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April 2015
Since its foundation in 1854, University College Dublin has flourished and made a unique and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland based on successful engagement with Irish society on every level and across every sphere of activity.

In the last 160 years UCD has grown and developed and it now attracts more first preferences from Irish students than any other university in the country. UCD is also Ireland’s largest and most globally engaged university with over 30,000 students, who are drawn from over 120 countries, and includes 5,000 students based at locations outside of Ireland.

Students are at the core of UCD and we strive to give our students a holistic education, instilling in them a desire to learn and create, to question and reason, to innovate, and to contribute to society at all levels.

Research and scholarship are at the heart of UCD and epitomise our identity and reputation. The knowledge they generate enables our nationally and internationally leading activities in innovation, enriches the education of our students and delivers impact economically, socially, culturally and in the formation of public policy.

As outlined in our strategy, our vision for 2020 is that UCD will be a preeminent, diverse and inclusive scholarly community of students, faculty and staff who, while contributing to the development of Ireland, will have global standing, understanding and impact.

By 2020 we envisage that UCD will be highly engaged locally, nationally and internationally, and will be known around the world as Ireland’s Global University, bringing the best of the world to Ireland and the best of Ireland to the world.

As such, we will be truly global in our comprehensive range of core disciplines, in the reach and impact of our research and innovation, in our holistic educational experience, in the diversity of our university community, in our engagement with all sectors of society and with all regions of the world, and in the quality and extent of our campus and facilities.

In order to assist us in benchmarking our success to date against the achievement of our 2020 vision and key objectives, UCD has carried out an economic, social and cultural study to ascertain the current value and impact of our activities to the local and wider economy.

This study follows on from, and complements, two previous studies (Creating Value from Knowledge (2014) and NovaUCD Celebrating 10 Years of Entrepreneurial Success 2003-2013 (2013)) which focused on the impact of UCD’s research and innovation activities.

This study was conducted to best practice and international standards in impact analysis and the highlighted results draw on the findings of a substantive underlying report.

The findings, complemented by examples of UCD’s broader impact, outlined in this report, demonstrate that as well as the financial contribution the university makes to the economy, the work it undertakes also has a substantially broader social and cultural impact.

Building upon and enhancing the impact results outlined in this report over the next few years will indeed assist us in realising our vision for 2020.

Professor Andrew J. Deeks
President, University College Dublin
Introduction and Context

Introduction
University College Dublin (UCD) has its origins in the mid-nineteenth century under the leadership of John Henry Cardinal Newman. Since then, it has grown to become Ireland’s largest university, with more than 30,000 students from over 120 countries. The university’s main Dublin campus is the largest urban parkland campus in Europe, occupying an extensive estate of more than 130 hectares.

With its renowned historical roots, strong Irish identity and international outlook, UCD has always played a central role in the social, cultural and economic life of Ireland in the wider world. It is also Ireland’s most globally engaged university: the destination of choice for international students coming to Ireland and a provider of education to more than 5,000 students at locations outside Ireland.

UCD’s mission
The university has a long track record and an impressive vision of international excellence in education and research. UCD’s mission is to contribute to the flourishing of Dublin, Ireland, Europe and the world through the excellence and impact of its research and scholarship, the quality of its graduates and its global engagement; providing a supportive community in which every member of the university is enabled to achieve their full potential.

A dynamic future role
UCD continues to play a pivotal role in the shaping of modern Ireland. A central aim is to educate and develop graduates who are intellectually flexible and culturally literate, men and women who are fully engaged with today’s world, capable of adapting and thriving in the global economy.

The impact of UCD graduates
UCD has made, and continues to make, a unique and substantial contribution to the creation of a modern Ireland, counting amongst its graduates three Presidents, four Taoisigh, five ministers in the current cabinet and six of Ireland’s European Commissioners.

The contributions of UCD graduates to business, science, the arts, culture and sport over the last 160 years are equally impressive, and the great author James Joyce remains the most well-known graduate of the university.

Investment in infrastructure
Between October 2008 and September 2013 the university spent over €250 million on new buildings and the refurbishment of facilities.

This included the development of the leading-edge facilities at the UCD O’Brien Centre for Science and the UCD Sutherland School of Law, expansion of student residences and the construction and development of world-class sports and leisure facilities at the UCD Student Centre.

