



1933 - BELFIELD: The university's grounds committee identifies a site on the Stillorgan Road as a suitable location to buy and develop playing fields and sports facilities. Belfield House on 44 acres is bought.

1947 - MICHAEL TIERNEY: Dr Michael Tierney, left, is appointed president. He aims to create a new UCD on a suburban site and becomes intimately involved in the university's fever of buying several hundred acres near Belfield over the following 17 years. The aspiration is to develop an architectural harmony in the grouping of buildings, landscaping and planting of trees, creating a sense of unity to faculties then on different campuses, with sports grounds and residences incorporated into the scheme. Inspiration comes mostly from universities in Sweden and the US.

1948 - 1961: EXPANSION: University buys Montrose on 23 acres; Whiteoaks (University Lodge) on 34 acres; Merville on 60 acres; Woodview on 18 acres; Byrne's fields (42 acres);

Roebuck on 35 acres; and in 1957 Montrose is exchanged for Ardmore.

1962 - SCIENCE BLOCK: The sod is turned on the Science Block at Belfield and in 1964 the faculty is the first to move to the new campus.

1967 - MERGER PLAN: Minister for Education Donogh O'Malley proposes that UCD and Trinity be merged.

1974 - GROUPING PLAN: Minister for Education Richard Burke says there should be three university groupings: UCD, Trinity and the NUI (comprising UCC and UCG) with St Patrick's Maynooth having the option of being a constituent college of any one of the three universities. The National Institutes of Higher Education in Limerick and Dublin would be established with the capacity to evolve into constituent colleges or autonomous degree-awarding institutions. UCD is in favour, Trinity is not. The plan disappears from the Government agenda.



The Belfield campus from the air

1981 - SPORTS: The Sports Complex opens in Belfield.

1985 - STUDENTS: The Students Club is opened - and the University Industry Centre is completed.

1990 - STUDENT VILLAGE: Belgrove, the first student village, is opened. Carysfort College, Blackrock on 19 acres is bought.

1994 - O'Reilly Hall is opened.

1999 - BIOMED ERA: The new era of internationally recognised research is marked by the foundation of the Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research and the Institute for the Study of Social Change.

2001 - COLLABORATION: The Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology, a collaboration between UCD, TCD and the RCSI is set up after being awarded €126 million by the HEA.

2002 - OPENINGS: The Veterinary School and Teaching Hospital and The Quinn School of Business for undergraduate commerce students are opened. The Humanities Institute of Ireland is established under the HEA's PRILI. The Urban Institute is also established.

2003 - INNOVATION: NovaUCD, a €110 million Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre, funded by a public/private partnership, opens.

2005 - It is estimated that UCD has **22,000 STUDENTS**



YEAR

CELEBRATING THE WRITERS AND THE UNIVERSITY

On the very appropriate Bloomsday last week, the latest volume to emerge from UCD150 was launched to a fanfare of literary acclaim. *The UCD Aesthetic: Celebrating 150 years of UCD Writers* was compiled and edited by Dr Anthony Roche, senior lecturer in the School of English.

Its 28 essays are on writers associated with the university over the past 150 years. Contributors include Colm Tóibín, Joseph O'Connor, Declan Kiberd and Caroline Walsh. Historic figures who are celebrated include John Henry Newman (1801-1890), founder of the Catholic University which evolved into UCD. Among Newman's own most regarded works, *Apologia pro Vita Sua*, a spiritual history, was published in 1864, while his visionary poem, *The Dream of Gerontius*, was published a year later.

Another distinguished literary figure closely connected with the university was poet Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889), who became a Catholic in 1866 and was ordained as a Jesuit in 1877. In his time, he was daringly original - among his best known poems is *The Wreck of the Deutschland*. He is commemorated in the book.

The most renowned writer connected with UCD is, of course, James Joyce. He entered what was then the Royal University in St Stephen's Green and studied languages, mathematics and philosophy. However, he largely organised his own education, in the National Library and Marsh's Library and from the book barrows on Dublin's quays - but he did complete his degree. On January 20th, 1900, he read a paper to the Literary and Historical Society entitled "Drama and Life". He too is suitably commemorated in the new book.

In the 1930s UCD produced another fine crop of writers, including Flann O'Brien (1911-1966), who went on to write a satirical column for *The Irish Times* under the pseudonym of Myles na Gopaleen. His real name was Brian O'Nolan and he was a distinguished contributor in his time to the L&H.

A college associate was poet Denis Devlin (1908-1959); he studied French and Irish. Some years after graduating, he returned to UCD as a lecturer in English. In 1935 he joined the Department of External Affairs.

Another poet with a strong UCD connection was Brian Coffey (1905-1995). He studied science subjects at the university before starting to develop his literary talents. Another noted writer of



A cup of tea for the doctor - Bob Geldof at last week's honorary conferring

Ellis Ni Dhuibhne, one of the 28 contributors to the *UCD Aesthetic: Celebrating 150 years of UCD Writers*, published as part of the UCD150 celebrations

this generation was Mervyn Wall, who later became secretary of the Arts Council. Kate O'Brien (1897-1974), from Limerick, won a scholarship to UCD. After graduating, she spent several restless years in England, Spain and the US before achieving her first literary success, with the 1926 play, *Distinguished Villa*. The UCD literary trail continues up to the present day. Today, the incredible legacy is still apparent in such writers as John McGahern, Máire Mhac an tSaoi, Thomas Kinsella, John Montague and Frank McGuinness.

