



Gaeltacht UCD

UCD Global Centre for Irish Language & Culture

Report on Gaeltacht UCD Activities 2020 - 2021



www.ucd.ie/bnag

Special Provision for the Support of the Irish Language 2021
Gaeltacht UCD, UCD Global Centre for Irish Language and Culture,
University College Dublin
Report on Activities, September 2020 to August 2021
<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/>

Table of Contents

Overview	1
Project 1 —Irish-Language Courses for UCD Students and Employees Opportunities for Language Learning Outside the Classroom Setting	3
Project 2 —Irish Language Cultural Program	8
Project 3 —Teach na Gaeilge 2020-2021, UCD's Irish-Language Residential Scheme	13
Project 4 —Gaeltacht UCD Engagement: Local, National and International	24
Project 5 —Supports for UCD Staff—Translation, Advisory Service and Resources	28
Project 6 —Irish-Language Promotional Activities	30
University Support —Structure, Management and Administration	34
Conclusion	35
Summary of Accounts	36

Overview

Gaeltacht UCD, UCD's Global Centre for Irish Language and Culture, preserves and promotes the use of the Irish language and its associated culture in University College Dublin. The Centre offers a range of linguistic and cultural services which support students, alumni, faculty and staff; those who wish to use the language, learn the language or further develop their competency in the language. Situated in UCD, Ireland's Global University, Gaeltacht UCD belongs to an increasingly diverse community, a diversity which is reflected in the Centre's broad range of initiatives.

Gaeltacht UCD supports Ireland's first official language, as specified in the Universities Act, 1997. It appreciates the necessity to support speakers from Ireland's traditional Gaeltachtaí, *tobar na teanga*, as well as newly emerging Irish-speaking communities. The University's high achieving Irish-speaking graduates will be essential to the provision of future Irish language services throughout the Island of Ireland. Gaeltacht UCD is, therefore, committed to nurturing traditional and non-traditional native speakers, a priority which aligns with UCD's commitment to foster an inclusive, multicultural, multilingual environment.

In addition to preserving and maintaining this unique aspect of Ireland's culture, Gaeltacht UCD shares the language with the University's wider community. The language and its associated culture play a significant role in connecting the University's students, employees and alumni globally. Gaeltacht UCD's Irish-language courses, social and educational activities are increasingly popular with students native to Ireland as well as those on visiting and exchange programs; they facilitate cross-cultural communication, understanding and integration.

The year 2020-2021 was a year of creativity and innovation. Gaeltacht UCD moved each of its projects online in accordance with government health guidelines. The Centre sought new ways to engage students, staff and alumni, to further develop its resources and to increase levels of participation. Projects completed in 2020-2021 included online language courses, a series of virtual cultural events, a residential scholarship scheme and an international program. The Centre facilitated the University in its compliance with Irish-language

legislation; it managed the drafting of the University's 2021-2024 Irish-language scheme under the Official Languages Act, and it continued to provide a translation and advisory service.

Gaeltacht UCD's core activity, the provision of Irish language courses for all UCD students and employees, continued to attract learners from beginner to advanced levels from across the University. In the absence of the ability to host live events, a new series of virtual cultural and educational events was developed which provided additional opportunities for Irish-language speakers and learners to engage with various aspects of Ireland's cultural heritage. *Teach na Gaeilge*; Gaeltacht UCD's Irish language student residential scholarship scheme, which has attracted high achieving students to the University from both *Gaeltacht* and *Galltacht* since 2000, continued with a full cohort of students who adapted their language promotional activities for online delivery. The Centre's *Scéim Mheantóireachta* (mentoring scheme) supported scholars in this transition. In addition to providing services for communities on its Dublin campuses, Gaeltacht UCD designed and delivered a bespoke linguistic and cultural program to students in UCD's partner colleges abroad.

The promotion of the Irish language and its associated culture 2020-2021 contributed to UCD's objective to bring the best of Ireland to UCD and the best of UCD including its distinct cultures to the world.

Project 1: Irish Language Courses for UCD Students and Employees

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/en/language/languagecourses/>

Irish Language Courses

UCD has an active and diverse Irish-language community. Learners comprise both employees and students with a high level of engagement from the University's global community. The positive interaction between learners, tutors and administrators, strengthens UCD's Irish language speaking community and facilitates the smooth implementation of a number of other Irish language initiatives on campus.

Throughout 2020-2021 *Gaeltacht UCD* provided its full range of Irish-language courses. Each language level, A1 to B2 of the *Common European Framework for Languages*, was delivered online in accordance with government health guidelines. An online placement test was provided to all learners prior to the commencement of courses, ensuring their placement at a level appropriate to their requirements.

From September 2020 to April 2021, a total of 222 learners; 146 students and 76 staff registered for a Gaeltacht UCD course in or through Irish. Of this number, 55% of student learners and 32% of staff learners came from countries outside the island of Ireland.

The categories of staff comprised 49 % administrative, 36% academic and 16% research.

Gaeltacht UCD is currently developing its booking system via UCD Infohub to gather additional data from its student learners with the purpose of catering for specific needs. The unit employed 8 qualified tutors on a part-time basis to facilitate delivery of its courses.