This represented a particularly important investment at a time when most other building work and construction in Dublin had ceased due to the economic crisis.

It is also a reflection of the long-term strategic ambition of the university, positioning UCD for an increasingly competitive future internationally.

Funding through philanthropy
In the last decade, a considerable proportion of the investment in UCD has been funded through gifts from alumni, businesses and charitable foundations. UCD Foundation leads and drives the university’s fundraising strategy, promoting philanthropic giving to support UCD’s urgent priorities.

Since 2003 UCD Foundation has raised over €100 million to provide scholarships and research fellowships, fund Chairs, and develop the campus.
During the summer of 2014, UCD commissioned Viewforth Consulting to carry out a detailed impact assessment of the university and its activities, based on data from 2012-13. Studies of this type are increasingly important and widely applied across the international higher education landscape. By using the same methodology that has been applied within other systems, the results derived for UCD can be interpreted against that broader international context.

This publication summarises the results of the Viewforth economic impact analysis, complemented by additional accounts of the impact of different facets of the university. It identifies and quantifies some of the diverse ways in which UCD makes an economic, social and cultural impact, both nationally and internationally.

The Viewforth study, in the first section of this publication, looks at ways in which the economic value generated by UCD can be assessed and quantified. It examines the university’s role as a major employer and economic actor in Dublin and in Ireland, using input-output analysis.

UCD delivers impact in many different forms, and a number of these are described in the second section of this publication.

The university’s greatest impact is derived through the many successes of generations of graduates nationally and globally. UCD staff investigate important social issues, and the university delivers leadership and support to a range of social organisations. UCD also produces creative and cultural outputs that enrich and inform Irish and global culture.

Underpinning UCD’s contributions across all of these domains is the university’s strength in research and innovation, informing education at all levels and generating and exchanging knowledge for economic, social and cultural benefit.
Annual economic output generated by UCD and its students in Ireland.

€1.3bn
Introduction
UCD is Ireland’s largest university, and plays a major role as an economic force in Dublin and in Ireland overall. It can be viewed as a large business enterprise, creating economic activity, stimulating employment and generating output across a wide range of economic sectors.

As a result, UCD makes a substantial contribution to Ireland’s GDP.

How UCD’s income is earned
The income of UCD, based on annual revenues, comes from a range of sources, and amounted to €421 million in the year in question. This puts the university in the same league as some of Ireland’s largest businesses.

This income is derived not only from the core activities of teaching, research and innovation, but also from such areas as student residences and conferences.

UCD’s income is more than twice as large as the income of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA), Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU) and Football Association of Ireland (FAI) combined, and is a similar size to the income of RTÉ and the Irish Times together.

UCD’s export earnings
UCD is a major export earner, attracting international revenue in the form of student fees, research contracts and other services. These earnings form an important part of total revenues, amounting to some €66.6 million.

In addition to this, the off-campus expenditure of international students amounts to €30.9 million, representing a total of €97.5 million in export earnings.

Total export earnings
€97.5m
Expenditure of UCD Students

UCD’s student population
UCD had 25,495 students enrolled in Ireland in 2012-13, 13% of them from outside Ireland. In addition, there were 5,360 students studying wholly overseas under partnership and franchise programmes in South East Asia, bringing the total student population to 30,855.

When the additional overseas-based students are included, the proportion of international students in UCD rises to 28%.

In terms of economic impact this study concentrates on the expenditure incurred by locally-based students in Ireland.

Expenditure by Irish students
In 2012-13 there were 22,074 students from Ireland registered at UCD, some 52% of them from outside Dublin.

The total of their annual personal expenditure is in the order of €210 million, providing a very significant injection into the economy of Ireland’s capital.

Expenditure by international students
The almost 3,500 students from outside Ireland not only pay fees to UCD but they also spend money on rent, food and other living expenses, much of which accrues to the local Dublin area.

International student personal expenditure amounts to an estimated €30.9 million annually.

The total personal expenditure of UCD students in Ireland is estimated to be €240.9 million annually.

