

UCD

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CONNECTIONS

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE FOR UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN ALUMNI

ENVIRONMENT

Frank McDonald on
Urban Sprawl

VIEW FROM HOME

Anne Heraty on
Business Success

STORYTELLER SUPREME

Maeve Binchy - A Literary Life



PLUS: EARLSFORT CELEBRATES * RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS * FUTURE FUELS * CLASS NOTES



WELCOME TO *UCD CONNECTIONS*

Welcome to this year's edition of *UCD Connections*. This magazine contains lots of news about our graduates, where they are and what they are doing. It also aims to keep you informed on developments at your university.

In October 2006, the university launched the Gateway Project – a major international architecture competition involving the redevelopment of some 10 hectares around the main entrance of the Belfield campus.

The project challenged architects to create a defining structural feature for UCD to serve both as an internationally recognisable landmark and also meet extensive functional requirements. It is to comprise academic, cultural, leisure and business facilities and it marks the start of a 15-year Development Plan for a sustainable, healthy and living campus.

Against this backdrop, another important episode of UCD history is playing out. Earlsfort Terrace has been sold to the State to facilitate the redevelopment of the National Concert Hall. UCD can now complete the move to Belfield and deliver on the vision set out by Michael Tierney, President of the university in the 1960s. As we say farewell to Earlsfort Terrace, I am reminded of the origins of that building, which for 124 years played such a central role in UCD life.

Originally built as an exhibition palace and winter garden for the great exhibition of 1865, Earlsfort Terrace was in itself a multifunctional development. It was to be an 'institution where the citizens might meet for the purposes of rational amusement blended with instruction'. It was originally used as an exhibition and concert venue until its transfer via the Commissioners of Public Works in 1883 to University College.

Since then, generations of students have spent their university years at the Terrace and hold fond memories of those days. Prominent alumni have gone on to achieve enormous success in diverse spheres of Ireland's cultural, political and economic life. At this time of celebration, there is also a call for support; we launch the Terrace Graduates' Fund – see details on page 29.

Over the years, successive generations of graduates, both from Earlsfort Terrace and the rest of UCD, have played a central role in the shaping of modern Ireland and in international affairs, and this edition of *UCD Connections* is being sent to over 120,000 UCD alumni around the world. Some of our graduates are famous, many more are distinguished, others make their mark in a quieter way, but all are part of a common experience.

The purpose of *UCD Connections* is to continue that experience and maintain your link with your university.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

Dr Hugh Brady
President, UCD

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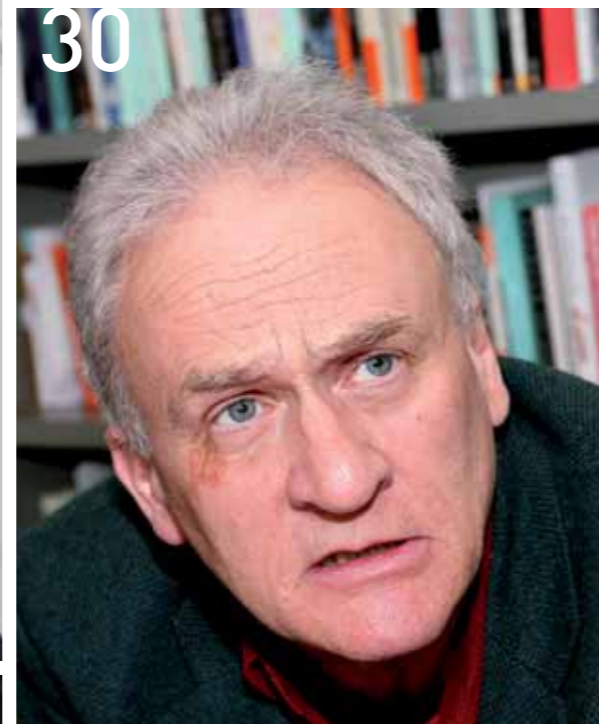
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TIME AND AGAIN

The first major research of prisoner reoffending rates in Ireland produced some surprising results. Louise Holden spoke to Ian O'Donnell, author of the study, about the importance of having this policy information

SOMETIMES A research finding is of such immediate and practical use to society that the slow unfolding of academic peer review is outrun. Such was the case when UCD's Institute of Criminology released the headline results of the country's first major study of prisoner reoffending late last year, and the figures took on a life of their own.

"There has been a lot of ill-informed discussion about prisoner recidivism down through the years; now we can finally talk about the subject with some hard figures to hand," says Dr Ian O'Donnell, director of the Institute of Criminology and author of the study.

Remarkably, this is the first time that Ireland's prison inmates have been tracked after release to establish how many return to the system and within what timeframe.

The study, which was carried out over four years from 2001 to 2004, is based on 19,955 prisoners released from the entire Irish prison system in that period.

The study, funded by the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences and carried out in collaboration with the University of Missouri, is an unusual undertaking even by international research standards. Despite much public debate about the problem of 'revolving-door prisons' commentators have been content to discuss the issue in an information vacuum.

"This is important policy information," says O'Donnell. "We wanted to get the headline statistics out as quickly as possible to provide a policy benchmark for a whole range of agencies from drug rehabilitation services to the probation service."

As well as providing overall figures for the rates of prisoner recidivism in Ireland, the study reveals crucial information on recidivism rates by offence category. Fine defaulters, for example, are returning to prison at a rate of 85%. "This is an important piece of information when it comes to planning allocation of prison resources," O'Donnell points out. "This interesting category of offender is placing an enormous burden on the system with questionable outcomes. These persistent, petty offenders are costing the state a huge amount of money and are being reimprisoned almost by default. This finding suggests that it might be worth looking for an alternative way of dealing with these offenders."

At an average cost of €90,900 per annum per prisoner, a custodial sentence of any length is expensive. "If we could find a way to deal with fine defaulters that did not involve a prison sentence, it would filter 10% of prisoners out of the system

'There has been a lot of ill-informed discussion about prisoner recidivism down through the years; now we can finally talk about the subject with some hard figures to hand'

altogether," says O'Donnell.

The body of information provided by this research sets a benchmark for allocation of resources to community service projects, probation services and other arms of the legal system. It also serves to cool some of the fire in the prisons debate. "Contrary to prevailing opinion, sex offenders are actually less likely to reoffend than some other groups," says O'Donnell. "This runs contrary to the public perception that sex offenders are predisposed to reoffend upon release. The effect of perceptions like these is that certain groups of offenders can find it difficult to get parole, but these decisions are often based on perception rather than hard figures."

Hard figures

According to O'Donnell, the availability of hard figures on recidivism forces us to think of prisoners in a more individualised way and not just as an homogenous group. "We now have some information that will allow us to target prisoners in a more nuanced way. This is important at a time when we are designing a new prison — we have an opportunity to structure the service around the facts of offending and reoffending."

The research mechanism used for this study can be used by other services trying to deal with offenders. Groups such as those involved in prison education, drug rehabilitation, community service and probation now have an opportunity to extend and cross-tabulate this research into the communities they deal with in order to get baseline information on which services should be developed or reformed.

O'Donnell has given a briefing to the prison service on the findings of the study and hopes that more groups involved in the

justice system will make use of the research. "When the headline figures of the study were released in December they created a certain amount of political energy," he says. "They have already helped to define the parameters of the debate."

The Irish Prison Service was generous in its support of the study. "We were amazed at the level of access we were given," O'Donnell reveals. "The prison service was extremely co-operative, indeed supportive, of our efforts. Our researcher, Nicola Hughes, was accommodated in an office on-site where she was given full access to PRIS, its computerised records system.

"People are hungry for this kind of information," he adds. "There is an information vacuum around the whole area of criminal justice. At last, we have a reliable measure that can be used as a benchmark going forward."

Now that the headline figures are in the public arena, the next step is to drill down into the data and uncover some deeper patterns of offence and reoffence. Embedded in the study is information related to geographic patterns of recidivism, gender trends and the role of probation.

As the first major study of its kind in Ireland, this work is of great interest to the international research community, but perhaps more importantly, it has immediate relevance to local policy making. One of the more depressing findings of the study reinforces the public impression that young Irish people are being recycled through the prison system at a phenomenal rate. "For this reason, it is really crucial to see what works to prevent reoffending," O'Donnell insists. "We know that prisons don't work. Now we know exactly to what extent they don't work."

Prisoner recidivism in Ireland: the facts

- Between January 2001 and December 2004 almost 20,000 inmates were released from prison. The majority of released prisoners were male (93%) and unmarried (82%). The average age was just under 30 years
- 27.4% of released prisoners were serving a new prison sentence within one year. This rose to 39.2% after two years, 45.1% after three years and 49.2% after four years
- More than half (52%) were unemployed prior to their current prison term
- The crimes for which they had been imprisoned were: violence (27%), motoring offences (22%), drugs (13%), property crime (13%), public order (10%), sex crime (2%) and other offences (13%)
- Recidivism was higher among males, younger persons, the unemployed and those with previous prison experience. It was highest for property offenders (49% reimprisoned within 36 months) and lowest for sex offenders (18% within 36 months)
- The rate was strikingly high for persons who served a prison term for defaulting on a fine, 85% of whom returned to prison at some stage during the follow-up period.

The research team included Professor Eric Baumer, Nicola Hughes and Professor Ian O'Donnell.

Louise Holden is studying for a Master's in Education at UCD School of Education & Lifelong Learning and has been writing on education matters for 10 years. She is currently Education Correspondent with The Irish Times.



Photos: The Irish Times

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

One of Ireland's most successful and best-loved authors, Maeve Binchy talks of college in the 1950s, contemporary Ireland and her life as a writer to [Caroline Walsh](#)

IT WAS a glittering occasion at the Royal St George Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire in January when Declan Kiberd, Professor of Anglo Irish Literature at UCD, took to the podium to praise a national treasure. Maeve Binchy was being conferred with the Irish PEN/A.T. Cross Literary Award, joining a distinguished roll call of Irish writers who had received it before her, including John McGahern and Seamus Heaney. It was a milestone being savoured by Binchy, winner already of so many accolades, as this one — for a lifetime of literary achievement — came from her fellow writers, and Kiberd was lauding her as both an artist of plot and a consummate stylist.

