

THE INAUGURAL PAT McADAM SCHOLARSHIP

Tuesday 30 June 2009
UCD Global Irish Institute

The Pat McAdam Memorial Award, established in memory of Pat McAdam at the request of Mr Martin McAdam, celebrates and honours the life and work of a much-loved teacher. The award will be formally known as the Pat McAdam Memorial Award in Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering.

The Pat McAdam Scholarship will be awarded annually to a UCD Stage 2 Chemical or Bioprocess Engineering Student.

The purpose of the award is :

- To celebrate Pat McAdam's life as a teacher and her talent with students - the talent that encouraged her students to strive for more, to learn more and to want to be more.
- To promote and support excellence in Chemical Engineering education.

The inaugural Pat McAdam Scholarship will be presented to the top 'Chemical Engineering Student of the Year' 2009 at the Engineering Graduates Association Gold Medal Presentations on the eve of the BE Class of 2009 graduation.



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A tribute to Pat McAdam *a teacher and an inspiration*



Pat McAdam was born in Tuam, County Galway on March 24th 1960. Pat was many things - a daughter, a mother, a partner and a friend. By profession, she was a primary school teacher (Our Lady of Mercy College, Carysfort, 1981). She was one of the best and she had a remarkable way of igniting the flame of curiosity and encouraging children to explore the world of science and engineering.

In her class, she grew vegetables, captured insects, made electromagnets and dissected fish-eyes. For Pat it was not about the curriculum, she regarded that as a minimum standard, it was about motivating children to learn for themselves. She took up the Engineers Ireland "K'NEX Challenge" and soon there were cranes and magnificent machines in the classroom. The classroom became a laboratory.

Pat will be remembered as 'the best teacher we had at school. That teacher who made us want to be our best, that teacher we wanted to please, that teacher that we wanted to be'. She died on 30th July 2007 after a heroic battle with cancer. After she died, many of her students came to her funeral service and said that for them "Mrs McAdam was the best teacher they ever had"; that is how she would have wanted to be remembered.

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