Expenditure in Ireland by UCD Students

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Irish Students</th>
<th>International Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>of population</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>personal expenditure</td>
<td>€210m</td>
<td>€30.9m</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

UCD student expenditure

€240.9m
UCD’s Impact on Employment

Introduction
The university directly employs just over 4,000 people (3,340 full-time equivalents (FTE’s)), which ranks the university as one of the largest employers in Dublin and would place it among the top 50 private employers overall in Ireland.

UCD therefore plays a pivotal role as an employer in the immediate Dublin economy.

UCD direct employment
A wide range of occupations are represented in UCD. Academics, researchers, technical staff and professional support personnel work together to deliver success in teaching, research and innovation.

Service areas such as the library, IT support and a large variety of student services employ further large numbers, as do the buildings and estates, student residences, and extensive sports facilities. This combination provides employment opportunities for local people in a host of roles.

UCD secondary employment
As well as directly employing a large and varied workforce, UCD generates significant further employment elsewhere in the economy, in Dublin and beyond.

This employment is known as secondary employment, which occurs as a consequence of the significant expenditure on the part of the university and its employees.

In 2012-13 this expenditure generated another 3,340 full-time equivalents outside the university in Ireland.

UCD student employment
The personal expenditure of the university’s students generated an estimated additional 2,234 jobs in Ireland.

Comparative Size of University College Dublin by People Employed (2013) in Ireland

Total Employment Generated by University College Dublin (FTE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Employees</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RTÉ</td>
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<td>Paddy Power</td>
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<td>Intel Ireland</td>
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</table>

Total: 8,914 (FTEs)

UCD Direct: 37.5%
UCD Secondary: 37.5%
UCD Student: 25%
Total employment (FTE) generated by UCD.

8,914
UCD’s Total Economic Output

**UCD direct output**
Broadly speaking UCD’s revenue or turnover of €421 million equates to its institutional output. The university then spent this money, generating further significant economic impact through secondary effects.

**UCD secondary output**
The university purchases goods and services from a wide range of suppliers. These suppliers in turn make purchases to fulfil UCD orders, creating ripples throughout the wider economy. Through salary payments to university employees, purchases are subsequently made in sectors such as housing, food and other consumer goods and services. These purchases create income for employees in other sectors.

**UCD student output**
The personal spending by UCD’s students also impacts the economy.

**Total economic output**
In this study the impact of UCD’s expenditure in Ireland as a whole is modelled and an analysis has also been made of the proportion of that impact accruing to Dublin.

UCD’s direct output is €421 million, but adding a further €429.1 million generated through secondary effects (€369.2 million of which accrued to Dublin) brings the total economic impact of the university and its employees to €850 million.

UCD students generate an additional €448 million (€405 million in Dublin), bringing to €1,298 million the value of the total output generated by the university in Ireland (€1,195 million in Dublin).

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**Breakdown of Total Economic Output Generated by University College Dublin**

- **UCD Direct**
  - €421m

- **UCD Secondary**
  - €429m

- **UCD Students**
  - €448m

**Total UCD economic output generated**

€1.3bn
UCD’s Gross Value Added to the Irish Economy

**Introduction**
Apart from the evaluation of UCD’s importance in the local economy in terms of gross output and employment, another key measure is the level of Gross Value Added (GVA) it generates.

**Defining Gross Value Added (GVA)**
GVA is a measure in economics of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy. It is the industry level measure of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

**UCD’s total Gross Value Added (GVA)**
UCD’s direct GVA amounts to €303 million and through secondary effects it generates a further €137.7 million of GVA in other Irish industries.

Students generate an additional €129.9 million of GVA, bringing to €570.6 million the total impact of the university’s GVA.

**UCD’s impact on Irish GDP**
The total impact of UCD’s GVA (€570.6 million) is equivalent to 0.35% of 2012 Irish GDP (€163.9 billion).
UCD’s Broader Impact

The examples on the following pages convey some of the broader impact of UCD, not only economically but culturally and socially.
Public Service Activities of UCD Staff

Context
UCD staff members frequently engage in additional public service activities, both inside and outside working hours. This pro bono work makes a valuable contribution to society and the economy.

Activities
Public service activities of UCD staff fall into two main categories. The first lies in informing public debate, through public lectures or in various media. The second is the provision of advisory work or services, including service on boards or committees.

The results of a recent survey by the UCD Geary Institute provide a breakdown of the pro bono public service activities of UCD staff.

