



Meet the Global Engagement Team



Professor Dolores O'Riordan

Vice-President for Global Engagement

Biography:

Dolores is responsible for the development and implementation of UCD's Global Engagement Strategy.

She is a Professor of Food Science with a research focus on the physico-chemical properties of food ingredients and creating food structures that enhance health benefits. Her food research programme has active links with universities in Europe, the US, Australia and China. She has supervised over 40 postgraduate students to completion and has over 100 peer-reviewed publications. She is UCD's principal investigator in two large technology centres, Food for Health Ireland and the Dairy Processing Technology Centre.

She received the Enterprise Ireland 2012 Lifescience and Food Commercialisation Award in recognition of her exemplary contribution to innovation in the food industry. Prior to joining UCD she worked in a research and development capacity with a multinational food company servicing global markets. She is an advisor on a number of State boards.

To reach Dolores, please contact her PA, Josephine Aylward at: vpforglobalengagement@ucd.ie. Josephine has extensive experience providing administrative support in both public and private sector organisations.



Professor Paul Fanning

International Dean (China) and Provost, Beijing-Dublin International College

Biography:

Paul provides academic and administrative oversight of UCD's collaborative teaching partnerships in China, and supports the identification and development of UCD's engagement with key government agencies, higher education institutions and NGOs in-country. In this role, he serves as champion for UCD's global engagement in China and supports the university in the ongoing development of its strategies for engagement with China.

Paul is a Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Institute of Engineers of Ireland. A graduate of the School of Civil Engineering at UCD, he returned to UCD as a faculty member in 1996 having completed his PhD at the University of Surrey, and having spent five years working as a consultant engineer in industry.

In his time at UCD, Paul has undertaken a range of administrative roles including Research Group Director, Head of Teaching and Learning and Programmes Coordinator in the School of Civil Engineering, and Deputy Vice-Principal for Internationalisation in the College of Engineering and Architecture. Most recently he has served as UCD's Deputy Vice-President for Global Engagement.



Clár Ní Bhuachalla

Director of Gaeltacht UCD - UCD Global Centre for Irish Language and Culture

Biography:

Clár leads Gaeltacht UCD in sharing the Irish language and its associated culture globally, which is as much a passion as a profession. She has devised projects that include language courses for students and employees, a translation service for the university, an award-winning Irish language student residence scheme, exchange programmes with universities in Scotland as well as the design and delivery of a linguistic and cultural programme in China. One of her highlights each year is welcoming alumni, diaspora and the local community to UCD's International Irish language summer school.

Clár holds an honours degree in Modern Irish and Germanic studies and a Higher Diploma in Education from Trinity College Dublin. She has earned scholarships to Christian-Albrechts Universität zu Kiel, Germany and Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań in Poland. With a particular interest in Celtic and European cultures, she was awarded an MA in European and Regional Minority Cultures by UCD. She admits to being 'báite sa chultúr', literally drowned in Irish music, song, dance, language and folklore.



Professor Liming Wang

Director of the Irish Institute for Chinese Studies and UCD Confucius Institute

Biography:

In 2006, Professor Wang was appointed as Director of Irish Institute for Chinese Studies and the UCD Confucius Institute. Prior to joining UCD, Professor Wang was awarded a visiting studentship from Queen's University Belfast and, after completing his PhD in Economics, became a teaching and research fellow at Queen's in 1995.



Shauna Hughes

UCD Global Director of Global Relations, Partnerships and Mobility

Biography:

Shauna Hughes is the Director of Global Relations, Partnerships and Mobility, UCD Global. Shauna works in partnership with Una Watkins, Director of International Student Recruitment, to provide the vision, strategic leadership and management of UCD Global to realise the ambitions set out in UCD's Global Engagement Strategy 2021-2024.

A graduate of Ulster University and the Chartered Institute of Marketing, Shauna also leads the Global Relations, Partnerships and Mobility Team, on the development of existing and new partnerships and mobilities, guiding UCD's academic leaders in developing strategic partnerships and supporting mobility initiatives.



Una Watkins

UCD Global Director of International Student Recruitment

Biography:

Una Watkins is the Director of International Student Recruitment, UCD Global. Una works in partnership with Shauna Hughes, Director of Global Relations, Partnerships and Mobility, to provide the vision, strategic leadership and management of UCD Global to realise the ambitions set out in UCD's Global Engagement Strategy 2021-2024. An alum of UCD, Una also leads the International Student Recruitment and Admission Teams in Dublin and UCD's network of the UCD Global Centres in China, India, Malaysia, UAE and the US, setting the overall direction for the University's international student recruitment strategy across key international education markets.



Dr Rachael Fionda

Director of the UCD Applied Language Centre

Biography:

Dr Rachael Fionda joined the Applied Language Centre in 2016 after working as Academic Manager of a private language school. Prior to that Rachael completed her PhD at Trinity College Dublin in Second Language Acquisition and Language Policy. Her research interests include language in society, migrant education, leadership & management in language education, language policy & planning, minority languages, programme planning and fit for purpose course design, online learning, EMI, LA and the CEFR.



Paula McBride

Finance Manager

Biography:

Paula McBride is the Finance Manager within the Office of Global Engagement. She has responsibility for financial control and planning. Paula is a member of the senior management team and provides advice and expertise in reviewing current and future finance-related activities.

Paula is an honours graduate of the University of Limerick, majoring in Accounting and Finance and a fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland, having completed her professional accountancy training with PwC in 2005. Paula has worked as a college accountant for the College of Engineering and Architecture, the former College of Agriculture Food Science and Veterinary Medicine and most recently as part of the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences team.



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