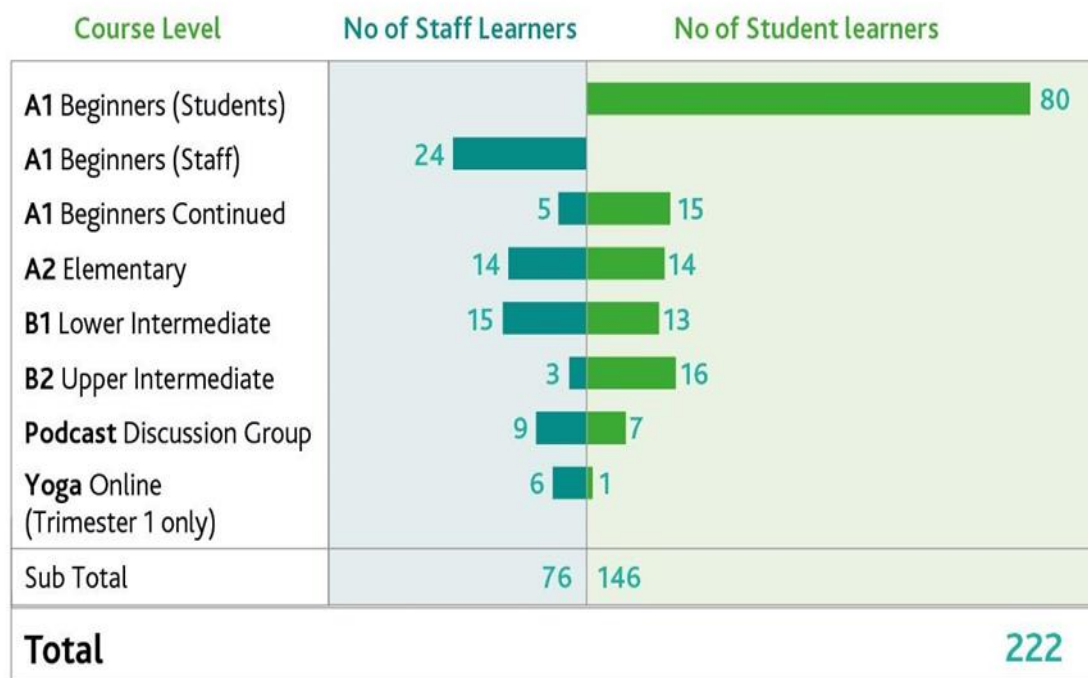
Questionnaires were distributed to all learners at the end of each course and the center was satisfied with the feedback received.

Gaeltacht UCD continuously works towards enhancing learner outcomes. It aims to attract a higher percentage of learners to gain a qualification in Irish such as *Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge*, a European Certification in Irish. To achieve this, new course materials, developed in accordance with current best practice in language learning, will be required for each of its 4 language levels. Current teaching and learning materials, originally designed by Gaeltacht UCD in 2005, were designed specifically for face- to- face teaching on campus. New

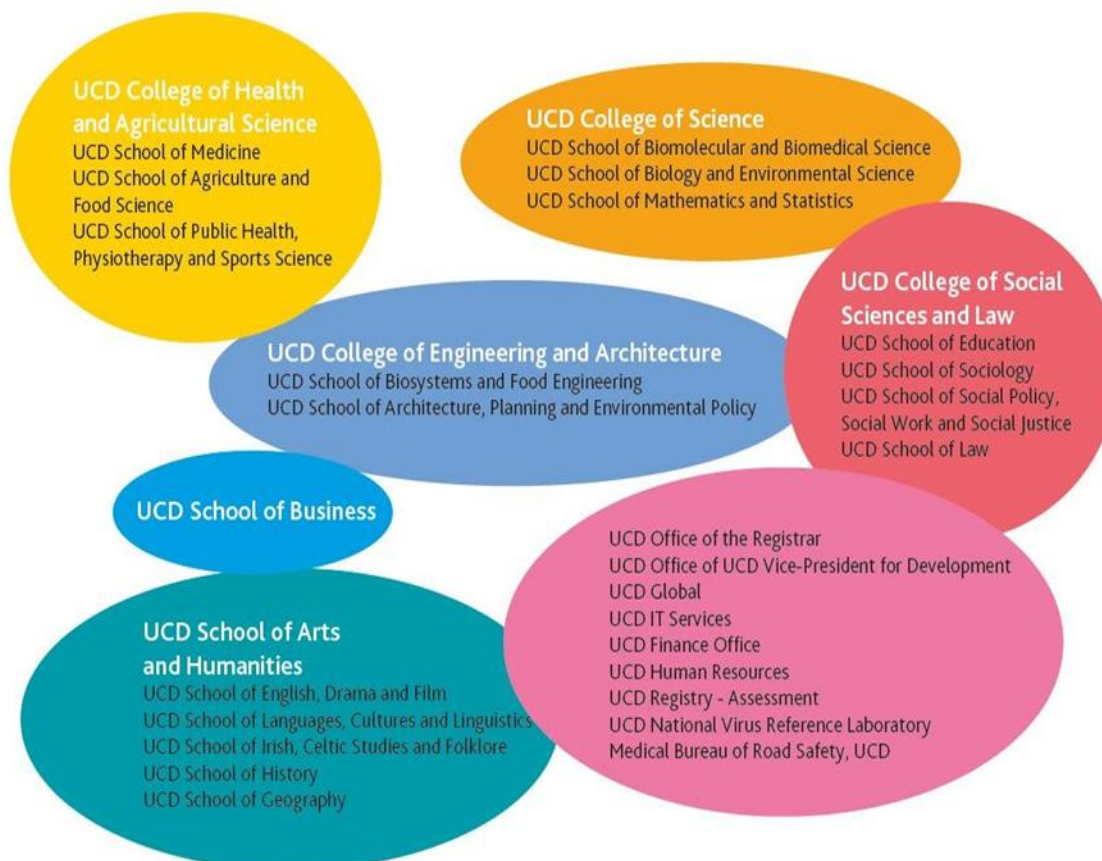
materials must now be designed for both in-person and online delivery which will facilitate hybrid learning and align with the University's strategy of transforming through digital technology. Designing and digitizing new Irish-language resources will require additional investment and the unit would request that this be taken into consideration in future allocations by the *Special Initiative for the Funding of the Irish Language*.

Irish Language Courses.

Participation, September 2020- March 2021



The following schools and units were represented in the 2020-2021 Staff Courses.



Opportunities for Language Learners Outside the Classroom Setting

In addition to its structured language courses, Gaeltacht UCD has responded to the demand from students and staff for opportunities to use the language outside the 'real' or virtual classroom setting.

New 2020-2021 Project, 'Podphlé'

In September 2020, the Centre initiated a new project *Podphlé*, a podcast discussion group. This project was designed for those competent in the language, at upper intermediate or advanced levels, who no longer wished to follow a course but welcomed the opportunity to further their fluency and expand their vocabulary.