Based on these results 29% of staff time devoted to these activities lies in service to national and international academic and professional organisations. Another 23% is in the media and in public lectures. Advisory work and service to local and national government and international organisations accounts for 15% of the total.

A further 18% is for non-governmental and voluntary organisations. Non-remunerated work with industry organisations accounts for 6% and the remaining 9% includes providing advice to boards.

Economic and social value generated
In the academic year 2013-14, 1,587 UCD staff in academic research and senior administration posts contributed over 22,000 pro bono days to public service activities.

The application of a charge rate based on salary level equates to a conservative estimate of €10 million worth of services to local, national and international communities in addition to core teaching, research and administrative work at UCD.

From its first outing in 1965, what is now known as the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition has grown from 230 participants and 5,000 visitors to 1,200 participants and more than 50,000 visitors in 2015.

The event was the brainchild of two UCD physics researchers, Dr Tony Scott (pictured above) and Rev. Dr Tom Burke, who in 1963 came across the concept of ‘Science Fairs’ while conducting research in New Mexico and tailored the concept for Ireland.
UCD researchers constitute a pool of expertise that is a vital resource not just nationally but also internationally. They deliver impact through advances in their research domains, their interactions with enterprise and with social and cultural organisations, their contributions to the formation of public policy, their national and international outreach and the generations of graduates they inspire.
Research at UCD

Research and innovation are essential drivers of a dynamic economy, an informed society and a vibrant culture.

At UCD, research is conducted that makes fundamental discoveries, as well as research targeting applications in the short, medium or long term.

At UCD, you will find individual scholars, small, medium and large research groups, start-up companies and large-scale collaborations with industry or other partners. Research is conducted within each of the university’s extensive range of disciplines, and in multidisciplinary research programmes addressing challenges of global scale.

UCD’s research projects cover topics such as personalised medicine and the internet of things in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), and early childhood education and the decade of centenaries in arts, humanities and social sciences.

The challenges being examined range in scale from the big data challenges of mapping the Milky Way galaxy to the management of biological interactions at the nanoscale.

Whatever the topic, all research supported within UCD is required to be internationally excellent. It also delivers impact in the education delivered to UCD students, in the international research community, and throughout all of the many parts of the economy and society that connect to UCD research and UCD graduates.

In 2013/14 UCD researchers secured €114 million in research grants from national and international funding agencies, companies and foundations. Since 2004 UCD researchers have secured over €1 billion in such grants.

Their research underpins national research and technology institutes and centres, including the €75 million Insight Centre for Data Analytics, the largest research grant in the history of the Irish state.

UCD has had nationally-leading success in many of the most prestigious European awards, including the European Research Council and Marie Skłodowska-Curie schemes.

The competitive success of UCD researchers currently supports the employment of almost 250 postdoctoral researchers, over 250 research support staff, and the education of more than 1,500 PhD students. This creates jobs not only directly, but also by delivering a highly skilled pool for employment across a range of knowledge-intensive sectors.

Over the last decade UCD researchers have doubled their annual number of publications in the international literature to 2,837 papers in 2013. They have co-authored publications with more than 7,000 international researchers from more than 130 countries. These papers are cited by other researchers at a rate that is 59% above world average.

Research grants since 2004

over €1bn
Professor Dolores O’Riordan, Director of the UCD Institute of Food and Health, is an award winning researcher and innovator in the food sector who interfaces between academic research and industry with the aim of increasing competitiveness for the Irish food industry. In 2014, UCD ranked first in the world for citations per paper at large scale in Agricultural Science and in Food Science and Technology, areas of central importance to Irish and global economies.

Professor Robert Gerwarth, UCD School of History, was the first humanities scholar in Ireland to be awarded a European Research Council grant. The grant funded a ground-breaking project on the transnational history of failed demobilisation and paramilitary violence from Ireland through Europe and across the wider world after the Russian revolution and the end of the First World War.

A research paper by UCD’s Des Higgins, Professor of Bioinformatics, UCD School of Medicine, that set the international standard for DNA sequence analysis, was featured during 2014 in Nature’s Top 10 most highly-cited research publications of all time. Professor Higgins also has a second paper in the top 30, making him not only the most highly cited Irish scientist, but one of the most highly cited scientists worldwide.