But he had something else to tell the gathering — that those who were students at the old UCD in Earlsfort Terrace all felt that in her books she had recreated that time and place with an unerring accuracy, “The reading room, the big fireplace, the women fixing lipstick in the mirror, the Dublin streets outside with their visits to Bewley’s and, that ultimate never-to-be-forgotten indulgence, the dinner dance”.

That authenticity undoubtedly emanates from her blissfully happy student days. “My life changed in October 1956 the day I went into UCD aged 17. UCD was like a big light turning on in my life,” she explains. Initially she was going to do the Bar and signed up for a BA and for King’s Inns but was only 20 minutes in the latter when she decided it was calling for a side of herself she didn’t have. Instead she got what she describes as a low-grade second honours BA in French and History. “To my mind it’s a miracle I got any exam at all,” she says. “There I was, a fat, insecure young woman who thought that the race was won by the small, the pretty and the slim, and that UCD was going to be like a beauty contest. Then I found in the first couple of weeks that fellas were the same as the rest of us. I didn’t know any before. I was in a convent school — Holy Child, Killiney. I’d only read about them. I never thought I’d have one as a normal friend. I thought you had to flirt with them, and I was bad at that.”

In the 1950s the vast majority of the student body was male and the day one of the species, Myles McSwiney, auditor of the Literary & Historical society (L&H), asked her to be on his committee was the best day of her life until her husband, Gordon Snell, asked her to marry him. “The L&H sorted out every Saturday night. It was as exciting to us as sex — and remember we hadn’t had sex. There was a huge frisson about who you were going to meet there.”

Her college memories are vivid, from lighting candles in Westland Row church on the way up from the train to 9am Wednesday lectures with Professor of French Louis Roche in the hope that he wouldn’t somehow single you out — “We were terrified of him” — to Friday night dances at the Gresham Hotel. As the dance band was in full swing the evening would be punctuated by an announcement that a church dispensation had been arranged so the revellers didn’t have to abstain from meat; they could eat chicken on the night. “How we could accept the madness of that as perfectly normal tells you a lot about the 1950s in Ireland.”

And all the time Binchy the future writer was observing — and storing up detail for her career as a writer topping the bestseller lists. Translated into 30 languages, worldwide sales of her books now stand at over 40 million copies. Starting with the novel *Light a Penny Candle* in 1982, and continuing with titles including *Echoes*, *The Lilac Bus*, *Circle of Friends*, *The Glass Lake*, *Tara Road*, *Nights of Rain and Stars* and *Whitethorn Woods*, many of them now hugely successful films, she’s also the undisputed doyenne of the wave of Irish female popular fiction authors who came in her wake. The notion of herself as a global phenomenon is something she takes lightly. “A journalist said to me once what do you think of the fact that more people buy

your books than buy Shakespeare, and I said that if I was going on a flight, I’d prefer to buy Maeve Binchy than *King Lear*.”

Early passion for stories

Stories were always part of her life, beginning with her barrister father’s law cases. “I was so interested — he felt he had to tell me about them”, with the proviso that she’d never divulge the details. He read her everything from bits of *Ulysses* to *Winnie the Pooh*, fielding constant questions from Maeve — who was, she says, a notice box — about where *she* was in the A.A. Milne classic. “When Kanga, Eeyore, Roo and the others were in the 100 Acre Wood I’d say where was I and he’d tell me I was sitting on the five-bar gate or under the oak tree.”

Critics often stress the redemptive nature of Binchy’s work in which evil is punished and good shines out, a world view most likely shaped by her childhood. “It’s such an act of random chance the home into which you’re born. My home was very safe. To my parents all their geese, their children, were swans.” Once Maeve, aged three, was woken up by her proud parents and brought down to recite the capitals of Europe for an astonished visitor.

“Yes, I do have a positive world view, believing that we make our own destiny. But then I was dealt a good hand, a happy childhood, enough money, which you needed in those days for an education, and a happy marriage. Nobody has everything. I didn’t have children, which we would have loved, and my parents died too early, my father at 61 and my mother at 57, to see their four children happily settled in life.”

Of her upbeat disposition she says “I’m always glad I never met Hitler because I might have seen some saving grace in him.”

Seeing the social chronicler in the work, journalist and author Mary Kenny once described Binchy as a Dickens, her work often an accurate, serious, social text reflecting changes in culture and values in Ireland in recent decades. Take her most recent novel *Whitethorn Woods* and the conflicts thrown up in a community when that symbol of a new confident Ireland, the bypass, is proposed. Kiberd believes it’s her history degree that makes her alert to the processes of social change, adding that “Most of her stories are about the pangs of adjustment — of what happens to a society that was once God-fearing and traditional when it takes on the messy complexities of the secular, modern world.” The way Binchy sees it, Ireland changed into a secular country while she was living in and writing about it and she had to show that change. “People got rich — though not everyone — and people

from other lands came to work here and I was just trying to show that.” She does worry about contemporary Ireland; that the new wealth has not been divided equally, but is quick to see the pluses too — “there’s no forced emigration, no terror by the Catholic Church — and we feel prouder to be Irish now.”

Creativity unleashed

Though her achievement as a writer towers over everything, there were other incarnations, as a teacher and as a journalist. Joining *The Irish Times* in 1968 was, she says, like falling into a ready-made family. Part of a group of campaigning and brilliant women journalists, it was while working in the paper’s London office that she began writing short stories. She still has a house there, in Shepherd’s Bush, unostentatious — but cosy and beautiful — just like her home in Dalkey. The light-filled upstairs study in Dalkey has centre stage a facsimile edition of the *Book of Kells* of which Gordon and herself turn a page each morning, to spur on productivity perhaps, while on the so-called celebrity wall photographs look down of Binchy with Oprah Winfrey, with Barbara Bush at the White House, with Teddy Kennedy and Joseph Heller.

Mixing with the stars and being a star herself is part of the territory given the highly cinematic quality of her work and the films that have flowed from it. In November Noel Pearson’s film *How About You?* from one of her short stories will be in cinemas, starring Vanessa Redgrave, Imelda Staunton, Joss Ackland and Brenda Fricker.

In another life Maeve was my Latin teacher in the now no-more Pembroke School, known to its old girls as Miss Meredith’s after its founder. So animatedly did Maeve teach Cicero that emerging through the school gates it was a shock to discover that it was only Dubliners strolling through Baggotonia outside and not the murderous Visigoths. Later when she was in the London office of *The Irish Times* she offered the same enthusiasm to her former pupil who came seeking advice on how to become a journalist and in time I followed her on to the old lady of D’Olier Street, now in its new glass palace on Tara Street.

Encouraging others — that old positive world view of hers — has never been just confined to the pages of her books.

Caroline Walsh (BA in English and History of European Painting ‘73; MA in Modern English and American Literature ‘74) is Literary Editor of The Irish Times and editor of three collections of short stories by Irish writers, including most recently Arrows in Flight: Stories From a New Ireland (Scribner/Town House).

‘A journalist said to me once what do you think of the fact that more people buy your books than buy Shakespeare. I said that if I was going on a flight, I’d prefer to buy Maeve Binchy than *King Lear*’



HIGHLIGHTS OF ANOTHER YEAR

APRIL 2007 New international journal appoints UCD professor as editor

International peer-reviewed journal *Food and Bioprocess Technology* appoints Professor Da-Wen Sun, UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine, editor-in-chief.

Published by Springer and available in print and online, the journal covers experimental or theoretical research findings that have potential for the agri-food industry to improve process efficiency, enhance product quality and extend shelf-life of fresh and processed agri-food products. It also includes critical reviews on new perspectives to established processes, innovative and emerging technologies, and trends and future research in food and bioproducts processing.

Professor Sun has published 150 peer-reviewed journal papers, written more than 200 conference papers and edited seven books. He has also received numerous international awards.

Knowledge economy boosted by €8.5 million

NovaUCD benefits from an €8.5m investment announcement by Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Micheál Martin TD. The investment will be used to employ additional technology transfer professionals, a contracts manager and administrative support staff who will work to strengthen links between the universities and the commercial sector.

The announcement is part of a €30 million Technology Transfer Initiative overseen by Enterprise Ireland to ensure that ideas,

research and technology generated in Irish higher education institutions are used to keep Irish companies at the cutting edge of the knowledge economy.

MARCH 2007 US philosopher receives UCD Ulysses Medal



Hilary Putnam, one of the most influential and prolific American philosophers of the past 50 years, is awarded the UCD Ulysses Medal, the highest honour that the university can bestow. After delivering a public lecture titled 'The fact/value dichotomy and its critics', he is presented with the medal in recognition of his outstanding lifetime contributions to the world of philosophy.

Between 11 and 14 March, the world's leading philosophers gather at an international philosophy conference at UCD to honour Putnam's 80th birthday.

Professor Hilary Putnam is an honorary visiting professor in the UCD School of Philosophy.

UCD business students represent Ireland in Montreal and Ontario

Two teams of four students from the UCD Quinn School of Business compete in separate international case study competitions in Montreal and Ontario. The students – the only business students from Ireland and the UK invited to compete – have 24 hours to analyse a top-level case



study and present solutions to a judging panel of senior business executives. Competitors include business schools from the US, Singapore, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Europe.

Stephen Brosnan, Andrew Flood, Niamh Prendeville and Jennifer Smith take part in the McGill Management International Case Competition at McGill University in Montreal, while Edward Fidgeon-Kavanagh, Enda Gallery, Johan de Borst and James Daly (pictured above) compete in the International Case Competition at the Richard Ivey School of Business in Ontario, Canada.

US Supreme Court Justice engages in Q&A session at UCD



Justice is not just about deterrence but also about punishment, declares US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia at a frank questions and answers session at O'Reilly Hall, UCD. The theatrically engaging conservative, who was appointed to the Supreme Court by Ronald Reagan in 1986, addresses an audience of more than 600 people on judicial activism at the 96th session of the UCD Law Society. He is pictured accepting a certificate to mark his appointment as vice-president of the UCD Law Society from Sean Treacy (left), treasurer, UCD Law Society and Richard Mulrooney, auditor, UCD Law Society.

Beijing Opera performance enthralls Irish audience

In a performance hosted by UCD Confucius Institute, the Beijing Opera Company performs to a full house of over 600.

Dr Liming Wang, director of UCD Confucius Institute, welcomes the audience with an address in Mandarin,



English and Irish. He pays tribute to the work of Dr Hwee-San Tan from the School of Music in securing the visit of the company. A brilliant series of performances incorporates several classical Beijing Opera stories, including *Qiu River*, *Wusong at Shizipo Slope* and *The Birth of the Monkey King*. Conor Lenihan TD is pictured with some members of the opera company.