Similar to the concept of a book club, *Podphlé* participants choose an Irish language podcast to listen to and discuss weekly. *Podphlé* was facilitated by journalist and broadcaster Sinéad Ní Uallacháin, a native speaker from the Corca Dhuibhne Gaeltacht. This activity enabled participants to discuss current topics of interest with greater fluency. The meeting of speakers differed from the traditional 'ciorcal comhrá' or conversational group in so far as it focused on specific podcast themes and had an additional aural element which highlighted variation in dialects of Irish. Each session brought staff and postgraduate students together from across the colleges of Business, Science, Research, Arts and Humanities. '*Podphlé*;' proved successful in trimester 1 and was continued in trimester 2. The following are a list of the podcasts discussed, chosen from various online platforms and the Irish-language media.

Trimester 1 Podcasts

The Nobody Zone: Cuireann sé isteach ort	https://www.rte.ie/radio1/podcast/podcast_gaeilgetnz.xml
Nuall na nÓg: Mise Fosta	https://anchor.fm/nuall-na-nog
Ógie Ó Céilleachair: Comhrá le Tadhg Ó Foghlú	https://soundcloud.com/user-431374685/comhra-le-tadhg-o-foghlú
Fada is Fairsing: Eimear Ní Bhroin ó Oifig áitiúil an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh in Éirinn	https://soundcloud.com/rnl/fada-is-fairsing-06u-deireadh-fomhair-2020?in=rnl/sets/fada-is-fairsing
Motherfocloir: Inglorious Blaskets - Peig Vs The Peig Myth	https://www.headstuff.org/motherfocloir/148-inglorious-blaskets-peig-vs-the-peig-myth/
Meascra: Caitríona Ní Chléircín; Muireann Ní Chíobháin; Ciara Ní É; Dáire Ní Chanáin; Caitlín Nic Íomhair; Ola Majekodunmi	https://www.rte.ie/radio/utils/share/rnag/11050397

Trimester 2 Podcasts

Spreagadh, Snámh, Buíochas Gach Lá - le Sláine Ní Chathalláin; Bí dílis duit féin - le Clíodhna Ní Cheallacháin	https://anchor.fm/se341n-323-duinn355n/episodes/B-dlis-duit-fin-eorbt4
Beatha na Gairme le Raidió na Life	https://soundcloud.com/rnl/sets/beatha-na-gairme
Ar Leac mo Dhorais	https://soundcloud.com/rnl/sets/ar-leac-mo-dhorais
Seal le Seán: Fiachna Ó Braonáin	https://anchor.fm/sen--dubhchon/episodes/Fiachna--Braonin-epasvp
Seal le Seán: Caoimhe Ní Chathail	https://anchor.fm/sen--dubhchon/episodes/Caoimhe-N-Chathail-epl6qs
Podscéalta Chill Dara	https://anchor.fm/podscalta-chill-dara
Chartlann Bhóthar na Léinsí	https://www.rte.ie/radio/utills/share/rnag/21888930

Yoga Course in Irish Online

In trimester 1 2020, Gaeltacht UCD provided a yoga course through the medium of Irish to UCD students and staff in association with the company *Óga Yoga*. The course was offered online and was attended by UCD employees, undergraduate and postgraduate students. The center was pleased with the engagement of participants and the high quality of Irish-language instruction. This yoga in Irish course contributed to the University's *Healthy UCD* initiative and aligns with its objective to build a healthy world.

Project 2

Irish Language Cultural Program

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/cultur/>

Learners registered on *Gaeltacht UCD* language courses are offered a program of bilingual social and cultural activities which accompany their language courses. In 2020-2021 the series *Cultúr na Céadaoine* (Wednesday's Culture) moved online and an open invitation was issued to the University's alumni as well as to local, national and global communities. Each workshop related to an aspect of the Irish language and culture and comprised a presentation followed by a discussion in Irish, in English or bilingually. Presenters included UCD staff, UCD undergraduate and postgraduate students, external artists, Irish-language media personalities, authors and musicians. Subject areas included folklore, flora and fauna, food, language, festivals, music and literature. Thirteen events were held from October to April, attracting a total of 798 registrations via UCD's Infohub system. Details of workshop themes and guest speakers are listed on pages 9-12.

Cultúr na Céadaoine

Wednesday's Cultural Workshops

Online 2020-2021



Live Via Zoom

Have Fun / Bígí Linn!

Total participants: **798**



Gaeltacht UCD

UCD Global Centre for Irish Language & Culture

Cultúr na Céadaoine

Wednesday's Cultural Workshops

2021	Live via Zoom	13.00 - 13.30
27 Eanáir <i>January</i>	Foclóir Nua Béarla-Gaeilge 2020 Cormac Breathnach , Bainisteoir Tionscadail, Foras na Gaeilge <i>The New English Irish Dictionary</i> Cormac Breathnach , Project Manager for the new English-Irish Dictionary, Foras na Gaeilge	
3 Feabhra <i>February</i>	Lá Fhéile Bríde Jonny Dillon , Cartlannaí Cúnta, Cnuasach Bhéaloideas Éireann, Leabharlann UCD <i>St. Brigid's Feast Day, Customs & Traditions</i> Jonny Dillon , Assistant Archivist, National Folklore Collection, UCD Library	
10 Feabhra <i>February</i>	Lá San Vailintín An Dr Kelly Fitzgerald , Scoil na Gaeilge, an Léinn Cheiltigh agus an Bhéaloidis UCD <i>St. Valentine's Day, Customs & Traditions</i> Dr Kelly Fitzgerald , UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore	
10 Márta <i>March</i>	Meet Donncha Ó Murchú, TG4 <i>Learn about the wealth of terminology & proverbs in Irish related to the weather.</i>	

Bígí Linn!



Register Online:

www.ucd.ie/bnag/en/services/culturalactivities



Gaeltacht UCD
UCD Global Centre for Irish Language & Culture

Ceardlann Cultúrtha
Cultural Workshop

Bígi Linn

Register: failte@ucd.ie

Details: www.ucd.ie/bnag



An tOireachtas
GRÉASÁN NA nGAEL

What's involved in this annual 1-week Irish language and arts festival?

