To: All international students currently enrolled at UCD

Further to the communication issued to you yesterday by UCD President Professor Andrew Deeks, this bulletin seeks to respond to some of the most frequent queries which have been coming in from international students currently enrolled at UCD. Other queries will be addressed through an FAQ section which will be published shortly on the main UCD website.

UCD understands that this is a particularly stressful time for international students who are living away from their families and who are trying to make difficult decisions about whether or not to return to home, remain in Ireland or remain in another location. We hope that the information below will provide you with some assistance in thinking through your next steps.

Should you wish to return to your home country to complete your studies online, and it is safe for you to travel, you are permitted to do so under the arrangements which UCD has put in place for at-distance teaching and learning. Similarly, if you are already at home or in another location for the study break, you are not required to return to Ireland to complete your studies. If you travel to another country at this time, please be alert to the public health, safety and travel advice for that country, and follow its recommendations.

As per the President's email, “in most cases (except for a small number of clinical programmes) all assessment, including final exams, will take place at distance” means that assessments will be online. You will need to ensure that you have good internet access in order to engage with online learning and assessment. Please contact your Module Coordinator, if you foresee any particular challenges for engaging with online learning.

Should you decide to remain in Ireland, either in on-campus or off-campus accommodation, you should continue to monitor public health advice and instructions issued on the relevant section of the UCD website here. Here is some further advice about campus life and services over the coming weeks:

- UCD Residences remain open along with Campus Services and a reduced number of Residential Assistants. If you have concerns regarding your on-campus accommodation, you can contact residences@ucd.ie for further information.
- Student Advisers are still available to you. If you would like to speak to an Adviser in your Programme area, please send an email in the first instance and a call will be set up if necessary.
- The UCD Global Lounge will remain closed during the period 12th - 29th March and further details will be posted on our social media pages regarding dates and times for re-opening.
- UCD Global staff are still available to you. However the office is not open for drop-ins, as staff will be working remotely until 29th March. Should you need to speak to a member of the UCD Global team, please contact us by email. A call can be set up with a staff member if necessary. We will be sharing updates on our social media pages, so please continue to monitor those over the coming days and weeks.

We have received a number of other queries and aim to address all of those via the FAQ section which will be uploaded on the main UCD website shortly.

For UCD, your safety and welfare remains our primary concern.

Dr Douglas Proctor
Director, UCD Global