Dr Orla Doyle, UCD School of Economics and UCD Geary Institute for Public Policy, runs a number of studies evaluating the effectiveness of early intervention in children's lives to improve their outcomes later in life, including the 6-year Preparing for Life Programme. This community-led initiative, operated by the Northside Partnership in several disadvantaged areas of Dublin, works with families from pregnancy until the children start school, with the aim of improving their health and development.
Commercialisation and Entrepreneurship at UCD

**Context**
UCD’s commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship recognises the importance of actively participating, contributing and collaborating to exploit leading-edge research and development outputs. In 2014 UCD was ranked 5th among European universities for our track record in educating successful entrepreneurs.

**Activities**
UCD supports for innovation include NovaUCD, the Centre for New Ventures and Entrepreneurs; NexusUCD, the Industry Partnership Centre; and the UCD Enterprise Gateway.

**Economic and social value generated**
Over the period 2003 to 2013 the university provided business development support to nearly 250 companies and early-stage projects through incubation services and supports provided at NovaUCD.

Nearly 130 of these companies have been based at NovaUCD and availed of business unit facilities or bio-incubation units within the on-campus centre.

These supported companies employ 599 staff, of whom 489 are in Ireland, have raised over €100 million in equity funding to date and have an annual turnover of €71.2 million.

NovaUCD-supported companies contribute €34.5 million yearly in Gross Value Added (GVA) to the Irish economy and a further €7.7 million GVA internationally. Between them they support 1,252 jobs, directly and indirectly, of which 1,022 are based in Ireland and 230 internationally.

Between 2003 and 2013 UCD earned €5.2 million in commercialisation income. This includes €3 million from the sale of shareholdings in spin-out companies and €2.2 million in royalty-related income.

UCD has over 250 industry partners, and those that have entered into licensing agreements with UCD have increased their annual turnover in Ireland by an average €3.6 million and international turnover by €5.8 million.

Intellectual property developed at UCD generates an additional €2.1 million GVA for the Irish economy and an additional €3.4 million GVA for the international economy, supporting 89 additional jobs annually.

In total, NovaUCD’s activities support an annual contribution of €47.7 million GVA to the worldwide economy and a total of 1,341 jobs.

Dr Emmeline Hill, a leading UCD genomics researcher, co-founded the UCD spin-out company Equinome in 2010. Equinome now has customers for its genetic tests in over 15 countries across the world and has already significantly impacted breeding techniques in the global Thoroughbred industry which had remained unchanged for hundreds of years.
Enterprise Engagement at UCD

UCD seeks strong and strategic engagement with business, social and cultural enterprises; adding value, expanding networks and exploring new opportunities to deliver impact through partnership.

More than 50 companies are currently located at UCD and over 250 companies have funded research in UCD in recent years. In addition, more than 1,000 companies have collaborated on research projects.

During 2013/2014 just under 800 global employers accessed students graduating from the university through interaction with UCD’s Career Development Centre.

**Analog Devices and Xilinx**

UCD recently appointed Professor Robert Bogdan Staszewski, a world renowned engineering researcher, to lead a cutting-edge research programme to increase Ireland’s capability as a global centre for the Internet of Things. This appointment is supported by Analog Devices and Xilinx along with Science Foundation Ireland.

Professor Staszewski’s research programme at UCD could lead to key technical breakthroughs to enable low cost, low power electronics. This would have significant impact on Ireland’s world-class microelectronics and software industries, part of a multi-trillion dollar global market.

**ResMed**

ResMed, a US-based medical devices company, is a global leader in developing, manufacturing and distributing medical equipment for treating, diagnosing, and managing sleep-disordered breathing and other respiratory disorders.

In 2011 ResMed acquired BiancaMed, a UCD spin-out company. The company has now located its global research and product development centre in sensor technology at NexusUCD, based on the excellent facilities available and proximity to the university, its researchers and affiliated research hospitals.

The centre is focused on developing sensor technologies in collaboration with UCD, which will contribute significantly to ResMed’s revolutionary products and solutions in healthcare and wellness.

**Tullow Oil**

Building upon existing close research links, UCD and Tullow Oil plc have established a collaborative initiative in petroleum geoscience to grow and sustain research and education over a broad range of petroleum-related scientific disciplines.