Find out on Wednesday, 21 Oct,
13.00 - 13.30 **via ZOOM**



Gaeltacht UCD
UCD Global Centre for Irish Language & Culture

Ceardlann Cultúrtha / Cultural Workshop

An introduction to the Bodhrán
With Musician Tristan Rosenstock


Wednesday,
4 November
13.00-13.30
via ZOOM

Bígi Linn

Register: failte@ucd.ie

Details: www.ucd.ie/bnag



Gaeltacht UCD
UCD Global Centre for Irish Language & Culture

Ceardlann Cultúrtha / Cultural Workshop




What is Oíche Shamhna / Halloween?
Why is it celebrated?
What customs are associated with it in Ireland?

Tuesday, 27 October
13.00-13.30
via ZOOM

UCD Archivist
Jonny Dillon
has the answers.




Bígi Linn

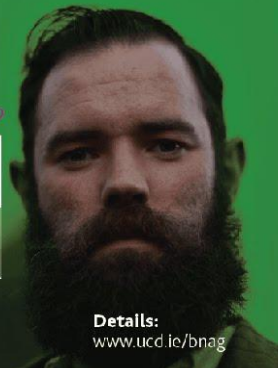
Register: failte@ucd.ie

Details: www.ucd.ie/bnag

in association with

-  Oireachtas
-  Bodhrán
-  National Folklore Collector



Gaeltacht UCD
UCD Global Centre for Irish Language & Culture

Ceardlann Cultúrtha / Cultural Workshop

What is sean-nos dance?
Join in and learn a few steps with dancer Sibéal Davitt

Wednesday,
11 November
13.00-13.30
via ZOOM

Bígi Linn

Register: failte@ucd.ie

Details: www.ucd.ie/bnag



Cultúr na Céadaoine

Wednesday's Cultural Workshops

27 February

Bláthanna Fiáine in Éirinn / Devil's Bites and Fairy Fingers:
The weird and wonderful hidden in Irish Wildflower names
Postgraduate Student Aedin NI Thiarnaigh



3 March

Lá Domhanda na Leabhar - áiseanna d'og agus aosta /
World Book Day - resources in Irish for young and old
Author Bridget Breathnach, Cló Iar Chonnachta & Futa Fata



24 March

Bia na hÉireann: Mar a bhí agus mar a bheidh /
Irish Food: 'Where did it come from and where is it going?'
Cook and Social Entrepreneur Diarmuid Ó Mathúna



31 March

Léargas ar cuid de na podchraoltaí is spéisiúla sa Ghaeilge /
An insight into some interesting podcasts in Irish
Journalist and Broadcaster Sinéad NI Uallacháin



7 April

Rapcheol i nGaeilge /
How to produce rap music videos in the Irish Language
Songwriter and Educational Technologist Eoin McEvoy



Project 3

Teach na Gaeilge 2020-2021, Residential Scholarship Scheme,

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/>

2020-2021 Residential Scholarship Scheme Activity and 2021-2022 Competition

Background: ‘*Teach na Gaeilge UCD*’ the University’s Irish Language Student Residential Scholarship Scheme, was founded in 2000 with 4 scholars, this was increased to 16 in 2001 and 24 in 2010. *Teach na Gaeilge* continues to attract high-achieving students with many awarded Entrance Scholarships to the University.

The 24 *Teach na Gaeilge UCD* scholarships for the year 2020-2021 were advertised in March 2020 in second-level schools nationwide (32 counties). The scholarships were also advertised in the Irish-language media, on social media, via the UCD Scholarships website <https://www.ucd.ie/students/scholarships/prospectiveundergraduatestudents/> and the *Gaeltacht UCD*’s website

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/scolaireachtai/>. The 2020-2021 scholars included traditional native speakers (from Gaeltacht areas), native speakers located outside the *Gaeltachtaí*, *Nua-chainteoirí* (non-native fluent speakers from *Galltacht* areas), fluent speakers from Irish-language medium education and fluent speakers from English language medium education. This year scholars represented the University virtually in the Irish-language community nationally and internationally and succeeded in maintaining a balance between language maintenance and language promotion. Throughout the year they initiated a broad range of language projects which involved the wider University community. The *Gaeltacht UCD* scholarship is documented on each student’s academic transcript.

Gaeltacht UCD continuously reviews its residential scheme to ensure that it provides the supports most conducive to language maintenance and student engagement. The feedback from 2020-2021 scholars in exit surveys (May 2021) was positive and demand continued for the 2021-2022 competition. On 1 March 2021, the 2021-2022 *Teach na Gaeilge* scholarships were advertised. There was a total of 89 applicants for the 24 scholarships. A total of 74 student were interviewed on 25, 26 and 27 May from which 24 candidates were offered a place subject to CAO offers.

Orientation and Training

Gaeltacht UCD organizes a specific orientation and training programs for its scholars through the medium of Irish. These are organized prior to the commencement of each trimester thus ensuring that Irish is the language of initial communication between participating scholars, in accordance with best practice in language preservation and maintenance. Orientation enhances communication between the individual scholarship students, between the students and the broader University community and between the students and the broader Irish language community. Scholars were provided with information on the opportunities available to them and on their obligations under the residential scheme.

The 2020-2021 program included 3 weekend courses: the first taking place 18-19 September, the second 25-26 September 2020 and the 3rd at the commencement of the second trimester 16-17 January 2021. The courses consisted of guest lectures, workshops, social and cultural activities the majority of which were conducted online due to government health restrictions. The scheme's alumni are central to the success of this project and planning sessions with *Teach na Gaeilge* alumni and mentors motivated new participants and provided guidance and support in the execution of the 2020-2021 projects. Representatives from UCD Students' Union, Cumann Gaelach UCD, UCD Trad Soc and UCD Student Publications participated in the 2020-2021 orientation sessions.