FEBRUARY 2007

Translational medicine receives €7.5 million boost

A unique partnership between UCD Conway Institute and French pharmaceutical company Servier Laboratories could lead to the development of new medicines to treat high blood pressure and heart disease. The five-year collaborative venture will see Servier invest €7.5 million in the establishment of the 'UCD Servier Centre for Translational Medicine, a Franco-Irish Collaboration – Bringing Science to Society'.

The centre's research programme focuses on biological molecules, examining how they contribute to the normal operation of cells and organs, and how this is disrupted by disease. The knowledge gained contributes to a more detailed understanding of the causes and effects of disease, leading to simpler and more reliable diagnostic tests, and helping to bring new and more effective treatments into clinical use.

€5 million to help identify autism gene

Funding provided by the Health Research Board will enable Irish researchers to participate in a leading international consortium that aims to help identify the gene that is responsible for causing autism. The Autism Genome Project will receive €12 million from a variety of international organisations over the next three years.

The research in Ireland will be carried out by the Irish Autism Genetics Collaboration, a partnership between researchers in UCD, Trinity College Dublin and their associated hospitals, the National Centre for Medical Genetics and the Health Service Executive. Its objective is to identify genes that contribute to the risk of autism.

JANUARY 2007

Five architecture firms shortlisted for UCD Gateway Project



UCD announces details of the shortlist of architectural firms chosen for the 10-hectare Gateway Project on the university campus.

The firms are Hopkins Architects and Zaha Hadid Architects, both based in London, Ingenhoven Architects from Dusseldorf, Behnisch Architekten from Stuttgart and Los Angeles, and Snøhetta from Oslo. The shortlist was chosen from an initial entry of 62 firms drawn from throughout the world.

The Gateway Project, the core to the University Campus Development Plan, aims to create a more dynamic environment for students, staff, visitors and the wider community, transforming the campus from a predominantly suburban nine-to-five location into a hub of activity.

UCD professor releases report on pandemic influenza

An expert group chaired by Professor William Hall of the UCD School of Medicine & Medical Sciences and



director of the National Virus Reference Laboratory publishes a new report on pandemic influenza.

The report covers surveillance, detection and situation monitoring, public health response, utilisation of appropriate drugs, non-pharmaceutical public health interventions, case management and infection control. It also summarises the current situation regarding avian flu and the implications for human health.

Bill Bryson receives L&H award



American author Bill Bryson is presented with a James Joyce Award by the Literary and Historical Society (L&H).

DECEMBER 2006

UCD honours Ronnie Delany

In recognition of his lifetime achievements that inspired and continue to inspire the Irish nation and Irish people worldwide, Ronnie Delany is conferred with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by UCD during the degree convocation.

One of Ireland's greatest ever sportsmen and ambassadors on the world stage, Ronnie Delany won the Olympic Gold medal in the 1,500 metres at Melbourne Cricket Ground in 1956, setting a new Olympic record in the process.

€1.75 million grant to investigate how plants react to global warming

Researchers at the UCD School of Biology & Environmental Science receive a €1.75 million Marie Curie Excellence Grant from the European Commission to investigate how the predicted mass extinction event caused by current rates of global warming will influence natural ecosystems.

By studying the responses of plant



biodiversity to a natural global warming event that occurred 200 million years ago, the researchers hope to identify how plants are likely to respond to the future effects of global warming. The findings will be used to inform conservation policy.

NOVEMBER 2006

SFI President of Ireland Young Researcher Awards



Two UCD researchers receive Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) President of Ireland Young Researcher Awards (PIYRA). The SFI awards honour outstanding engineers and scientists.

Dr Emma Teeling, UCD School of Biology & Environmental Science, and Dr Oliver Blacque, UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science, take two of the three PIYRA awards presented by President Mary McAleese at Áras an Uachtaráin.

Dr Teeling's PIYRA-winning research examines the molecular evolution of sensory perception in mammals using bats as a highly specialised model. Dr Blacque's award goes towards the investigation of cell biology.

Two UCD academics receive gold medals from RIA

Former Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emeritus Professor of Civil Engineering at UCD, Professor James Dooge (right in photo) is awarded a Royal Irish Academy (RIA) gold medal in engineering sciences. Professor Dooge is widely regarded as one of the founding fathers of modern hydrology.

Professor Peter Neary (left in photo), Professor of Political Economy at UCD from 1980 to August 2006 and currently on a career break to Oxford University, is awarded an RIA gold medal in social sciences. Ireland's most distinguished academic economist and a leading figure worldwide, Professor Neary's main field of research is international trade theory, where he works on trade and industrial policy, globalisation and competition.





UCD confers Denis O'Brien with honorary Doctor of Laws

For his exceptional achievements as one of Ireland's leading businessmen and entrepreneurs, Denis O'Brien is awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by his alma mater, UCD, at a ceremony at Newman House, Dublin.

Delivering the citation at the conferring ceremony, Dr Maurice Manning, one of O'Brien's former UCD lecturers, refers to Denis O'Brien's leadership qualities, his strong personality and his charisma.

UCD triumphant in Dublin Senior Football Championship

UCD footballers win the Dublin Senior Football Championship for the second time in five years in a close encounter with old rivals St Vincent's at Parnell Park. UCD overcome a four-point deficit and the vocal opposition of most of the 8,000 crowd to emerge victorious thanks to an injury-time point from Louth county star Shane Lennon, which leaves the final score at UCD 0-10, St Vincent's 0-9.



First Cambridge Companion to living Irish playwright published



The newly published *Cambridge Companion to Brian Friel* is the first ever Companion to a living Irish playwright. The book, a collection of specially commissioned essays exploring the full range of Friel's writing career including his lesser-known works, was edited by Professor Anthony Roche, UCD School of English & Drama.

OCTOBER 2006
NRA and UCD archaeologists conserve Viking weaponry find

An archaeological dig at Woodstown, undertaken by Archaeological Consultancy Services and commissioned by the National Roads Authority (NRA), unearths a Viking find of larger proportions than at Wood Quay in Dublin.

Weapons found at the dig are sent to the UCD School of Archaeology for conserving and analysis. At the School, conservation specialists Claudia Koehler and Susannah Kelly thoroughly clean each item using an air-abrasive machine. UCD School of Archaeology provides a full-support service to professional archaeologists in the field.

Irish Heart Foundation appoints UCD professor as president

Professor Eoin O'Brien, Adjunct Professor at UCD, is appointed president of The Irish Heart Foundation. A cardiologist with a special interest in hypertension, he was founder and director of the Blood Pressure Unit, formerly at Jervis Street Hospital and latterly at Beaumont Hospital, for 25 years.

Professor O'Brien has published more than 600 scientific papers on hypertension research and is author of *Blood Pressure Measurement* and the popular *ABC of Hypertension*. He sits on the editorial boards

of a number of scientific journals devoted to hypertension and is a past editor of the *Irish Medical Journal* and the *Journal of the Irish Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons*.

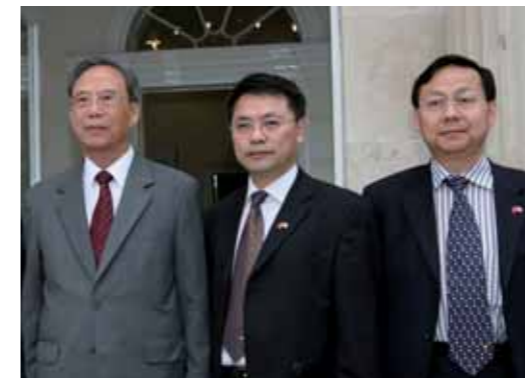
First professor of James Joyce Studies at UCD



Dr Anne Fogarty of the UCD School of English & Drama is appointed first Professor of James Joyce Studies at UCD. By fostering the study and research of Joyce's writings, this newly created professorship enables UCD to publicly acknowledge and honour James Joyce as one of its best-known graduates.

Dr Fogarty is also director of the UCD Centre of Research for Joyce Studies and president of the International James Joyce Foundation.

SEPTEMBER 2006
Chinese Vice-Premier opens UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland



During his official State visit to Ireland, the Chinese Vice-Premier, Mr Zeng Peiyan (pictured on left, with Dr Liming Wang, Director of UCD Centre for Chinese Studies, and Zhang Xinseng, Chinese Ambassador to Ireland), opens the UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland. This joint venture between UCD, the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) and Renmin University of China offers courses and programmes in Chinese language and

culture and aims to facilitate the expansion of economic ties between China and Ireland.

UCD professor to chair EFSA

Professor Patrick Wall, Associate Professor of Public Health, UCD School of Public Health & Population Science, is appointed chairman of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Established by the European Parliament, the EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks associated with the food chain.

Professor Wall has worked in the food safety area since 1979 and was the first chief executive of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.



Robert Fisk speaks at UCD

Journalist and best-selling author Robert Fisk delivers the keynote lecture entitled 'Guns & Cancer' at the Advanced Rheumatology Conference.

Based in Beirut, Robert Fisk is Middle East correspondent of *The Independent*. He holds more British and international awards than any other foreign correspondent, including two Amnesty International UK Press Awards and seven British International Journalist of the Year awards.

UCD earns *The Sunday Times* University of the Year award

UCD is selected as *The Sunday Times* University of the Year 2006. The award is based on student satisfaction questionnaires and league table data relating to academic achievements. UCD students rated their experience at the university as one of the best in the country, giving the university high marks for sport, social events and cultural activities.

The successful introduction of UCD Horizons – the new modular, credit-based, student-centred system – led to a 10.4%

increase in CAO first preferences for UCD this year.

AUGUST 2006
UCD researchers identify stomach cancer gene

A research team at UCD and the Mater Hospital, led by Dr Peter Doran, isolates a gene that is highly active in patients with stomach cancer. The NET 1 gene helps the cancer cells burrow through the stomach lining and spread to other tissues and organs, by which stage it is no longer possible to surgically remove them.

"The hope now is that the breakthrough will lead to the delivery of treatments that can keep cancer cells in one place so that treatment is easier," explains Dr Doran. He believes the findings of the research team, which is based at the UCD-Mater Genome Resource Unit, will have implications for other forms of cancerous tumours.