As part of this initiative three new academic positions have been established within the UCD School of Earth Sciences, including the Tullow Oil Professorship of Petroleum Geoscience.
Celebrating the Contribution and Success of UCD Alumni

Over the last 160 years UCD graduates have made, and are continuing to make, an extraordinary and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland in fields such as business, politics, science, the arts, culture and sport.

In 2014 the university established the UCD Alumni Awards to celebrate the contribution and success of some of the university’s most distinguished alumni worldwide. These Awards are presented in addition to the Foundation Day Medal, which is bestowed annually to a distinguished UCD graduate who has made an outstanding contribution in his/her field of expertise.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Agriculture and Food Science was presented to Mairead McGuinness, MEP, in recognition of her dedication and commitment to European Agriculture development.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Architecture was presented to David McNulty, Director of Architecture, Louis Vuitton, in recognition of his outstanding creative contribution within the architectural design industry.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Engineering was presented to Donal O’Riain, founder and managing director, Ecocem, in recognition of his outstanding entrepreneurial achievements in carbon-neutral construction.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Arts was presented to actress Rosaleen Linehan, in recognition of her outstanding success acting on stage and screen for over 50 years.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Business was presented to Gary McGann, Group Chief Executive Officer, Smurfit Kappa Group, in recognition of his leadership and success in the business world.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Nursing was presented to Dr Siobhan O’Halloran, Chief Nursing Officer, Department of Health, in recognition of her longstanding commitment to nursing and the Health Service in Ireland.

The Economic, Cultural and Social Impact of UCD

Over the last 160 years UCD graduates have made, and are continuing to make, an extraordinary and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland in fields such as business, politics, science, the arts, culture and sport.

In 2014 the university established the UCD Alumni Awards to celebrate the contribution and success of some of the university’s most distinguished alumni worldwide. These Awards are presented in addition to the Foundation Day Medal, which is bestowed annually to a distinguished UCD graduate who has made an outstanding contribution in his/her field of expertise.
The UCD 2014 Foundation Day Medal was presented to Jonathan Sexton, in recognition of his outstanding achievements, leadership and success in provincial and national rugby.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Social Science was presented to Sr Stanislaus Kennedy, a social innovator and founder of Focus Ireland and the Sanctuary, in recognition of her longstanding commitment and dedication to improving the lives and living conditions for the under privileged in Irish society.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Law was presented to barrister Maeve O’Rourke, in recognition of her outstanding humanitarian work securing justice for the victims of the Magdalene Laundries.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Medicine was presented to Dr Patricia Scanlan, Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, in recognition of her work within the paediatric cancer treatment revolution in Tanzania.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Veterinary Medicine was presented to Noel Fitzpatrick, founder, Fitzpatrick Referrals, in recognition of his revolutionary work in the treatment of small animals including his cutting-edge surgery techniques.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Physiotherapy was presented to Clodagh Barry, Physiotherapist, Central Remedial Clinic, in recognition of her continuous dedication to working with paediatric Spina Bifida in Ireland, Lebanon and Pakistan.

The UCD 2014 Alumni Award in Science was presented to Evelyn Cusack, Deputy Head of Forecasting, Met Éireann, in recognition of her leadership in meteorology in Ireland.
UCD International – Globally Connected

UCD is Ireland’s Global University, bringing the best of the world to Ireland and the best of Ireland to the world.

Almost 10,000 international students study for UCD degrees on our Dublin campuses, or at our overseas academic centres in Spain, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Sri Lanka, making UCD Ireland’s most international university. Irish-based students also benefit from our strong international network through international exchanges with over 400 exchange partners.

Supported by UCD’s Global Centres in New York, Beijing, Delhi and Kuala Lumpur, our international activity enriches UCD’s university community, builds our international reputation and the reputation of our partners in industry and government. It is also a source of direct export earnings (in 2012-13 the university attracted €66.6m from international sources) for the country.

UCD has a significant international research profile and is ranked in the top 1% of institutions internationally. Our researchers are members of some of the world’s leading research networks and publish with more international collaborators than any other Irish university, co-authoring publications with over 7,000 international academics from 132 countries in the 10 years to 2014.