2021 Accredited Module in Radio Broadcasting Skills

During their time in *Teach na Gaeilge*, students have the opportunity to develop interpersonal and leadership skills. In addition to informal training and the Scéim Mheantóireachta they are offered the opportunity to obtain academic credits for their activity through a specific Horizons Module *Scileanna Cumarsáide* (Communication Skills). *Scileanna Cumarsáide*, the academic module which was specifically designed for *Teach na Gaeilge* scholarship students, was offered for a 14th year in succession in January 2021. The module offered within *UCD Horizons*, was delivered by

Residence Scheme Scholars' Subject Areas

Academic School	No. of Scholars
UCD School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering	2
UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science	3
UCD School of Computer Science	2
UCD School of Law	3
UCD School of Business	1
UCD School of Chemistry	1
UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science	1
UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science	1
UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems	1
UCD School of Medicine	3
UCD School of Sociology	1
UCD School of Politics and International Relations	1
UCD School of Mathematics and Statistics	1
UCD School of Veterinary Medicine	2
UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore	1

Counties/Regions which Residence Scheme Scholars came from 2020 - 2021



Teach na Gaeilge Residence Scheme 2020 - 2021



Bígí Linn!

Teach na Gaeilge

the Centre in association with *Gaelchultúr Teoranta*, *Radio na Gaeltachta* and UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore. Gaeltacht UCD supplied the teaching materials via *Gaelchultúr*, students gained practical experience from a *Radió na Gaeltachta* broadcaster and the module was accredited by the academic school. This module provided the students with the necessary skills to prepare, to edit and present a radio broadcast. Podcasts of the programs produced in 2021 can be heard on:

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaith/scileannacumarsaide/>

Residence scheme scholars are frequently interviewed by *Radio na Gaeltachta*, *Radio na Life* and *Radio Fáilte* on their language promotional activities, and the new skills acquired were of particular relevance to 2020-2021 students, as they focused on promoting the language virtually.

Scéim Mheantóireachta Theach na Gaeilge, Alumni Mentoring Scheme

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaith/meantoiritheachnagaeilge/>

Background: Residence scheme alumni continue to have a positive influence on the use and promotion of the Irish language by residence scheme students. The relationship between current and past students ensures that students continue to use the language after graduation, within their professions, socially, in networks such as *Borradh.ie*, or in the professional associations; *Cumann na nInnealtóirí* or *Acadamh na Lianna*.

In 2016 Gaeltacht UCD designed its first mentoring program. It now works with alumni prior to the commencement of each trimester. Mentors are encouraged to organize workshops during orientation and meet with individual students throughout the year. In 2020-2021, fourteen mentors coordinated by a former *Ad Astra* Scholar, worked with residence scheme students, supporting them in delivering their projects and strengthening the links between speakers on campus and those in the wider Irish-language community. The 2020-2021 *Scéim Mheantóireachta* was of particular significance during a period when students had fewer social contacts than usual, and when many live national Irish-language events and competitions were cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Teach na Gaeilge UCD Alumni

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/alumnitheachnagaeilge/>

Further to the renewed engagement generated by the Irish Language Student Residence Scheme's 20th anniversary celebration, Gaeltacht UCD aims to build on this engagement and involve alumni in activities where appropriate. A Listing of all 2000-2021 alumni is now featured on the Gaeltacht UCD website.

'Teach na Gaeilge' Projects

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/tionscnaimhnamacleinn/>

Podcasts, Videos and Vlogs

A condition of participation in the UCD residence scheme is that students work as language ambassadors and/organize projects or events which provide their peers with the opportunity to use the language. Irish-language projects can include a diverse range of activities based on individual scholars' talents and interests. The freedom to work on a project of their choosing and the support provided by the *Gaeltacht UCD* to facilitate this, has led to many successful projects which are now held annually, and which involve contact with the wider community. In 2020-2021, Government Health Restrictions resulted in student activity being curtailed to events online and/or socially distanced outdoors. The students rose to this challenge and created podcasts, vlogs and competitions shared online via Instagram and Facebook. Students produced a total of 26 visual recordings, themes included cookery demonstrations, Irish sport, villages and towns in Ireland, arts and crafts, festivals, talent competitions and games. The various podcasts created covered themes such as university and home life during the pandemic, interests and involvement in Irish language and environmental campaigns. Throughout the year students also managed the Gaeltacht UCD and the UCD Residences Instagram accounts.

'Dúshlán Gaeilge'- a global project for Irish language week

Seachtain na Gaeilge UCD (Irish language week) is an annual event organized by UCD Students' Union, Cumann Gaelach UCD and Teach na Gaeilge with the support of *Gaeltacht*

UCD. Seachtain na Gaeilge UCD 2021 was primarily online and *Teach na Gaeilge* scholars organized a unique project 'Dúshlán Gaeilge', a project which promoted the language among students in Ireland and abroad. The project set participants a series of challenges, each associated with the language and culture of Ireland. The competition attracted 215 students (43 teams) who competed over a 4- day period. There were 46 international entrants who were new to the language, 167 entrants from UCD and 48 from other 3rd level institutions: TCD, NUIG, UCC, DCU, RIAM, QUB and IADT. International participants included students learning Irish at the University of Connecticut and the University of Colorado. The event was conducted primarily via email and Instagram. Generous sponsorship was secured from Foras na Gaeilge, Gael Linn, Conradh na Gaeilge and Seachtain na Gaeilge resulting in attractive prizes. Great credit is due to the students who lead this project for their ingenuity, their planning and execution of the project and for their sponsorship negotiations. It is hoped to repeat the event *Dúshlán Gaeilge* during *Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022*. All 2021 challenges can be viewed on Instagram #dushlangaeilge

Workshops for Second Level Students

In addition to the aforementioned competition, podcasts and vlogs, students participated in projects involving live tuition online.

Oral Irish Language in English-Medium Schools

Further to 2019 and 2020 student- led initiatives, Residence Scheme Scholars were invited by a number of local English-medium second level schools to deliver Irish language workshops for their pupils, prior to the Leaving Certificate Irish language oral examinations. The 2021 workshops were conducted online, they raised the secondary school pupils' confidence in the spoken language and built relationships between current and prospective UCD students.

UCD All and the Clondalkin Access Network

In March 2021 at the request of UCD All, a number of Residence Scheme Scholars provided live workshops for *Deis* schools in the Clondalkin area of Co. Dublin. They assisted in preparing students for the oral Irish Leaving Certificate Examinations.

Maths & Science in Irish

The residence scheme attracts students from a wide range of faculties. This year's cohort included a number of Mathematics and Science students who provided free tuition online in mathematics and physics at second level, through the medium of Irish.