UCD professor joins international review panel



Professor Brigid Laffan, principal of the UCD College of Human Sciences, is appointed to an international review panel responsible for assessing the standing of politics and international studies research in the UK. Comprising 10 leading international academics, the panel is chaired by Professor Bob Goodin at the Australian National University.

The international review panel was formed at the request of the steering group that benchmarks UK research against international standards in the areas of economic and social research, political and international studies.

UCD graduates shine at European Athletics Championships



Derval O'Rourke, Deirdre Ryan and Joanne Cuddihy (pictured above) all deliver career best performances at the European Athletics Championships in Gothenburg.

Derval O'Rourke, a former UCD sports scholar, re-affirms her position as one of the world's best sprint hurdlers when she takes Silver in the 100 metre hurdles at the Championships. She sets a new Irish record, finishing in 12.72 seconds.

In the finals of the high jump, another former UCD sports scholar, Deirdre Ryan, equals her national record of 1.92 metres.

Current sports scholar, Joanne Cuddihy, meanwhile, becomes the first Irish female athlete to reach the final of the 400 metres at the European Championships since 1962.

JULY 2006
Double National Championships victory for UCD athlete

UCD's Joanne Cuddihy has decisive victories in both the 200 metres and 400 metres events at the National Championships in July. With a personal best time of 23.33 seconds in the 200 metres, she defeats the reigning champion, Emily Maher, by a couple of clear strides. She wins the 400 metres, her main event, with a new personal best time of 51.28 seconds.

EPA awards UCD Urban Institute Ireland €1 million



UCD Urban Institute Ireland is awarded €1 million by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to spearhead a collaborative research project to produce a new urban environment management model. The Urban Environment Project will apply MOLAND, a model developed by the EU Joint Research Centre (Ispra, Italy), to the Irish context to allow for in-depth analysis and visualisation of changing land-use patterns in urban regions. It will produce a model integrating environmental dimensions into existing and new land-use data for the Greater Dublin Area. Pictured at the project launch above are Professor Frank Conway, project director, UCD Urban Institute Ireland; Sheila Conway, project manager, UCD Urban Institute Ireland; and Larry Stapleton, director, EPA.

Minister announces €1.25 million Sports Capital Fund award for Belfield Bowl

The Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, John O'Donoghue TD, announces a €1.25 million award for UCD Sport for the upgrading of the Belfield Bowl, including the addition of 840 spectator seats. The project, which is part of the University's Campus Development Plan, will see the activities of the UCD Soccer Club transferred to the Belfield Bowl, the home ground of the UCD Rugby Club.

Life's work of Professor Michael Hayes honoured



In recognition of over 40 years of scientific work by Professor Michael Hayes (Emeritus Professor of Mathematical Physics), Sage Publications publishes a collection of papers that first appeared in the journal *Mathematics and Mechanics of Solids*.

The collection includes written versions of most of the invited presentations delivered at a Symposium on Mathematical Problems in Elastodynamics and Related Continuum Theories held in honour of Professor Hayes at The Palazzone in Cortona, Italy in June 2003. Further details on the publication are available at www.ucd.ie/eem/news.htm.

Pictured above are Professor Michael Gilchrist, associate professor in UCD School of Electrical, Electronic & Mechanical Engineering; Professor Owen Lewis, UCD College of Engineering, Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Professor Michael Hayes; and Professor Adrien Ottewill, director of UCD Computational Mathematics Centre.



JUNE 2006
UCD honours first woman to pilot NASA space shuttle

Eileen Collins, the first woman to pilot and command a NASA space shuttle, is conferred with an honorary Doctor of Science. Before the ceremony, the astronaut, who logged 872 hours in space on four space flights between 1995 and 2005, speaks to 400 primary school children in UCD's O'Reilly Hall. Collins says she encourages young people to choose careers in maths, science and engineering and to choose those subjects at school, and adds that it is about time Ireland has its first astronaut.

UCD launched a new Physics with Astronomy and Space Science BSc (Hons) Degree in the academic year 2006/2007.

UCD awards author, businessman, aid worker and Nobel laureate

UCD awards honorary doctorates to Peter Gleeson (Doctor of Laws), José Saramago (Doctor of Literature), Antony Cronin (Doctor of Literature) and Michael Kelly SJ (Doctor of Laws) (pictured below with Dr Hugh Brady) and for their exceptional



achievements, which are an inspiration to current and future generations of students.

Writer Antony Cronin was the founding member of Aosdána and was cultural and artistic adviser to former taoiseach, Charles J Haughey. Businessman Peter Gleeson is a committed philanthropist to medical and educational causes. Michael Kelly SJ worked closely with Irish Aid in the development of its policy on HIV/AIDS in a number of African countries and has worked extensively with a number of international organisations, including UNESCO. Portuguese novelist, playwright and journalist, José Saramago was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1998.

UCD bestows Ulysses Medal on author Edna O'Brien

UCD awards the Ulysses Medal to novelist and short story writer Edna O'Brien. Inaugurated in 2005, the UCD Ulysses Medal is awarded to scholars whose work has made an outstanding global contribution.

UCD also announces the appointment of O'Brien as Adjunct Professor of Creative Writing and that it has accepted 20 large boxes of manuscripts, including drafts, revisions and corrected proofs of the author's books

and novels, critical work, radio plays and short stories. The material has been added to the Special Collections in the UCD James Joyce Library.



Erratum

On page 55 of *UCD Connections* 2006, within the article Return to Tara, the caption should have read 'The excavation team led by Sean O'Riordain in the 1950s' and not Ruaidhri de Valera as was published. We would like to apologise for any confusion caused.

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'Much of the growth is still taking place in areas that were never intended for major housing development'

URBAN CHAOS

Dublin's uncontrolled expansion has been cited as an example of disastrous urban planning by the European Environment Agency. [Frank McDonald](#) reports on how our capital has become the worst case scenario

GOD BE with the days when we thought Lucan and Leixlip were a fair distance from Dublin's city centre. Until the mid-1990s, Dublin was still a relatively compact city, albeit one built at a density much lower than other European capitals of similar size, such as Brussels, Cologne, Copenhagen or Turin. Over the past decade or so, the city has leapfrogged all over Leinster and even into south Ulster, as so many of its citizens found themselves driven out by impossibly high property prices to find more affordable housing in peripheral locations up to 100km away.

Dublin has now spread itself as far as housing estates on the edges of Gorey, Carlow, Portlaoise, Tullamore, Mullingar, Rochfortbridge, Navan, Trim, Kells, Drogheda, Carrickmacross and Virginia, to name but a dozen of the dormitory towns in the city's vastly extended commuter belt. So it's no wonder that the European Environment Agency recently cited Dublin as a 'worst case scenario' for urban sprawl, in the hope that it would provide an object lesson for newer EU member states such as Poland so that they might avoid making similar mistakes.

The Copenhagen-based agency was quite taken aback by what it found here and concluded that what had happened was the result of laissez faire planning policies that had allowed development to run out of control. New roads and motorways, partly funded by the EU Cohesion and Structural Funds, had become the sinews of urban sprawl, making more and more outlying areas accessible for long-distance commuting, and Dublin was on its way to aping the discredited North American model of development.

The recent warning by the Urban Forum that Dublin "will soon occupy the same surface area as Los Angeles, but with less than a

quarter of its population" was not an original observation. This stark characterisation of the capital's sprawl was formulated by Tony Reddy, former president of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, as long ago as September 2001, and the Los Angeles synonym was also used two years earlier by economist Colm McCarthy, who branded it as unsustainable in social, economic and transportation terms.

One of the first researchers to identify the leapfrogging trend was Dr Brendan Williams, lecturer in urban development and planning at UCD. In 1999, along with Patrick Sheils, he produced an illuminating paper for Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), entitled *21st Century Dublin — the Edge City and Commuterland*, which drew attention to the housing boom then under way in and around outer Leinster towns within an 80km radius of the city; Drogheda's annual output of new homes, for example, had gone up by nearly 300% in just three years.

Yet leapfrogging continues to happen despite the laudable aim of the *Greater Dublin Area Strategic Planning Guidelines*, published in 1999, to consolidate the metropolitan area and permit only 'self-sustaining' development to take place in designated growth centres in its hinterland. Though the guidelines have since been updated twice, with the same objectives, much of the growth is still taking place in areas that were never intended for major housing development — including towns well beyond the boundaries of the Greater Dublin Area (Dublin, Meath, Kildare and Wicklow).

Political inertia

There was no political will to curtail the sprawl of Dublin. In 2002, after Wexford county councillors rezoned enough land around

Gorey to cater for up to 10 times its existing population, Martin Cullen — then Minister for the Environment — declined to use his powers under the 2000 Planning Act to 'call in' the local area plan and direct the county council to adopt something more sustainable. He didn't want to get involved in "issues of detail", even though the explosion of Gorey ran counter to regional planning guidelines and the National Spatial Strategy (2002).

Ordinary people are now living with the consequences of this delinquency, in Gorey and many other locations throughout Dublin's extended commuter belt. And since most of them are commuting to and from work by car, they now are locked into an inherently unsustainable lifestyle of car dependency that relies on the continued availability of fossil fuels at relatively affordable prices. Little wonder then that the carbon dioxide emissions from Ireland's transport sector have soared by 160% since 1990 — six times the EU average.

In their latest study for the Society of Chartered Surveyors, published last January, Williams teamed up again with Sheils and DIT's Brian Hughes to discover that car dependency has become "virtually total in many areas", and the resulting traffic congestion has made central locations with proximity advantages more desirable — and, therefore, more expensive. This makes it even less likely that those who thought they were getting bargains by purchasing homes in peripheral locations will ever be able to afford to 'trade up' and buy property in Dublin itself.

"The absence of integration of housing, land-use and transportation policies poses major problems for accessibility, sustainability and quality of life," the study reports. And since housing development is occurring in "a dynamic but unstable

manner", often caused by major problems in managing the supply of land, the need for a unitary authority to implement effective regional planning and development strategies is more urgent than ever — especially if the Planning Tribunal was to recommend a major structural change in how land is zoned.

However, there is no indication that politicians are prepared to bite the bullet on integrating land use and transportation strategies. The only proposal on the table is the proposed Dublin Transport Authority, which will be exclusively concerned with co-ordinating transport provision — including the proposed Swords-St Stephen's Green metro line — as well as licensing transport operators. A bureaucratic creature of the Department of Transport, with no democratic accountability, it will have no land-use functions; these will stay with councillors.

