



A Snapshot of UCD in the 1980s

Recently we asked you to paint a picture of UCD in your time. And you did. Through the memories you and thousands of your peers have shared with us, you have made it possible for us to understand what UCD means to you and to capture a snapshot of UCD in the 1980s.

Some of you told us about your favourite lecturer or society or the issues of the day that inspired you to take to the streets in protest. Others told us about late nights spent studying and falling in love on campus.

We thank you for sharing each and every one of your precious memories with us.

So now it's time to take a look at your masterpiece, your UCD....

Engaging in a heated debate, cramming for exams solving the world's problems and falling in love with your fellow students were all high on the agenda in the 1980s.

17% of you remember solving the world's problem over drinks in the bar, 16% of you stayed up all night to cram, 15% of you attended a L&H debate, and a romantic 14% of you fell in love with a fellow student!

You Participated!

When it came to the best society there was a clear winner. The L&H society was deemed the best society by an impressive 30% of you.

You Protested!

You also told us about your activism and the causes that took you beyond UCD and onto the streets of the capital to make your voices heard. 16% of you took part in protests, marches and demonstrations during your time in UCD.

"1983/84... removing medical card from students. Student union representatives staged a sit in at Fine Gael offices and were arrested. A protest to the four courts was arranged and we went instead of going to our physics lecture!!" **Anne Smyth, Graduate, 1986**

You learned from the best!

When we asked you about your favourite professor or lecturer there was one name that just kept coming up. Dr. John Teeling won the hearts and minds of so many of you during your time in UCD.

"He made the world of business, and in particular entrepreneurship, come alive. Interesting, entertaining and inspiring." **Graduate, 1986**

"A great character, entertaining lecturer and inspirational because he didn't just teach, he did." **Graduate, 1986**

You got together then...

It wasn't all work and no play though.

We asked you to tell us about the best Gig, Ball or Ents event you went to in UCD. Many of you recalled some of Ireland's premier music acts playing on campus, like when U2 played in the UCD canteen, or when the Hot House Flowers played a concert by the lake. The Commerce Ball was also mentioned by many as being a particular highlight of the social calendar.



UCD Science Day 1989



Class of 1986

You're still getting together now...

With such amazing memories of the people and events who shaped your time in UCD, it came as little surprise that 35% of you have attended a college reunion of some sort. After taking this lovely trip down memory lane, no doubt you are already planning your next.



Class of 1983 Silver Jubilee 2008



Class of 1983 Silver Jubilee 2008

You made memories and friendships which have lasted a lifetime...

Your fondest memories were many and varied, recalling great sporting moments and historic events that captured a moment in time but your most treasured memories involved the lifelong friendships that you made and the people that changed your life in UCD.

"Have nothing but fond memories of everything! Campus, friends, hanging out together, course, lecturers, craic, heading to the bar after lectures, cheese omelettes and chips in the restaurant, arriving into the arts block to find all the gang gathering at the wall ah yes the wall!" **Maeve Harrington, Graduate, 1989**

"The first time I saw my husband. I was in theatre L and waiting for a lecture to start. I saw him standing at the top of the theatre in his grey duffle coat - very handsome!" **Graduate, 1980**

"Freshers ball 1983 where I met my wife at the bottom of the stairs in the canteen." **Gerard Kirwan, Graduate, 1987**



Theatre L



Students Union Gig flyer 1980



UCD Student Bar fun late 1980s

To find out more about events and communications organised by the UCD Alumni Relations Department go to www.ucd.ie/alumni