In addition to their contribution at home, UCD graduates make a significant contribution on the world stage. Located in more than 150 countries across the globe, our international alumni are industry CEOs, entrepreneurs, artists, sportspeople and policy-makers.

Attracted from international resources

€66.6m
UCD Volunteers Overseas

Context
Student volunteering has a long history in Irish universities, especially in the area of fundraising for charity. UCD aims to encourage at least one third of its students to participate in some form of community-based activity. University College Dublin Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO), launched in 2003, draws on Ireland’s long tradition of overseas volunteering.

Activities
UCDVO has eight partnerships with NGOs, community groups and educational institutes, with current projects across Haiti, India, Nicaragua, Tanzania and Uganda.

Each year around 125 volunteers are placed on projects, each lasting four weeks. This figure represents around 4% of all Irish overseas volunteers, which is a considerable achievement for a student-based organisation. The group also has 800 student society members who raise funds and promote the charity. Projects to date include the provision of 19 houses, five schools and two health centres.

UCDVO has placed 12,900 children in education programmes and donated 570 computers to 21 schools. Some 800 people have been employed annually by local partners, and 335,200 meals have been provided.

Economic and social value generated
Volunteering can generate value and provide benefits both personally and professionally for the students and the communities and organisations with which they work. A broad benefit includes increased levels of social capital, both nationally and internationally.

The economic value of the work of UCDVO volunteers is quantified by translating this unpaid activity into monetary value, based on what it would cost to purchase these services and applying an additional social weighting. On that basis the total socially modified economic value of the time spent amounts to €473,100. In addition, volunteers raised €326,500 for travel and project investment, bringing the overall social value generated to almost €800,000.

Sinéad Conroy, a UCD commerce student, with children from Jean XXIII school summer camp in Gros Morne, Haiti (2014).

Volunteers placed
1,000+

Economic value
€800,000
UCD Enhancing the Environment

The UCD Belfield campus covers a site of over 130 hectares. It was developed in a parkland setting from a number of former eighteenth and nineteenth-century estates which included a number of historic period houses.

Today in addition to these preserved and restored period houses, the campus includes buildings from the early university development of the 1960’s and 1970’s alongside state-of-the-art facilities such as the UCD O’Brien Centre for Science, the largest investment in scientific infrastructure in the history of the Irish state.

The campus also encompasses large areas of open space and woodland. There are 15,000 mature and semi-mature trees, and another 25,000 native species have also been planted, enhancing the campus as a living environment, maintaining its ecological diversity and encouraging active use by students, staff and visitors.

The campus also houses the Lamb-Clarke Irish Historical Apple Collection, preserving some 75 apple cultivars of Irish origin.

Over 8 km of woodland paths have been created and 6 mapped walks of varying length have been developed to open up the campus to a wider community.

Outdoor art in the form of a sculpture trail now totals 27 pieces, and has also heightened the appeal of the university environment.

The construction of new world-class science and sports facilities, alongside the programme for the preservation of the historic period houses, has been part of the extensive and environmentally-friendly development of the campus.

The university’s expansion activities are driven by a vision for a sustainable, healthy and living campus.

Energy initiatives include the development of guidelines for designers of new buildings, operation of on-site efficient energy supplies and initiatives to reduce energy consumption in existing buildings.

The UCD campus delivers important social benefits in terms of enhanced quality of life as a living and working environment for staff and students. The external community and society also benefit through the positive impact on the environment and the enjoyment value of this major amenity.
Sport at UCD

Sport is an integral part of campus and community life at UCD. The university provides world-class facilities and dedicated programmes which aim to promote and facilitate health-enhancing physical activity at all stages of life.

In 2012 a new sports and fitness complex, including an Olympic-sized swimming pool and extensive outdoor and indoor training facilities, was opened at UCD. Membership of the complex is open to all, and the centre now has over 14,000 student members.

The university also supports students with the potential to reach the highest international level of their sports whilst also achieving academically through the UCD Ad Astra Elite Athlete Programme, part of the overall Ad Astra Programme.

Elite student athletes are supported through mechanisms to facilitate maximum sporting success, including coaching, training facilities, clothing and equipment, nutritional advice, physiotherapy and medical facilities.

Already this top athletic academy has guided the progress of individuals such as Mark English and Ciara Everard.

