by Disraeli's government leads to the establishment of the Royal University of Ireland (incorporated by charter in 1880), a non-teaching, degree-awarding institution.

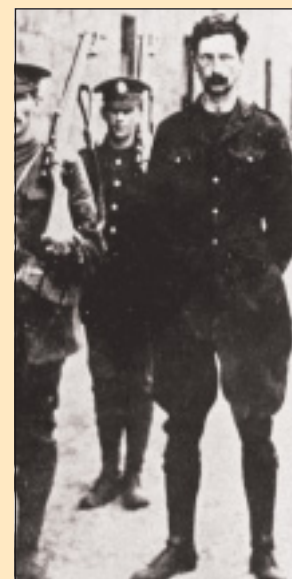
1882/83 - UNIVERSITY COLLEGE: The Catholic University is reorganised to avail of the indirect endowment from the state through the Royal University of Ireland. The St Stephen's Green institution is renamed University College and its management transferred to the Jesuits.

1894-1909 - PROGRESS: The number of first class distinctions in arts awarded by the Royal University to University College is 702,



compared with 486 awarded to the combined Queen's Colleges of Belfast, Galway and Cork. Names associated with University College as students, academics or both during this period include: James Joyce, left (his room in Newman House is preserved as it was), Tom Kettle, Francis Skeffington, Francis Cruise O'Brien, Padraic Pearse, Eamon de Valera (right), Eoin MacNeill and J.A. Costello. There is an amount of student unrest during this period, especially during loyalist speeches by the Chancellor, the Earl of Meath, and the playing of *God Save the King* at conferrings.

1908 - THE NUI: The Irish Universities Act brings the National University of Ireland into being, with its constituent University Colleges - Dublin, Galway, Cork. It leads to the demise of the Royal University and the Jesuit-run University College. The Dean of the Medical School, Dr Dennis Coffey, is appointed first president of UCD and holds the position for 30 years. The campus covers Earlsfort Terrace, Cecilia Street, College of Science Merrion



Street, Albert College Glasnevin and St Stephen's Green. Some 36 chairs and 15 lectureships were established. The commerce faculty is established.

1911 - EXPANSION: Lord Iveagh donates land to help the university expand in Earlsfort Terrace/Hatch Street/ St Stephen's Green.

1913 - SPORT: University Park, Terenure, becomes the base of UCD sports clubs between 1913 and 1934, although the landlord would not sell the site to the university.

1916 - REBELLION: A number of junior staff and students take part in the Easter Rising - Michael Hayes (French) at Jacobs, Liam O'Brian (French) in St Stephen's Green and the College of Surgeons, Louise Gavan Duffy (Education) at the GPO, James Ryan (fifth-year medical student) in charge of temporary hospital inside the GPO, James Sweeney, (engineering student) in the GPO.



It's been a very special year for UCD. Hugh Oram looks over the varied and innovative programme which marked the occasion

BELFIELD'S

UCD GETS LIT UP

THE illuminations programme is one of the more enterprising innovations of the anniversary academic year on the UCD campus. The wide-ranging project lit the main buildings and other features at night over the 120 hectares at Belfield.

The programme was part of the drive by college president, Dr Hugh Brady, to make the campus an altogether livelier place. Aidan Grannell, UCD's director of buildings and estates, explains that night-time illuminations were put in place for 18 major buildings. As other buildings are completed, they too will be illuminated. Pedestrian walkways and roads across the campus have also been lit up.

Grannell explains that modern technology allowed them to replace older lighting with newer lamps with much reduced glare. The project wasn't particularly difficult from a technical point of view, he says. Each building was considered individually, but there's a consistent lighting theme across the campus. Technically, the trickiest part was lighting fountains.

Lighting up UCD's water tower was also difficult. It was given a gala role for UCD150, which means nine changes of colour. On St Patrick's Day it went green, naturally enough.

A striking example of the new illumination is the Noah's Egg sculpture outside the veterinary building.

Installation of the lighting equipment was done during term, so great effort went into ensuring that no disruption was caused to teaching.

"The lighting programme has helped improve life on the campus," says Grannell. For example, he points out, after lighting was installed, the space in front of the library became much more popular. People met up, stopped and chatted there, which didn't happen before.

Energy saving has been built into the programme. Grannell points out that UCD generates two MW of electricity in its own on-campus combined heat and power plant.

DREAM OF GERONTIUS - THE LINK WITH UCD

ONE of Elgar's great choral works, *The Dream of Gerontius*, has a very special connection with UCD. The basis of the work was the poem by Cardinal Newman, founder of the Catholic University which developed into UCD. The theme of the death of an aged and devout man and the journey of his soul after death was taken by Elgar for one of his most enduring and endearing choral works.

A gala performance of this great work was staged at the National Concert Hall last November by the RTE Concert Orchestra, Our Lady's Choral Society and the UCD Choral Scholars, conducted by Proinsias Ó Duinn, with soloists Alison Browner, John Elwes and Ian Caddy.