HONORARY DOCTORATES

As part of the UCD150 celebrations, two conferring ceremonies for honorary doctorates have been held, one last November to coincide with the exact 150th anniversary and the most recent on June 16th. These honours doctorates recognised the exceptional contributions of a wide range of recipients on the Irish and the world stage.

Their achievements reflect the theme of the UCD150 celebrations - the influence that UCD has had on the development of Ireland over the past 150 years.

Last November, a total of 19 honorary doctorates were awarded, covering the arts; humanitarian action and philosophy; academic and learning excellence; socio-economic and political impact and sport. Among the recipients were dancer Michael Flatley, Christina Noble (children's foundation) and Charlie Bird, RTE's chief news reporter.

In the June 16th conferring ceremony, an honorary doctorate in law was awarded by UCD chancellor Dr Garret FitzGerald to Bob Geldof, who was described by college president Dr Hugh Brady as "a rock star humanitarian, a businessman, a revolutionary and a true innovator in the use of spoken English in the mass media and not least, an heroic father."

Author and film-maker Neil Jordan was also awarded an honorary doctorate (literature), as was Dr Robert Gallo, who pioneered the study of human retrovirology (doctorate in science). His work provided the first proof that HIV results from AIDS. Dr Carole Pateman, a leading political scientist, was also awarded an honorary doctorate in literature.

NEWMAN CENTRE LAUNCHED

Earlier this year, the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies launched the International Centre for Newman Studies in Newman House, St Stephen's Green, Dublin. The academic research centre was set up by UCD and the Newman Foundation of Ireland. According to Dr Teresa Iglesias, director of the centre, the aim is to preserve, continue and enhance the academic legacy of Newman in UCD, in Dublin and in Ireland as a whole.

The centre's work has several dimensions, including the study of Newman's entire work. It has also published a commemorative facsimile edition of Newman's *Idea of a University*. Up to now, the full version of the text hasn't been easily accessible.

The centre houses the Newman Research Library, which began with 75 volumes donated to UCD by the late Dr James Bastable. Now, it has about 900 volumes, some donated by UCD academics and graduates, others on permanent loan to UCD. "The aim of the centre is to have the most comprehensive Newman library in the country," says Iglesias. Newman made significant contributions to many fields, which are still open to research and investigation, everything from architecture to Irish archaeological history and university publications in Irish.

His research contributions are honoured during the UCD150 commemorations by the centre's six research scholarships, four for MA programmes and two for MLitt programmes, worth €5,000 each. Applicants will be selected this coming September, once they've been registered in the relevant Schools at UCD.

Another new undertaking is the first summer school on Newman, which is being staged at Newman House, Dublin, on June 30th and July 1st. It's a two day interactive gathering to enjoy Newman's work and consider his personality through the many different facets of that work.

Keynote speakers are Joyce Sugg, author of a very reader friendly biography of Newman, Snapdragon on the Wall and Ian Ker, described as the dean of Newman scholars and a world-recognised literary critic.

The fee for the entire summer school is €120, while for individual lectures, the fee is €15, payable at the door. For further details, tel: (01) 716 7123 or email: adult.education@ucd.ie

MAIN DATES OF UCD150 2004-5

- UCD150 Honorary Degrees Conferring (November 3 and June 16)
- Illumination Project - night time lighting of UCD campus, November 2004
- *The Dream of Gerontius* - A gala performance of Elgar's choral work, November 2004
- Premiere of Michael McGlynn's *Road of Passage* specially composed for UCD150, November 2004
- Foundation Day Medal presentation to Peter Sutherland, November 2004
- Launch of the 150 Agri-Food and the Environment Scholarship Programme, November 2004
- Launch of *Colour on Grey Canvas* - a record of UCD volunteers' summer project in Delhi, December 2004
- 150 years of Celtic Studies in UCD: Máire MacNeill 1904-1987, December 2004
- University & Society conference organised by the faculty of human sciences, February 2005
- Launch of International Centre for Newman Studies, February 2005
- UCD150 Arts Fashion Show, March 2005
- Literary & Historical Society 150th anniversary dinner, March 2005
- UCD150 Ulysses Inaugural Lecture by Dr Philip Sharp, March 2005
- BA Student For a Day - education initiative organised by the faculty of arts, March 2005
- Neurodegeneration Ireland: research event organised by the Conway Institute, March 2005
- Launch of National Network for Continuing Professional Education Providers, March 2005
- Ag-Biota conference organised by the faculty of agri-food & the environment, March 2005
- Realising Visions, organised by the faculty of engineering & architecture, April 2005
- UCD Library Special Collections 150 years, exhibition
- *The UCD Aesthetic: Celebrating 150 Years of UCD Writers* - book launch, June 2005
- HIV international conference, June 2005
- Alumni garden party - culmination of UCD150, June 2005

More details: www.ucd.ie/150



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