Despite the Taoiseach's espousal of Robert Puttnam's thesis on 'social capital' and the importance of community life, the laissez faire development pattern over which his government has presided for the past 10 years has made such closeness very difficult, if not impossible, to achieve. Bertie Ahern and his ministers may claim credit for the Celtic Tiger boom, but they failed abysmally to harness growth in the cause of sustainable development. The sprawl of Dublin — and other cities, to a lesser extent — is their lasting and most regrettable legacy.

Frank McDonald is Environment Editor of The Irish Times and author of The Destruction of Dublin (1985), Saving the City (1989) and The Construction of Dublin (2000). He is also joint author with James Nix of Chaos at the Crossroads (2005), a book documenting the environmental destruction of Ireland. In October 2006, he was awarded an honorary DPhil by Dublin Institute of Technology.

New Vice-President for Development



UCD has a new Vice-President for Development. Aine Gibbons comes to the university from Queen's University, Belfast, where she had been Director of Development since 1999, spearheading the £150 million Retribuamus campaign — the most ambitious and successful fundraising effort in the university's 156-year history. The campaign

transformed the campus by providing funding for such developments as the restoration of the Great Hall, the establishment of the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry and the building of the iconic new library.

Gibbons has a long track record in fundraising, and has led major campaigns for the UK charities the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and MENCAP in Belfast and London. In 1998, she was named Professional Fundraiser of the Year by the Institute of Charity Fundraising Managers for her work in MENCAP's 50th anniversary Blue Sky Appeal.

Friends of UCD Sinfonia

Established in 2002 by its current Artistic Director and Conductor Ciaran Crilly, the UCD Sinfonia has been going from strength to strength, providing a platform for the many talented players who exist among staff and students at the university, and even welcoming some outside artists. These days the



orchestra performs two major concerts annually, one on campus and one in the National Concert Hall, where in March this year they were joined by talented violinist Cora Venus Lunny.

"The introduction of UCD Horizons has been a great help, as this is a major time commitment for both musicians and administrators, and now they can take participation as a module and earn credits," says Ciaran Crilly.

External funding from Bank of Ireland and Irish Life has provided for 10 orchestral scholarships this year, and another innovative scheme allows 'friends' of the Sinfonia to sponsor a scholar in the orchestra. To become a friend, please contact info@sinfonia.ie

Affinity Card making a difference



You may not know it, but when you sign up for the UCD AIB affinity card, you are contributing towards schemes that aim to increase participation in the university, to support our athletes and towards higher-learning scholarships. AIB gives a donation of €25 for each new credit card opened, as well as a small proportion based on transactions over the life of the account.

Over the past decade going to college has become increasingly the norm for many sections of our society, yet there are still many communities both urban and rural where progression to university seems an unattainable dream. The UCD New ERA scheme aims to encourage and facilitate participation in higher education by students who, for a variety of economic and social reasons, are under-represented in university. New ERA engages in an extensive programme of activities, including outreach and communications work with primary and secondary schools and local communities.

There are currently some 380 New ERA students at undergraduate level across all programmes in UCD, with the university reserving places annually for a growing cohort of New ERA entrants. Since the programme's inception in 1997, there have been almost 180 graduates, with most of them achieving first- or second-class honours degrees.

Contributions from the affinity card also go towards the UCD Ad Astra Research Scholarships, aimed at excellent graduate candidates who would like to pursue a structured PhD programme in UCD. And of course, funds go to toward supporting our sports scholars (see page 56).



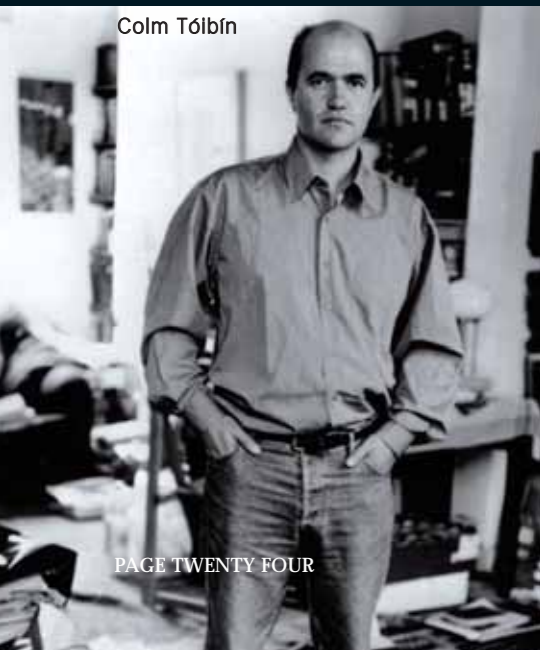
Mary Lavin



BA class of 1902 including James Joyce



Thomas McDonagh



Colm Tóibín



Kate O'Brien



Conor McPherson



Emma Donoghue

Joyce photograph reproduced by permission of Helen Solterer; original image in UCD Library. Mary Lavin photograph courtesy of *The Irish Times*. Thomas McDonagh image courtesy of the National Library of Ireland. Colm Tóibín photo by Perry Ogden. Kate O'Brien image courtesy of the University of Limerick Glucksman Library. Conor McPherson photo by Paula Court. Emma Donoghue photo by Chris Roulston © 2007

Generations of genius

UCD has played host to a prolific literary lineage of some of Ireland's most renowned and original writers, playwrights, poets, critics and journalists. Grainne Rothery browses through some that have attained universal fame over the years

WITH AN enviable roll-call of illustrious former students and staff stretching from John Henry Newman right up to Conor McPherson and taking in the likes of James Joyce, Austin Clarke, Kate O'Brien, Flann O'Brien, Mary Lavin, John McGahern, Maeve Binchy and Marina Carr along the way, UCD's literary heritage is arguably second to none, either in Ireland or worldwide.

Since its foundation in 1854 by Newman, one of the most highly regarded prose writers of his generation, the university has played its part in producing an extravagance of leading novelists, playwrights, short story writers, poets, literary critics, screenwriters and journalists.

Anthony Roche, Associate Professor in UCD's School of English and Drama and editor of *The UCD Aesthetic*, which includes 28 essays focusing on some of the literary greats who have passed through the university, attributes the proliferation of talent to the fact that the student population was effectively the "risen people" in Ireland, certainly during the early years. Catholicism, he believes, was another vital factor. "They were forging the nation in their imaginations and in politics," he says. "And there was a very strong intelligentsia in the university. They were the ideas people."

"They were all from a Catholic background and many of them had to work out their Catholicism," he continues. "I'm not saying they had to reject it, but they had to work it out. You see this in Kate O'Brien: the intensity of her Catholicism and the extent to which she has to come to grips with it makes for great drama, as it does in Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*."

Roche points out that, because many UCD students and staff were Jesuit trained, there was also a strong intellectual tradition. A factor in later years, meanwhile, has been the sheer size of the university, which continues to make it a very competitive environment. "It's a big university and you've got to make your name," he says.

A heritage in the making

Unknown as a poet in his lifetime, Gerard Manley Hopkins spent five deeply unhappy years as professor of Greek at UCD until his

death in Dublin in 1889. Although he suffered terrible despair and melancholy in what was an effective exile from his beloved England, it was during his time at UCD that he wrote some of his most beautiful and original poems. According to Roche, however, it was when the native Irish intelligentsia started to get into its stride around the turn of the 19th century that things really started to happen on the literary front at UCD. Most notable amongst these young intellectuals was Joyce, who studied modern languages between 1898 and 1902. UCD would feature prominently in the unfinished *Stephen Hero* and in its reworking, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, both of which focused on Stephen Dedalus's questioning of the Church and Irish society, along with his intellectual awakening.

Though something of a forgotten figure today, Mary Maguire Colum, who arrived at UCD in the early 1900s, is described by Roche as a brilliant undergraduate who went on to become an acclaimed literary writer in Ireland and the US. She and her husband Padraic Colum, a leading figure in the Irish literary revival, were close friends of Joyce. "Mary Colum was a leading journalist in America and she wrote some of the important first reviews of *Ulysses*," says Roche. "And while she thought it was a brilliant novel in ways, she was quite critical of it in other ways. Joyce didn't always agree with her but he took her views very seriously. She's a fascinating figure."

UCD has traditionally been a breeding ground for Irish political leaders and 1916 was no exception in this regard. The leaders in this case, however, were also very successful writers. Thomas McDonagh, a signatory of the proclamation of the Irish republic, was both a playwright and a lecturer in the English Department at the time. He is said to have been working on the proofs of his influential critical study *Literature in Ireland* as he commanded the garrison at Jacob's biscuit factory during Easter Week.

His fellow signatory Padraic Pearse, who was also a playwright and poet, had studied law at UCD. *Staging the Easter Rising*, written by James Moran and published in 2006, explores the premise that Pearse and McDonagh thought of theatre as a political weapon and something that happened as much in the street as in a playhouse.

'I think there was historically an ambivalence about Joyce that is only gradually being put right'

When McDonagh was executed in May 1916, the vacancy left was filled by his former student Austin Clarke. The latter would continue McDonagh's development of an Irish poetic through the adoption of Gaelic structure and style in the English language. In his essay on McDonagh in *The UCD Aesthetic*, Declan Kiberd describes this as an "Irish mode". This, he says, integrated with a lay mysticism, would transfer from Clarke and Flann O'Brien through to Kinsella and McGahern and then to Éilís Ní Dhuibhne.

UCD was the starting place for an outstanding generation of writers over the next 20 years, including Kate O'Brien, Flann O'Brien and Mary Lavin. Flann O'Brien became a well-known figure in UCD through his extensive writing and his involvement in cultural and arts societies, particularly the Literary & Historical (L&H) society. Incidentally, he shares with Joyce and Anthony Cronin the distinction of having run for auditor of the L&H and coming in second. Around this time, a trio of very gifted poets was also at the university: the modernists Denis Devlin and Brian Coffey and the political activist Charlie Donnelly, who died fighting in the Spanish Civil War. This abundance of talent continued into the 1940s and 1950s, with poets Máire Mhac an tSaoi, Anthony Cronin, Thomas Kinsella and John Montague, playwright Thomas Kilroy, novelist and short story writer, Benedict Kiely, the hugely influential John McGahern and, towards the end of this period, Maeve Binchy, whose 1990 novel *Circle of Friends* vividly conveys the experience of college life in Earlsfort Terrace in the late 1950s.

