

A Snapshot of UCD in the 1990s

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 1990s.

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....

Solving the world's problems, cramming for exams and falling in love with your fellow students were all on the agenda in the 1990s. 18% of you stayed up all night to cram for an exam, 16% of you recall solving the world's problems over drinks in the bar and a romantic 13% of you fell in love with a fellow student!

You Participated!

When it came to the best society there were a number of close contenders but the L&H society was deemed the best society by 18% 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. The 90s were a less contenscious time than other decades with only 8% of you taking part in protests, marches and demonstrations during your time in UCD.

You learned from the best!

When we asked you about your favourite professor or lecturer there were 3 names which just kept coming up. Aidan Moran, Hugh Gough and Declan Kiberd were amongst those who won the hearts and minds of so many of you during your time in UCD.



Aidan Moran

"He was so passionate about his area of study. He was a brilliant mind, always ready to help." **Thomas Hughes, Graduate, 1992**



Professor Hugh Gough

"He is such an eloquent man to listen to. I could have sat and listened to him all day!! A truly great lecturer." Orla Corcoran, Graduate, 1992



Declan Kiberd

"His lectures were always full beyond capacity because students who were not even studying English would come along to the lectures and were just as enthralled and inspired as the students studying English. An amazing, inspirational, and witty lecturer who really stands out in my mind." Mairead Mulhern, Graduate, 1995

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. Faculty Balls were a real highlight of college life for many UCD students in the 1990s. Whether it was the Arts Ball, Science Ball, Commerce Ball, Engineering Ball or the Med ball, the social calendar was jam packed. Many of you mention Christy Moore's performance in Theatre L as a real highlight of your time in UCD.

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 83% of you would be interested in attending a reunion of some sort. After taking this lovely trip down memory lane, no doubt you are already planning

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

"Seeing my future wife (of 20 years) walk across the Arts concourse after she came back from a summer in London." **Graduate, 1991**

"Making some of the best friends I've ever made. And wherever I've lived in the world (Tokyo/London/New York), I've met up with them. They've been an invaluable source of support." **Graduate, 1993**

"My fondest moments were finding a snug place in the library and reading an interesting article. Chips and eggs in the restaurant after work and before attending class on a cold winters evening, learning mind-blowing new concepts and ideas and discussing and sharing with class mates during break times, and of course I met my husband there." Mary Seery, Graduate, 1999



Swan in the lake at O'Reilly Hall



Outside the restaurant 1991

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