Details of all 2020-2021 student projects are listed in this report pages 20-22 and can be accessed via the Gaeltacht UCD

website: <https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/tionscnaimhnamacleinn/>

Gradaim Ghaeltacht UCD 2021, Student Awards

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/gradaimghaeltachtucd/>

Gaeltacht UCD has seen the need to recognize the work and commitment of students, clubs and societies in the promotion of the language, hence the establishment of *Gradaim Bhord na Gaeilge* (Bord na Gaeilge Awards) in 2009. The year 2020-2021 was the 12th year of this successful initiative. *Gradaim Ghaeltacht UCD 2021* was held live via zoom online. Among the awards presented was that of *Teach na Gaeilge Student Ambassador* and recognition was given to societies outside of the Irish-speaking societies/clubs, which best promoted the language. Award recipients are chosen by student ballot in advance of the event.

Contributions to the online event were made by student auditors, the SU Irish Language Officer, the coordinator of Scéim Mheantóireachta Theach na Gaeilge, Gaeltacht UCD Director and the Chair of Bord Tacaíochta Gaeilge UCD. Certificates and photos of all awards events can be viewed at:

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/ansceimchonaithe/gradaimghaeltachtucd/>

Irish Language Student Residence Scheme 2020 - 2021 Projects

Mo Áit Dúchais My Native Place

A collection of videos showcasing the students' native place:
Connemara, Galway - Mary Nic Dhonncha & Áine Ní Chualáin
Kerala, India - Theresa Benny
Belfast - Aoibhinn Cadhla Brentnall
Monaghan Town - Lorcán Ó Ruairc
Monaghan - Íos Mac Ghiolla Cheara
Lorrha, Tipperary - Clodagh Nic an tSaolr

Connemara, Galway



Kerala, India



Belfast



Monaghan Town



Monaghan Lorrha



Tipperary



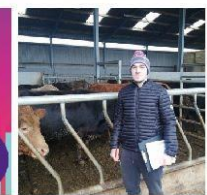
Podcasts

'Glór na Scéime' with Catriona Ní Dhomhnaill and Eoghan Ó Cumáin
'Cúlchaint le Celtic' with Íos Mac Ghiolla Cheara
Podcast with Aoibhinn Cadhla Brentnall
'Tréidlia ar Glao' with Cathal Ó Baoil
'Screweduithe' with Louise Ní Mhathúna

Glór na Scéime



Tréidlia ar Glao



Screweduithe



Cúlchaint le Celtic



Scholar Experience



Bia Álainn Mealltach Cookery Demonstrations

With Bríd Clesham, Áine Ní Chualáin and Mary Nic Dhonncha

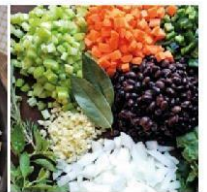
Apple & Strawberry
Crumble



Lentil Dahl



Stir Fry Noodles



Irish Language Student Residence Scheme 2020 - 2021 Projects

Arts & Crafts

St Brigid's Cross
with Catríona Ní Dhomhnaill and Eoghan Ó Curnáin

Christmas Decorations
with Theresa Benny, Rossa Ní Giolla Seanáin
and Justin Ó hAodhagáin

St Brigid's cross



Christmas Decorations



Events for the Public

'Dúshlán Gaeilge'
with Justin Ó hAodhagáin, Rossa Ní Giolla Seanáin,
Theresa Benny and Bríd Clesham
Oral Irish Workshops
with Louise Ní Mhathúna, Aimee Ní Bhraonáin and Alannah Ní Bhaoil
'Grinds as Gaeilge'
with Niamh Ní Mhaolabhail, Caoimhe Ní Eacháin and Ray Taylor

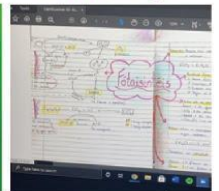
Dúshlán Gaeilge



Oral Irish Workshops



Grinds as Gaeilge



Sport with Teach na Gaeilge UCD

Golf with Cathal Ó Baoil
Athletics with Liam de Buitléir
Tennis with Laoighse Ní Eochagáin
Boxing with Cathán Ó Cnáimhsi
Basketball with Lorcán Ó Ruairc
Gaelic Football with Mary Ní Dhonncha
Hurling and Camogie with Clodagh Ní an tSaoir
Rugby with Alannah Ní Bhaoil
Rugby Terminology with Ray Taylor
Yoga with Clodagh Ní an tSaoir

Golf



Athletics



Tennis



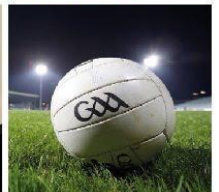
Boxing



Basketball



Gaelic Football



Hurling & Camogie



Rugby



Yoga



Irish Language Student Residence Scheme 2020 - 2021 Projects

Videos & Events

Vlog

with Theresa Benny, Laoighse NI Eochagáin,
Chloe Gavin & Justin Ó hAodhagáin

Drag Makeup

with Íos Mac Ghiolla Cheara

Mock the Week

with Cathán Ó Cnáimhsí, Ray Taylor, Lorcán Ó Ruairc
& Liam de Buitléir

Irish on Campus

with Chloe Gavin & Laoighse NI Eochagáin

International Interviews

with Lorcán Ó Ruairc & Aoibhinn Cadhla Brentnall

Easter Egg Hunt

with Theresa Benny

Irish Films - Entertainment through Irish

with Laoighse NI Eochagáin

Memories from 2020

with Niamh NI Mhaolabhail & Caoimhe Nic Eachtain

Gaelfactor

with Cathán Ó Cnáimhsí, Liam de Buitléir,
Colm Ó Ruanaidh, Alannah NI Bhaoil, Laoighse NI Eochagáin,
Aoibhinn Cadhla Brentnall & Theresa Benny