The literary tradition continued in Belfield, with Frank McGuinness, Dermot Morgan, Gerard Stembridge, Éilís Ní Dhuibhne, Neil Jordan and Jim Sheridan amongst the first to arrive there. They were soon followed by Colm Tóibín, Roddy Doyle, Joseph O'Connor, Marian Keyes and Emma Donoghue. "The very raw, unfinished and open quality of Belfield in those days meant you had to be inventive and you could make something there," explains Roche. "It wasn't old or encrusted with tradition and I think that led to great originality in the people who came through."

Roche also believes that clubs and societies had a vital role to

play in the cultivation of talent at UCD. He points out that Dramsoc, in particular, has been a major source and resource for the Irish stage since 1924, not just for playwrights but also for actors, directors, designers and others. Since the move to Belfield, two of UCD's most significant and already enormously successful playwrights have been Marina Carr and Conor McPherson. In *The UCD Aesthetic*, Roche says that Carr has done more than any other Irish playwright to create original and challenging fiction by adapting Greek themes to an Irish setting. McPherson, meanwhile, is widely regarded as one of the finest dramatists of his generation.

Recognition

After a somewhat slow start, the university's awareness of its literary heritage has been growing in recent years. "I think there was historically an ambivalence about Joyce that is only gradually being put right," says Roche. An example of the change in attitude is evident in the recent renaming of the main library after Joyce. Roche's colleague Anne Fogarty, meanwhile, has recently been appointed to the new position of Professor of James Joyce Studies.

"There was traditionally a greater awareness of the politicians who passed through and how the university was the training ground for the lawyers, the chief justices and the taoisigh of the country. It's been a rather belated recognition that many of the greatest writers have come out of UCD. That awareness has always been very strong in the School of English but I think it has now permeated right through to the upper echelons. Hugh Brady and his team are very aware of and interested in UCD's literary heritage and they support its promotion."

Plenty of up-and-coming writers, both recent graduates and current students, will be keen to ensure the continuation of UCD's literary tradition. And, with such a prestigious track record, the next literary light cannot be far away.

Grainne Rothery has worked as a journalist and editor for a range of Irish and UK print and online publications since the early 1990s. She graduated in 1986 with a BA in History of Art and German.



FAREWELL TO THE TERRACE

Commemorating 124 years in Earlsfort Terrace and marking the university's transfer of the last of the medical and engineering students to Belfield, UCD is presenting a series of celebratory events between 17 and 20 May.

Calendar of events

THURSDAY 17 MAY 2007, 8PM

Concert of Music and Literature – National Concert Hall

The first event is a tribute to the literary and musical legacy associated with the Terrace and will include excerpts from James Joyce, Flann O'Brien, Maeve Binchy and Kate O'Brien.

Joseph O'Connor, Marie Heaney and Frank McGuinness will all take part in this evening of celebration, which will also include a special performance by John O'Connor.

At the time of going to press this event was sold out.

FRIDAY 18 MAY 2007, 5.30PM

Retired Staff Celebration – Earlsfort Terrace

This is a special evening of talks and music reliving memories of the Terrace for retired staff and friends of the university. Tickets to this event are by invitation only.

FRIDAY 18 MAY 2007, 8PM

L&H Challenge – Earlsfort Terrace

The current student members of the Literary and Historical Society will challenge former auditors to a debate on the motion that 'Youth is wasted on the young'. Tickets are by invitation only.

SATURDAY 19 MAY 2007, 1PM–6PM

Earlsfort Afternoon

This open house will include afternoon tea, an exhibition on the history of UCD and Earlsfort Terrace and a number of short talks. It will also include tours of Newman House, the Iveagh Gardens and Earlsfort Terrace. At the time of going to press this event was fully subscribed.

SUNDAY 20 MAY, 11AM

Musical Liturgy – University Church

All are welcome to attend this musical liturgy, which takes place in University Church on St Stephen's Green. Please note: limited seating available.

TERRACE TRAILBLAZER

Dr Brenda O’Hanrahan (BA ’62, DipLib ’73) reminisces about her arrival in Earlsfort Terrace towards the end of the 1950s

I distinctly remember the excitement and wonder of my undergraduate days at Earlsfort Terrace and cherish the memory of them and of the very happy and fruitful years that followed. And I look back on them still with affection and nostalgia and with deep gratitude to all those members of staff — many of them long since gone to their reward.

I arrived at the Terrace towards the end of the 1950s with the smell of autumn in the air. There were hundreds more like me gathering on the front steps and in the Main Hall, and an atmosphere of eager anticipation, laced with a certain nervous excitement on the part of some, was clearly discernible as we took stock of our new surroundings and pondered our future in these hallowed halls.

Swept along by events, I soon found my feet and my way around the College buildings. The

Terrace was actually quite small – though it did not appear so at the time – and things quickly fell into place. The Annexe (for coffee); the libraries (Main and History); the Porters’ Office; the Ladies’ Reading Room, with its cosy coal fire in winter; the Great Hall, where the university examinations were held; and, of course, the various lecture rooms and theatres; these were the key locations as far as I was concerned. I would soon become familiar also with Newman House, or ‘86’, and with University Church.

Between work and diversions the years flew past. Our mentors



were kind and very helpful, I found, and when, in the middle of my second term in First Arts, I took up Italian from scratch, I received great encouragement and support from Dr Gioia Gaidoni, the senior lecturer in the subject at the time. She was a most enthusiastic ambassador for her native language and culture and her colourful personality lit up the Terrace. Thanks largely to her unfaltering belief in me, I later obtained a scholarship to study in Italy and subsequently joined the lecturing staff of UCD myself.

My own unique claim to fame while studying at the Terrace was that I became the first female student ever to wear trousers to lectures in UCD — in the session 1960 to 1961. I had fallen from a horse and spent a year in plaster as a result. On my return to College after some months, I obtained permission from

the then Registrar, Professor JJ Hogan, to appear on the premises wearing my trousers. There was a very strict rule about this at the time. I had qualms about facing Miss Greene, the celebrated Lady Deane of Residence of the day, so attired. But Professor Hogan, as if reading my thoughts, said he would inform her himself. My way thus cleared, no further obstacles remained. While my appearance in trousers evoked some comment at the time, after the initial surprise, interest soon faded. In this respect, at least, if not in any other, I can probably be said, I think, to have made history at UCD.

Commemorative book marks end of era

The many evocative photographs and essays contained within the newly published *Farewell to the Terrace* will no doubt bring memories flooding back for former and current students and staff of the Terrace.

Specially commissioned to commemorate the end of the Earlsfort era, this hardback coffee table book includes chapters by Professor Donal McCartney on the history of UCD in relation to the Terrace, and by Dr Christine Casey, who discusses its architectural history. The book also features a number of reminiscent pieces, with contributions from, amongst others, Maeve Binchy and Conor Brady.

The book, priced at €48 (including postage and packaging), is available now. To order, please send a cheque payable to UCD University Relations to Farewell to the Terrace Book, c/o UCD University Relations, Tierney Building, UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4.



History of Earlsfort

Built as an exhibition space and winter garden in the early 1860s, Earlsfort Terrace hosted the Great Dublin International Exhibition in 1865 and continued to be used as an exposition and concert venue until its transfer to the Royal University of Ireland in 1883. The winter garden, which was constructed of glass and iron, had been sold and removed to England in 1882. The remaining brick and stone building was to become home to University College Dublin in 1908.

By 1912 UCD planned to build a quadrangle building designed by Rudolph Maximilian Butler, who was later appointed head of architecture at the university. Work began but was hampered by strikes, flooding and inflation caused by the First World War. In the end, just the east (front of Earlsfort Terrace) and north wings were completed.

In his essay in *Farewell to the Terrace*, Donal McCartney notes “UCD in Earlsfort Terrace was the last major building project of the British administration in Dublin; and like the country itself it was left truncated as the British withdrew. On the one hand, it stood as a symbol of a thwarted series of solutions since the 1840s to solve the Irish university question. On the other hand, it was a clear symbol of the enthusiastic national idea; and it reflected the political mood of nationalist Ireland.”


Despite various departments of the university being located in a

number of outlying buildings in, for example, Cecilia Street, Merrion Street and St Stephen’s Green, overcrowding was almost always a problem at Earlsfort Terrace. The four sides of the completed quadrangle were intended to accommodate 1,000 students. By 1916/17, however, with just two sides of the building constructed, 1,017 students were enrolled. By 1960 this had increased to 4,768.


Attempts over the years to extend the Earlsfort Terrace campus or to find an alternative site for the university in the city were unsuccessful. In the late 1940s, with Dr Michael Tierney at the helm, the college authorities started looking at the option of a suburban campus and, from 1949, began buying up properties around Belfield. Tierney had a very clear vision of this suburban campus that would unite all disciplines in one location and he, more than anyone, was responsible for the transfer of the university to the Belfield site.

The first students relocated to Belfield in 1964 to occupy the new Science building. They were followed by the Arts, Commerce and Law faculties in 1970 and Administration in 1972. Architecture moved in 1980 and sections of Engineering left the Terrace in 1989.

Tierney’s dream will finally be realised later this year when the last students from Medicine and Civil Engineering move to Belfield.



FAREWELL TO THE *Terrace* TERRACE GRADUATES’ FUND



Bidding farewell to the Terrace is a significant and emotional event for many graduates. UCD is marking this auspicious occasion with a series of events in May 2007, and launching the Terrace Graduates’ Fund to ensure the legacy of the Terrace is preserved for successive generations of students.

The purpose of the Terrace Graduates’ Fund is twofold. Firstly, to fund the restoration of the famous and much-loved Kevin Barry memorial window; the cost of preserving this historical artefact is estimated at upwards of €250,000. Secondly, to establish hospitality facilities for Terrace Graduates as part of the new Gateway Project on the Belfield Campus. The architectural plans will be announced in late June. It is our intention to recreate the spirit of the Terrace in new surroundings as a tribute to this great era in our history. Hence this is a time of celebration and a call for support.

Every gift is gratefully received and will be acknowledged in a special book of Farewell to the Terrace Benefactors*.

Please complete this coupon and return it with your gift to: “Terrace Graduates’ Fund”, c/o UCD Foundation Ltd, Tierney Building, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland.