Mark, a UCD medical student who now represents Ireland on a world stage in the 800m, has won a bronze medal at the 2014 European Athletics Championship in Zurich and a silver medal at the 2015 European Athletics Indoor Championship in Prague.

Ciara, a UCD physiotherapy student, is also an Irish National Champion at 800 metres and came sixth in the 2013 European Indoor Athletics Championship in Gothenburg.

In addition the UCD soccer team (UCD Association Football Club) features a number of UCD Elite Athlete members playing in the League of Ireland. The UCD women’s soccer team (UCD Waves) also enjoys elite status, competing in the Women’s National League.

Dora Gorman, a UCD medical student and member of the UCD and Irish soccer teams.

Annual investment by UCD in athletes

€430,000
Culture and Heritage at UCD

Context
UCD is a custodian of many collections of cultural, artistic and scientific significance, including the National Folklore Collection, UCD Classical Museum, UCD Library Special Collections and UCD Archives. All these units work on the care, conservation and cataloguing of their holdings and seek to make them available, by every feasible means, to the public and to the scholarly community.

National Folklore Collection
The National Folklore Collection at UCD promotes a deeper understanding of Irish cultural heritage.

The collection runs to 2 million manuscript pages and the voices of 100,000 contributors. A specialist library contains 50,000 printed books and periodicals.

The collection is open to the public for twelve hours a week and it is widely consulted. Group visits – mainly representing third level institutions and societies – take place regularly.

UCD Archives
A core function of UCD Archives is the curatorship of the archives of the university and the significant institutions which predated its foundation.

Another core function is the curatorship of those outstanding collections of private papers and institutional archives acquired and preserved to help document the foundation and development of modern Ireland.

Material in UCD Archives includes the papers of former Presidents, Taoisigh, government ministers, members of the judiciary and prominent public servants; as well as the archives of significant institutions and organisations including political parties and national sporting bodies.

UCD Archives curates major elements of the Irish Franciscan manuscript collection including such iconic manuscripts as the Annals of the Four Masters.

National Folklore Collection

- 2 million Manuscript pages
- 13,000 Hours of video and audio
- 50,000 Books, periodicals & off-prints
- 70,000 Photographs

Material from the National Folklore Collection, UCD.

A page from the Annals of the Four Masters showing the year 432.
Man Booker prize-winning author Anne Enright has been named as the inaugural Laureate for Irish Fiction. The three-year role is a new initiative developed by the Arts Council, with support from UCD, New York University and The Irish Times. This will see Anne teach for a semester in UCD.

“Art and Architecture of Ireland” is a five-volume authoritative and fully illustrated account of the art and architecture of Ireland from the early Middle-Ages to the end of the 20th century. Editors from UCD include Professor Paula Murphy, Dr Nicola Figgis, Professor Hugh Campbell and Livia Hurley.

UCD Choral Scholars, whose Artistic Director is Dr Desmond Earley of the UCD School of Music, is Ireland’s leading collegiate choral ensemble and a key cultural ambassador for the university. Apart from a regular schedule of feature concerts, the ensemble performs at key university events, on radio, on TV, and on the international stage.

Ongoing projects at the UCD Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Ancient Technologies include the inhabitation of early medieval houses and the role of fire technologies in early medieval Ireland. The Centre is used for the development of innovative research-teaching linkages for students and is a unique facility for public outreach and community engagement activities.

“The Encyclopaedia of Music in Ireland” is the first comprehensive attempt to chart Irish musical life across recorded history, and documents Ireland’s musical relations with the world at large. Professor Harry White, UCD School of Music, is one of the general editors of the publication.

The Royal Institute of British Architects presented the 2015 Royal Gold Medal, one of the world’s most prestigious architecture awards, to Sheila O’Donnell and Professor John Tuomey, who are both graduates and staff of UCD. The medal is awarded in recognition of a lifetime’s work and is presented to a person or group of people who have had a significant influence either directly or indirectly on the advancement of architecture.

History Hub was established by the UCD School of History to provide free online access to information on historical subjects, ranging from medieval to modern, both Irish and international, and to facilitate academic research and discussion on history.

The James Joyce The Dead app, released in January 2014 to mark the 100th anniversary of the story’s first publication, was developed by the UCD Humanities Institute.

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