Gael-Cache

with Colm Ó Ruanaidh & Lorcán Ó Ruairc

Valentine's Day

with Aoibhinn Cadhla Brentnall,
Cathán Ó Cnáimhsí & Lorcán Ó Ruairc

Vlog - trip to Dun Laoghaire



Drag Makeup



Mock the Week



Irish on Campus



International Interviews



Memories from 2020



St. Valentine's Day



Gaelfactor



Gael-Cache



Easter Egg Hunt



Film Reviews in Irish



Project 4

Gaeltacht UCD Engagement

Local Engagement

Throughout 2020-2021, *Gaeltacht UCD* continued to be actively engaged within the University, in particular in activities associated with UCD Culture and Engagement, UCD Global and UCD Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. The Centre was represented on the 'UCD in the Community', 'UCD Student Services' and 'UCD Culture and Engagement' committees as well as UCD's Multicultural Group (a UCD Equality Diversity and Inclusion Committee). The Director continues to be an active committee member of the 'Multicultural Employee Network in UCD' a network through which employees share their distinctive languages and cultures. In 2020-2021, Gaeltacht UCD had a virtual stand at *UCD Open Day* and at the *UCD Graduate Fair*. In May 2021 the Centre provided 3 events which were live streamed for UCD Festival 2021. Events can be viewed on the Gaeltacht UCD website and on the UCD Festival website : 'Celtic Song': <https://festival.ucd.ie/conversations/>, 'Céard tá sa Phota': <https://festival.ucd.ie/health-and-wellbeing/> and 'Fun Stem Activities as Gaeilge': <https://festival.ucd.ie/science/>

National Engagement

Gaeltacht UCD is in regular contact with the national Irish-language community. In 2020-2021 it maintained contact with the 6 lead organizations within the *Foras na Gaeilge* All-island Partnership Forum: *Glór na nGael*, *Gael-Linn*, *Conradh na Gaeilge*, *Cumann na bhFiann*, *Gaeloideachas* and *Oireachtas na Gaeilge*, <https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/tacaiochtaí/gaeilgesaphobal/> In addition to supporting meetings and events, the Centre's Director is a member of the voluntary board of 2 Irish-language organisations: *Gael-Linn* and *Féile Imram* who continued to conduct business on line throughout the year. Both the Director and Administrator are active members of the professional organization *Cumann na nOifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge* (COFG), <https://cofg.ie/>. Gaeltacht UCD students represent the University at a number of annual festivals such as *Oireachtas na Gaeilge*, these events were postponed in 2020-2021 due to Government

Gaeltacht UCD, 2020-2021 Activity

Health Restrictions, however the Center organized online student events in association with Áras Uí Thuma, University College Cork and Tigh na Gàidhlig, University of Glasgow, Scotland.

UCD Open Day, 10 November 2020



Postgraduate Open Day, 16 February 2021



International Engagement, <https://www.ucd.ie/irish/qa/arfudnacruinne/>

UCD China Joint Colleges

In addition to its regular program, Gaeltacht UCD provided a bespoke linguistic and cultural program to UCD China Joint Colleges which included presentations and live tuition, March, April and May 2021. Webinars were organized to give the UCD students registered with Beijing Dublin International College (BDIC) and Chang'an Dublin International College of Transportation (CDIC) an insight into various aspects of Irish culture. The 2021 topics included the St. Patrick's Day Festival, Irish Sport, hurling, Gaelic football and handball, the Irish language, Irish musical instruments, Irish song and Irish dance. Audiences had the opportunity to hear from a total of 12 presenters including students, tutors and musicians. An example of presentations given by some Irish undergraduate students based at UCD Belfield can be viewed at:

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/en/global/exchangeswithucdchinajointcolleges/>

Online Cultural Exchange



Cultural Exchange with Chang'an University, Xi'an, China



Interview with Junhan Zhang

Irish language learner, Junhan Zhang, speaks with Rachel
Crimes, Gaeltacht UCD scholar, about her experience in UCD



An insight into Kerala with Theresa Benny

Theresa Benny, Gaeltacht UCD scholar, tells us about her
country of origin.

Project 5

Supports for UCD Staff

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/tacaiochtai/>

Translation and Advisory Service

Background: *Gaeltacht UCD*, in cooperation with TCD and DIT (now TU Dublin), initiated an intervarsity project the aim of which was to source a common translation service catering specifically for the 3 institutes. *Rannóg an Aistriúcháin* (The Translation Section of the Houses of the Oireachtas) advised the 3 institutes on the implementation of this project. This common translation service has been in place since September 2010. The service has ensured expertise in the translation of University documentation and has minimized the cost to each of the 3 institutes. In 2020 a new tender was sought and a new 12-month contract signed for translation services between UCD and TU Dublin.

During 2020-2021 demand for the Centre's translation, in-house proofing services and advice on legislative requirements, continued. Translations and in-house proofing were required to facilitate the work of a broad range of colleges, schools and units including UCD Relations, UCD Registry, UCD Libraries, UCD IT Services, UCD Human Resources, UCD Alumni and NOVA UCD. The greatest demand came from UCD Estate with requests received for voice mails, site hoardings, car parking arrangements and safety notices related to the Covid 19 Government Health Restrictions.

Resources

Gaeltacht UCD continuously updates its database of translation for school and building names <https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/tacaiochtai/>. It also compiles a listing of current UCD staff competent in the language:

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/tacaiochtai/baillfoirnelegaeilge/>

This resource aims to make the Irish language version of college and school titles more accessible to internal professional staff and faculty. The database of Irish-speaking faculty is a useful resource for incoming students as well as for the Irish-language media.

Facilitation of UCD's Compliance with Legislation

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/tacaiochta/reachtaiochtteanqa/>

In May 2021 Gaeltacht UCD took business ownership of UCD's 2021-2024 Irish Language scheme, under the Official Languages Act. It liaised with stakeholders, hosted meetings and focus groups and organized information sessions for the University's *Coiste Acht na dTeangacha* (Official Languages Act Committee). The Center is currently drafting the University's new scheme in collaboration with UCD heads of units. The additional resources required for this project were supported directly by the University, in accordance with the Act.

Project 6

Irish Language Promotional Activities

Publications

Articles on *Gaeltacht UCD* events were published regularly in UCD internal publications such as *UCD Today* <http://www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday/> and UCD Alumni E-zines

<https://alumni.ucd.ie/magazine-archive/>. Notices were placed regularly in UCD's Staff and Student e-zines available via UCDs intranet as well as on the *UCD Connect* electronic calendar. The Center's activities also feature in Irish-language media; in *Tuarascáil*, the Irish Times, *Tuairisc.ie* (the primary Irish language newspaper) and in *Seachtain* (a supplement in the *Irish Independent*). Advertisements for language courses and the residential scholarship scheme were published in UCD student media, UCD Observer and UCD College Tribune.