I wish to donate €100 €250 €1,000
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RISK AND REALITY

Paul Durcan describes his poetry as originating somewhere between romance and social protest. He tells Deirdre Mulrooney that his sojourn as Ireland Professor of Poetry has offered him an escape from his normally solitary life

I turn to the Waterstone's man Cormac Kinsella and implore him:

"After meeting Brian Friel every twenty years I always feel like dancing!"

Cormac Kinsella obliges as Cormac Kinsella always obliges:

"Dance away!"

(from *Dancing With Brian Friel*, 1999)

BY WAY of introduction to Paul Durcan — third Ireland Professor of Poetry — in his UCD School of English office, I mention that I was a UCD contemporary of his character Cormac Kinsella. The 63-year-old poet, who will be eternally 30-something in the public mind, tells me he thanked Cormac just a few hours earlier for his gift of the book *Risky Business* by critic Al Alvarez. "That's a good phrase," he offers, using it to summarise his craft. "It is a risky business. I'm publishing a new book in October and it feels just as risky now as it did at the start."

Constructed "from the bits and pieces of your own life", Durcan describes his poetry as originating somewhere between "romance, namely trying to find a girlfriend when I was a teenager" and "social protest at the sense of injustice in the world".

This is the artist who meandered from protégé of Gonzaga English teacher Fr Joe Veale to teenage law school drop-out (from Earlsfort Terrace), through an archaeology degree at UCC as a 'mature student' of 27, to grow into Ireland's answer to the Beat generation of poets. As you would expect from this immortaliser of the everyday, though his upcoming collection *My Mother's Laughter* is partly inspired by reflections on his mother's death in 2004, "many of the poems are related to our lives today".

Typically, rather than generalising about issues like global warming, Durcan's concern is always for the little man. "It does strike me that it's always the individual citizen who is made to feel like the culprit," he protests. "You have people who own vast territories of natural resources, and massive corporations doing absolutely unbelievable indiscriminate damage, but the guy in his Ford Fiesta with two doors on it is made to feel like he is ruining the planet."

Unsurprisingly, he is hyper-sensitive to current affairs. "I'm not able to listen to *Morning Ireland* because I can't start the day with such terrible bad news. I used to, but there's no way I can start the day with that any more." War upsets him: "A poet couldn't be for war. Imagine the whole nightmare of being a refugee. Imagine being an African here in Ireland longing for your home, wherever it may be — in Rwanda say — knowing that you will probably never see it again." He is tuned into "the isolation individuals feel in the city" and comes out as being "depressed" and "bewildered" by the ease with which we have succumbed to modern technology (though he does own a mobile — for emergencies). "I see people all around me here in this wonderful college constantly looking at this thing in their hand. People tell me that the age of the book is almost over — that it'll be better really, people reading off screens."

Far from text messaging and iPods, Durcan's is the lost world of Baggotonia. He lights up at the fact that legendary bookshop proprietress Miss King mentioned him in the recent book *Parson's Bookshop*, recounting: "One of our youngest newcomers was Paul Durcan, a very thoughtful student from Gonzaga College, who spent many a day browsing through the more serious books."

"I had no idea she was aware of me," he enthuses. "It was an amazing shop, and a world in itself. No society can afford to lose that sort of world. Patrick Kavanagh and Brendan Behan used that shop as their post office, and they were great friends with the ladies there."

In the company of friends

From Waterstone's to Parson's Bookshop, and back to UCD Library ("Do you know you can take out 30 books at a time?"), Durcan is happiest amongst bookshelves. It's his natural habitat. Even in his office on the second floor of the Newman Building at Belfield he relishes the serendipity of being surrounded by an absent lecturer's specialist collection of American poetry, like an impromptu gathering of good old friends.

The day we meet finds him luxuriating in *Academic Graffiti* by W.H. Auden; George

Sainsbury's 1910 'bible', *A History of English Prosody*, and Oliver St John Gogarty's 1937 memoir, *As I Was Going Down Sackville Street*. At his elbow is a stack of dog-eared tomes on 1930's writer Djuna Barnes.

"I've hardly had the chance to do research in my life, so in this Ireland Chair of Poetry, that is what I most enjoyed doing". He delivered three lectures during this perambulatory professorship — Cronin's Cantos in Queen's University Belfast; Hartnett's Farewell at Trinity College Dublin; and, most recently, The Mystery of Harry Clifton at UCD.

As we flick through Auden's *Academic Graffiti*, Durcan grins over a sketch of a solitary man in a big overcoat walking through a woods, and the accompanying verse:

Paul Valery

Earned a meagre salary

Walking through the bois

Observing his moi.

"A guy like me leads too solitary a life in general," he offers. "So that's another good thing about this — for a short time you come in from the cold and are in the company of students." The sort of company that delights him is that of Mark Quinn, PhD student and author of *The King of Spring* — about his grandfather, Olympic champion Peter O'Connor. "An extraordinary athlete, but also an extraordinary human being," Durcan relates with gleeful approval of how O'Connor caused an international incident at the 1906 Athens Olympics, climbing up a 20-foot pole and producing an Irish flag, while the British anthem was being played.

The next perspective on Durcan's 'moi' will be from the other side of the planet, in sunny Brisbane, where he is set to be the 2007 Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts' poet-in-residence from August to October.

Deirdre Mulrooney, (BA '90, MA '91 and PhD '98), is a freelance journalist who has contributed to Rattlebag, Artszone and The Irish Times. Her book, Irish Moves – An Illustrated History of Dance and Physical Theatre in Ireland, is published by Liffey Press. Deirdre has just returned from Montreal where she was working for Cirque du Soleil as an Artistic Talent Scout.

RESEARCHERS DISCOVER POTENTIAL CHEMOTHERAPY AGENT

Renal cell cancer, which kills 100,000 people worldwide each year, can be treated in a number of ways, but has so far proved very resistant to chemotherapeutic drugs. However, Dr Matthias Tacke, a senior lecturer at the UCD School of Chemistry & Chemical Biology and a researcher with the Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB), believes his research group could be on the way to finding an improved chemotherapy product to fight the disease.

Dr Tacke has been working on known anti-cancer drugs belonging to the titanocene family for five years. "Titanocene dichloride is a cytotoxic anti-cancer drug, which means that it can selectively kill cancer cells," he explains. "However, in Phase II clinical trials carried out in Germany in 1998, titanocene dichloride was found not to be cytotoxic enough to justify further trials. We decided to focus our research in UCD on making derivatives of titanocene dichloride, which we hoped would be more efficacious."

Results from the in-vitro testing of 25 novel compounds synthesised by Dr Tacke's group were very encouraging, with the best compound 100 times more cytotoxic than titanocene dichloride. In-vivo studies in mice bearing a human form of renal cell cancer showed that the best compound significantly reduced tumour growth and demonstrated superior results to Cisplatin, an established chemotherapy against a variety of cancers.

The CSCB now aims to promote a further improved titanocene into a clinical Phase I study against renal cell cancer.



Dr Matthias Tacke with his CSCB research group



Professor Mary Daly

UNIVERSITIES TO EXPLORE HISTORY OF MEDICINE IN IRELAND

UCD and the University of Ulster have been awarded a €400,000 joint Strategic Enhancement Award from the Wellcome Trust to explore the social history of medicine in Ireland. The study will focus on the relationship between conventional and non-conventional medicine, maternal and child medicine, and will involve a comparison between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

According to Professor Mary Daly, College Principal in the UCD College of Arts & Celtic Studies, this area was not receiving the

NOBEL LAUREATE RECEIVES UCD ULYSSES MEDAL

Professor James Heckman, University of Chicago, winner of a Nobel Prize for Economics (2000), received the Ulysses Medal from UCD in June 2006 for his contribution to research in economics and human behaviour. Heckman also took up his appointment as UCD Professor of Science and Society, a joint initiative between the UCD Geary Institute and UCD Conway Institute.

Heckman has always had a strong interest in the economic benefits of investment in early child well-being. His work shows that early childhood environment has a direct influence on subsequent economic success and he maintains that early intervention lowers the cost of later investment.

"Whereas the traditional argument for providing enriched environments for disadvantaged young children is based on considerations of fairness, experimental interventions targeted toward disadvantaged children have much higher economic returns than later interventions, such as reduced pupil-teacher ratios, public job training and convict rehabilitation programmes," he argues.

In his current research, he draws on neuroscience to demonstrate that various factors, including earnings, employment and participation in crime, strongly depend on cognitive and non-cognitive abilities.

Heckman's research also shows that the earlier the intervention the higher the return on investment. One study shows a tenfold return on every dollar invested in 0-3 year olds.



Professor James Heckman

comprehensive scholarly interest it deserved. The research team will now make use of the many source materials available in Ireland to establish a centre of expertise on the subject, which will have its base in the UCD School of History & Archives.

Initial research will focus on the 19th and 20th centuries, concentrating on medical practices and practitioners with allied projects on child health, birth control and maternal health. "There are so many questions to be answered, for example, why, up to 1945, so many women died younger than men, especially in rural Ireland," said Professor Daly.



Dr Jens E. Nielsen

ONLINE SYSTEM TO HELP SCIENTISTS ENGINEER ENZYMES

An online biotechnology system, developed by Dr Jens E. Nielsen and Barbara Tynan-Connolly of the UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science, UCD Conway Institute and the Centre for Synthesis & Chemical Biology, is set to be of huge assistance to researchers trying to engineer more environmentally friendly enzymes.

By understanding how enzymes function in different environments, researchers can modify their characteristics for use in industrial processes. Being biodegradable and energy efficient, they are an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional chemical processes.

While it used to take years of experiments and laboratory testing for researchers to investigate

how enzymes, and slight variations of them, would function in different environments, computer aided design (CAD) technology has significantly reduced the time needed for this investigative process.

However, in order to take advantage of CAD for re-designing the pH-dependent behaviour of enzymes, researchers have, until now, had to install complex computer programmes and carry out time-consuming calculations. With the help of the new online system developed by Nielsen and Tynan-Connolly, researchers can now bypass this process and get straight to the heart of their experiments.

The new system developed by the UCD research team is the first of its kind and is freely available to researchers worldwide at <http://enzyme.ucd.ie/pKD>.

DIABETES SELECTED AS CORE RESEARCH THEME

UCD has established a new Diabetes Research Centre, which provides a multidisciplinary collaborative research matrix designed to accelerate progress towards discoveries that will improve the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes and associated diseases.

