

EARLSFORT TERRACE: notable events

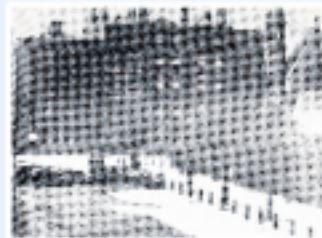
1883 Earlsfort Terrace comes into use.

1908 The Royal University of Ireland is dissolved and the National University of Ireland, comprising Dublin, Cork and Galway, is born. Queen's College, Belfast, becomes Queen's University.

1909 Denis Coffey is appointed the first president of UCD as the college opens its doors.

1911 Land donated by Lord Iveagh of Guinness-brewing fame helps the university expand in Earlsfort Terrace, Hatch Street and St Stephen's Green.

1913 Eoin MacNeill, professor of early Irish history at Earlsfort Terrace and a grandfather of Michael McDowell, calls for the establishment of an Irish nationalist force,



the Irish Volunteers, to counteract the UVF in the North.

1914 Just as the First World War starts, the new buildings at Earlsfort Terrace start to be completed. They're designed by Rudolf Maximilian Butler. He was head of architecture in UCD between 1924 and 1943. Butler's classical design won the 1912 competition for the

new buildings at Earlsfort Terrace. However, they were plagued by structural and labour problems.

1916 Easter Rising Many UCD staff, students and alumni take part in the Rising, led by Patrick Pearse. He was educated at the Royal University, forerunner of UCD. Many UCD people go on to take part in the subsequent War of Independence, 1917-1921.

The Kevin Barry window was installed in the Council Chamber, commemorating a medical student who was hanged for his part in an ambush on British soldiers during the War of Independence.

1919 For the next three years, the Houses of the Oireachtas are housed in UCD at Earlsfort Terrace and in December, 1921 and Jan-

uary, 1922, extensive parliamentary debates are held there.

1931 The medical school moves to Earlsfort Terrace from its old home in Cecilia Street.

1933 The grounds committee buys Belfield House and 18 hectares on the Stillorgan Road for playing fields and sports facilities.

1935 The Irish Folklore Commis-



sion is established at Earlsfort Terrace.

1939 By the start of the second World War, the college is the largest third-level institution in the State. During the Emergency years, two students at Earlsfort Terrace were the late Charles J Haughey and Dr Garret FitzGerald.

1947 Dr Michael Tierney is appointed President. It was he who conceived the idea of moving UCD to the suburbs and over the next 17 years, he was much involved in the purchase of vast tracts of land at Belfield.

1949 The university buys Montrose, which is later swapped with the Ardmore acreage. Montrose subsequently becomes RTE's headquarters.



1954 UCD celebrates centenary.

1962 The first sod is turned at Belfield and the president of the time, Eamon de Valera, kneels to kiss the ring of Archbishop McQuaid.

1965 Brenda O'Hanrahan is the first woman to wear trousers in class.

1966 Journalists who cut their

teeth on UCD student newspapers, such as **Awake** and **Campus**, include Conor Brady, Vincent Browne and Kevin Myers.

1970 The move to Belfield from Earlsfort Terrace begins, with the Arts and Commerce faculties first to go. Paddy Keogh, the head porter at Earlsfort Terrace, who spent a lifetime working at the Terrace, since 1916, moves to Belfield. The following year, 1971, he retires and is awarded an Honorary Master of Arts.

1981 The National Concert Hall is opened in what had been the Great Hall at Earlsfort Terrace.

2004 Dr Hugh Brady is appointed President, succeeding Dr Art Cosgrove.

2007 UCD finally vacates Earlsfort

Terrace, with the last engineering and medical students transferring to Belfield. A major redevelopment plan will turn the National Concert Hall into a major multi-purpose concert venue. The 2007 edition of **UCD Connections** will include a major retrospective of the Earlsfort Terrace campus.

—Hugh Oram