Gaeltacht UCD continued to design various promotional materials throughout the year. All 2020-2021 materials, with the exception of posters displayed on campus and information flyers posted to second level schools, were designed for electronic distribution, they were displayed on the Gaeltacht UCD website and shared via social media.

Supports for UCD Staff



Translation Resources

Gaeltacht UCD coordinates the University's Irish language translation service and advises all UCD schools, centres and units on the design and layout of Irish language and/or bilingual publications, signage and stationary, in accordance with the Official Languages Act. The centre provides a database for UCD buildings, schools and colleges, and offers a service for pre-recorded oral announcements. Please note that costs for translations not already in the Gaeltacht UCD database are covered by individual schools/centres/units. Gaeltacht UCD will coordinate the professional translation and proof for consistency in house style.

All translations should be forwarded in word format to ranganna.gaeilge@ucd.ie for an estimate.



Irish Speaking Faculty & Staff

A directory of UCD employees who are fluent in Irish or who welcome the opportunity to converse with students and colleagues in Irish



Courses for UCD Students and Staff

Gaeltacht UCD provides Irish language courses for those who wish to learn or improve their Irish. All Gaeltacht UCD teaching materials are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) guidelines. It is important to register early for the courses to ensure that you are allocated a place. The following courses are available only to current UCD students and staff.

Supports for UCD Staff are accessible via the Gaeltacht UCD website:

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/en/supports/>



New Gaeltacht UCD Website: www.ucd.ie/irish

In 2021 Gaeltacht UCD had a new website designed and continues to upload its most recent content. The website highlights the Centre's projects and makes information more accessible to those within and without the UCD community.

New sections include specific pages for 'Alumni', 'Mentors', 'Staff Supports' and 'Irish in the Community'. Registration for language courses, cultural activities and scholarships are all hosted on the website via UCD Infohub, systems which are now more accessible to the user. Gaeltacht UCD's website has always been a bilingual site; the new website similarly enables users to move seamlessly from Irish to English and English to Irish on each page.

Social Media

Gaeltacht UCD has a regular presence on social media including *Twitter* @ucdgaeltacht (3,176 followers), *Facebook* @ucdgaeltacht (1,981 followers), and *Instagram* #ucdgaeltacht (1,806 followers). This engagement contributes to the visibility of the language, promotes the University's Irish-language initiatives, and connects it with the global Irish-language community.

Irish Language Media

During 2020-2021, Gaeltacht UCD Director was interviewed by TG4, Raidió na Gaeltachta, Raidió Fáilte and Raidió na Life. Interviews pertained to the Centre's own projects as well as other relevant University initiatives.

Sponsorship

During 2020-2021 *Gaeltacht UCD* supported the use of the language by UCD schools, centers, units, student societies and clubs. It supported students registered for the *Diploma in Applied Irish with UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore* through part-sponsorship of students' fees. The Centre supported student involvement in literature and journalism through its sponsorship of *Duaiseanna Liteartha an Oireachtais* (the national under-19 award for journalism section) including the most recent award ceremony in October 2020.

Gaeltacht UCD also provided translation and proofing support to a number of Irish-language student journalists, bloggers and vloggers.

University Support

Structure, Management and Administration

Structure, <https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/fuinn/>

‘Gaeltacht UCD’ joined UCDs Global Engagement portfolio in 2019 and this was its second academic year within the new structure. The restructuring of the Centre was the result of a comprehensive review of the unit (previously known as *Bord na Gaeilge*) conducted in 2018-2019. The unit has since completed its rebrand and *Gaeltacht UCD, UCD Global Centre for Irish Language and Culture* is now placed centrally in the University, under the direction of UCD’s Vice-President for Global Engagement. The change in structure has been successful in strengthening the profile of the language and in bringing the Irish language and culture to a wider global community.

Bord Tacaíochta Gaeilge UCD

<https://www.ucd.ie/irish/ga/fuinn/bordtacaiochtagaeilge/>

UCD first established an Irish-Language Board in 1996. The board’s members represented UCD students and staff across a range of faculties. The board was charged with advising the Irish language unit *Bord na Gaeilge* and making recommendations to UCD’s Governing Authority regarding the use of the Irish language. In 2020 in line with the restructuring of the Irish language unit and the establishment of *Gaeltacht UCD*, UCD Governing Authority approved new terms of reference for *Bord Tacaíochta Gaeilge UCD*, an Irish-language advisory board. Membership of the board and terms of reference can be viewed at the link above.

Management and Administration

The *Gaeltacht UCD* office and its projects continued to be managed by one full-time Director and one full-time Senior Executive Assistant. All of the 2020-2021 initiatives were funded by

the special targeted initiative funding. The post of Senior Executive Assistant also facilitated by this funding, has ensured the continuity, high standard of delivery and range of initiatives offered to the University community. The University and in particular the office of Vice-President for Global Engagement continues to support each of the projects detailed in this report.

Mar Fhocal Scoir/In Conclusion

Gaeltacht UCD has seen a good return on its investment in Irish language initiatives; it adapted speedily to the changes in study and work practices imposed by the Covid 19 Health Restrictions, it embraced new methods for language learning, it created new opportunities for language promotion, and it saw an increase in participation in its activities. It is satisfied that a high level of support was maintained for the University's Irish-language speakers and learners. The Centre's various projects provided participants with the opportunity, not only to advance their language skills but also to gain a better understanding of their own and other cultural identities.

The year 2020-2021 saw over 1260 Irish-language speakers and learners actively engaged with Gaeltacht UCD. Many more people engaged with the Centre via UCD's virtual open-days, festivals and at various meetings, conferences and events. The Centre's projects, managed by 2 full-time staff, attracted participants from every corner of the Island of Ireland, from Europe, North America and Asia.

Gaeltacht UCD will build on this success; it looks forward to fostering a vibrant Irish language community and advancing UCD's visibility globally through highlighting the language and culture of Ireland in the year ahead.