UCD staff, students and friends filled the National Concert Hall for the gala performance. For it, Elgar's illuminated music manuscript of *The Dream of Gerontius* was on show in the National Concert Hall, loaned by the Birmingham Oratory.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

SINCE 2002, the UCD Overseas Volunteers charity has been encouraging UCD students to spend part of their summers working in poverty stricken areas of the world.

Fr Tony Coote, a UCD chaplain and chairperson of the charity, says: "Young people are very generous and very adaptable." The response by volunteers on campus has been amazing - about 170 applied for this summer's work abroad.

A total of six UCD staff and around 59 UCD students will be travelling to India and Haiti. The students come from across the faculties and there's an even divide between the genders. The two trips this summer will cost around €40,000 and the students have done most of the fundraising themselves. Fr Coote says that, as the charity becomes better known, donations are rising.

Last year, UCD students built two classrooms in a school in a slum area of Delhi and a group is returning to Delhi this summer. They'll be working with a locally based charity called Salaan Balaak - roughly translated as "Salute the Boy" - which works around the railway station in Delhi, helping street children.

The children are fed and clothed and the UCD students will help with their education. "Basic English is crucial, especially for the poorest people," says Fr Coote.



Some of the events marking the year at UCD - clockwise, from left: student volunteers working in one of the poorest parts of Delhi; one of the many newly illuminated locations in Belfield; the Noah's Egg sculpture; Dr Philip Sharp, recipient of Inaugural Ulysses Medal; and the Arts Fashion Show



Another UCD group is going to Haiti to work in the northern town of Gros Morne. Among their projects will be a month-long camp for children with Aids. They will also be renovating a home for elderly people, which is now in a derelict state. Architectural and design students will be among those helping on this particular project.

Other essential work to be undertaken in Haiti is helping to build dry stone walls to guard against regular flooding which has worsened as the country is stripped of its trees. Besides the improvements designed to help local people in Delhi and Haiti, Fr Coote says that the spin-off effects for the students themselves are fantastic. It has a great impact on them and makes them question things more vigorously.

At the end of last year, *Colour on a Grey Canvas* was launched, funded entirely by UCD150. The book contained many photographs taken during last summer's work by UCD's student volunteers in the poorest parts of Delhi. It was launched last November by Senator Feargal Quinn, a UCD graduate.

Reaction to the book was considerable and now, says Fr Coote, a forthcoming campus development will help them even more. Overseas Volunteers is going to have its own office in Belfield - quite an achievement, considering the struggle for space on campus.

FOUNDATION DAY MEDALS

THE Foundation Day medal, a very special presentation, was designed to mark the university's foundation on November 3rd, 1854. The first recipient was Dr Peter Sutherland.

In future years, the medal will be presented at a Foundation Day dinner to be held on the nearest Friday to November 3rd.

The medal is presented to a UCD graduate who has made an exceptional contribution to Irish and international economies and societies.

Sutherland graduated from UCD with a BCL in 1967 and an LLD in 1990. Chairman of BP plc, he is a former director-general of the World Trade Organisation. He was presented with his medal by President McAleese at the Foundation Day dinner held on November 5th last year.

The medal is made from sterling silver and this year's medal features the UCD150 logo and the UCD heraldic crest. The medal was cast by Alwright & Marshall silversmiths.



AGRI-FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

AS part of UCD150, the Faculty of Agri-Food and the Environment has launched a scholarship programme with funding of €200,000. Companies and organisations supporting the scholarships are Alltech Ireland; Bord Bia; Bord na Mona; Dawn Meats; Devenish Nutrition; Green Belt; Richard Keenan & Co; Kerry Ingredients; Murray Landscape Architects and SAP Nursery/Landscape.

Each €20,000 scholarship will be awarded to a student entering each of the faculty's programmes with the highest mark in a specified Leaving Cert subject. Each year €5,000 will be made available to this student to fund his or her education over the four years of the degree.

The scholarships are open to students who enter the faculty in September 2006, which gives plenty of time to current fifth-year second-level students to consider the faculty's honours degree programmes.

The university already runs the New Era access programme, for students who don't gain places through the CAO system. Dr Brady says that these students from disadvantaged backgrounds match and frequently surpass the pattern of the general body of students.

FASHION FIRST

ONE of the many social highlights of the UCD150 programme was the UCD Arts Fashion show, which has turned into one of the country's main social events. Last year's show, staged at the Point Theatre in Dublin, was the largest ever student fashion show in Europe. This year's fashion show, held in early March, was even more successful, attracting a 6,000-strong audience. The combination of music and dance was deemed the best ever.

The show is a showcase for up and coming designers and models. Rosanna Davison had her first taste of the catwalk and the show, while other past discoveries have included such Irish super models as Pamela Brannigan and Zoe Grey. The Young Designer of the Year award is important in encouraging young fashion design students. This year's award was won by Catherine Lyons from the National College for Art & Design, Dublin.



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