Dr Catherine Godson of the UCD Conway Institute and School of Medicine & Medical Science is Director of the centre, the first of its kind in Ireland. It has recently received €7m funding from Science Foundation Ireland.

Having made a number of important breakthroughs in the area of diabetes and diabetic disease over recent years, UCD has selected the area as one of its core research themes. The university has internationally recognised expertise in diabetic kidney disease, diabetic eye disease, diet and diabetes, quality of life, and clinical and genetic epidemiology of diabetes.

The new centre provides open access between researchers and clinicians from across its schools, teaching hospitals and the Dublin Molecular Medicine Centre. It also co-ordinates and collaborates on research programmes with investigators at a number of universities and research hospitals in Ireland, Europe and the Americas and with pharma and biotech companies.



From left: Seán Dorgan, IDA Ireland; Professor Richard Reilly, UCD School of Electrical, Electronic & Mechanical Engineering and TRIL Centre director; Eric Dishman, Intel's Health Research & Innovation Group; Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Micheál Martin TD; and Jim O'Hara, Intel Ireland

UCD JOINS AGEING RESEARCH PROJECT

UCD is poised to play a significant role in a US\$30 million investment by Intel and the IDA in the recently announced Technology Research for Independent Living (TRIL) Centre. The centre will create one of the largest research efforts into the consequences of ageing across the globe.

Key research projects of the TRIL Centre will address the physical, cognitive and social

consequences of ageing informed by ethnographic research and supported by a shared pool of knowledge and engineering resources, which are underpinned by common technological needs.

Each research activity will incorporate multi-disciplinary teams from several Irish universities, Intel's new European Digital Health Group and its US-based colleagues. The overall project, led by Professor Richard Reilly of the UCD School of Electrical, Electronic & Mechanical Engineering, will engage researchers from this school, as well as the School of Psychology and the School of Physiotherapy & Performance Science.

"The centre provides for continued quality, significant and relevant research at UCD in the area of neural engineering and multimodal signal processing," said Professor Reilly, director and principal investigator of TRIL Centre. "A major focus will be modelling the human attention and sensory/perceptual systems, using high-density electrophysiology, together with multimodal fusion for medical diagnostics.

"Besides providing long-term fundamental research and core skills in neural engineering, a short-to-medium output of the centre's activity will be the development of specific biomedical diagnostic applications of real medical and commercial benefit," he added.

FUTURE FUELS



Professor Shane Ward (left) and Dr. Kevin McDonnell

Environmental considerations and concerns over security of supply mean that Ireland must look at alternative and sustainable sources of energy. **Claire O'Connell** spoke to Dr Kevin McDonnell, principal investigator at UCD's Bioresources Research Centre, about fuel options for the future

AS THE world lurches towards an energy crisis, Ireland looks set to feel the pinch. Living on the fringe of Europe we currently lean heavily on imported fuel sources and, when the international energy pipeline starts to run dry, we will need to become much more self-reliant.

While security of supply is a major concern, Ireland is also under increasing pressure to reduce its carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions to come into line with Kyoto Protocol agreements. In an effort to address both of these areas, the Irish Government has set a number of ambitious targets, including increasing the proportion of electricity generated by renewable energy sources from 2.2% in 2006 to 30% by 2010.

The good news is that, with a little forethought, Ireland could cover an estimated quarter of its energy needs with 'biofuels' derived from home-grown energy crops. It's just a matter of

recognising and tapping into our natural resources.

And that's where UCD's Bioresources Research Centre (BRC) has been leading the field, sizing up Ireland's capacity to produce sustainable biofuels and figuring out how the approach could affect our economy and the environment.

Generating energy from biomass crops instead of fossil fuels can help to reduce CO₂ emissions, explains Dr Kevin McDonnell, a lecturer in biosystems engineering and a principal investigator at the BRC. "The biomass that generated the fossil fuels is from hundreds of millions of years ago," he says. "So if you take that out of the ground and then you burn it in a power station or for transport, you are emitting carbon into the atmosphere that is millions of years out of date; therefore it's putting more carbon in the atmosphere than it can absorb."

On the other hand, biomass in living crops holds on to carbon for only a few months or years, so burning them for energy helps

'With a little forethought, Ireland could cover an estimated quarter of its energy needs with 'biofuels' derived from home-grown energy crops'

keep tighter control over the carbon cycle, he adds.

Biomass crops essentially act as solar panels, locking in the sun's energy. By growing and processing them locally, we can tap into a low-cost energy resource that reduces our dependence on international fuel and boosts the Irish economy to boot, according to Dr McDonnell. And they provide a less-polluting alternative to conventional fossil fuels, particularly for transport, he adds.

Ireland offers good growing conditions for wheat and beet to produce bioethanol for transport, oil-rich rapeseed for biodiesel, as well as high-yielding energy crops such as canary grass and *Miscanthus* (elephant grass) and short-rotational wood crops like willow that can feed into power stations.

But unlike fossil fuels that lie deep under the soil, energy crops grow shallow and wide, and need substantial land area to thrive. "The footprint from a bioenergy crop can be quite large and we are looking at efficient use of the land resource because that's the single biggest limiting factor," says McDonnell.

Change and effect

To weigh up the nation's options, the BRC has developed a geographical information system (GIS) map of Ireland, based on current land use and soil quality, which outlines our potential land banks for growing energy crops. It's a foundation that lets researchers manipulate parameters to see how minor changes could affect our energy crop yield by 2020.

"For example, if we reduced the national herd, would we get 10% of the available grassland, and if we did that, how much more energy could we extract? It's from this type of model that we are getting the predictions you read in the press about Ireland being able to supply 25-30% of its energy requirements," says McDonnell.

Less fertile, 'marginal' soils also offer opportunities for growing energy crops, he adds. One option the BRC is exploring is cut-over peatlands; they are already close to power stations and have the infrastructure to harvest bulky material, and energy crops such as canary grass prefer the acidic conditions. "Obviously yields are quite low compared to very good soil but it's a good use of those lands," he says.

The BRC draws on a wealth of experience of peatland research, which was one of the main drivers in the early 1990s when the centre was set up, explains McDonnell. Today the widening scope of energy concerns is reflected in the centre's remit, which sees it

collaborating on EU-funded projects with international partners to look at the bigger picture of biofuels.

The BRC has a web of sterling collaborators thanks to the networking talents of director Professor Shane Ward, according to McDonnell. "That has been his forte and as a result we have a lot of international contacts, so we can use our network and say 'We are having a problem with this, what do we do next?'. It's great because if you ask us a question on one aspect of a project, we mightn't have the expertise here, but one of our partners will have, so we can still get the answers."

BRC students are currently working with universities and car manufacturers in Europe on the finer details of biomass-to-energy conversion: the economic impacts, how chemical processes could improve yields from energy crops and how cleanly the biofuels burn in a car engine.

But the research is not just confined to crop energy. The centre is also looking at how agricultural waste from animals can be put to good use, explains McDonnell. It may sound unappealing, but burning the 220,000 tonnes of bonemeal and 50,000 tonnes of tallow Ireland produces each year could provide a welcome source of energy. "The bonemeal and tallow is currently exported for destruction, but you can use it in an energy power plant and a number of the plants are getting set up for that," he says.

BRC researchers are planning to generate energy for a 'greener campus' by fermenting UCD's food, animal and paper waste at the university's farm in Newcastle. "If you could digest the slurries and use that energy to run and heat the college farm and supply electricity to the grid if you have an excess, that would be a very efficient way of using the resources that are there," he says.

Meanwhile the BRC looks set to continue as a central cog in planning Ireland's energy strategy: it recently won a prestigious Charles Parsons Energy Research Award worth almost €3 million from the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources. The grant will fund projects on energy crop production, sustainable agriculture and the environmental impact of alternative fuels. The centre also has a number of Sustainable Energy Ireland and Department of Agriculture and Food projects looking at energy management, production and systems.

Claire O'Connell (BSc in Botany '92 and a PhD in Pharmacology '98) is a freelance journalist and frequent contributor to The Irish Times and The Irish Examiner. She is currently completing a Masters in Science Communication at Dublin City University.

PEOPLE POWER

Lauded by many as Ireland's leading businesswoman, and awarded Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in 2006, what singles CPL's Anne Heraty (BA '84) out from her peers is an enduring enthusiasm for what she does. She spoke to [Ann O'Dea](#)

BACK IN the halcyon days of the dotcom boom in Nineties Ireland, in my then role as a technology hack, I remember interviewing the articulate and enthusiastic chief executive of a successful, young IT recruitment company for a fairly standard piece on the first IT skills shortage. What strikes me immediately when I sit down to chat with Anne Heraty in 2007 is that none of that enthusiasm has faded.

In the meantime, Heraty has grown CPL to be one of Ireland's top companies, listed on both the Irish and UK AIM stock exchanges, active in all the key recruitment sectors, and with turnover last year of €148 million. Set up in Dublin in 1989 to specialise in IT recruitment, today CPL has offices throughout Ireland, as well as one in Poland and one in the UK. In January, it acquired a 75% share in a Czech recruitment company with offices in Prague and Bratislava, as part of the group's stated strategy to further build its business in central Europe. In 2006, having been nominated for the second time, Heraty was deservedly announced Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

It's all a very long way from her time as a student in Belfield, but Heraty has fond memories of her days there when she completed a BA in Economics and Mathematics. "I loved my time at UCD, and made great friends who I have kept to this day," she says. "And my time there has definitely stood to me. It was a great environment, the lecturers were marvellous and it was an experience that rounded you as an individual."

Her choice of subject area was typically pragmatic. "I had always had a keen interest in Economics, so it was always going to be my first choice," she says. "Maths seemed like the obvious subject to accompany it."

On graduating, Heraty spent two years in sales at Xerox and subsequently joined Grafton Recruitment where she was to discover where her real passion lay. "I loved it," she enthuses. "That is where I

discovered my great love of this industry, and I quickly found that I was particularly drawn to the IT sector."

In 1989 she left to set up her own company, then Computer Placement Ltd, today CPL, with a business partner Keith O'Malley of People Placement Group, who she subsequently bought out in 1992 — one can only speculate as to whether he rues the day he gave up those shares. When the company floated in 1999, it was valued at €28 million.

Vision and focus

At a time when most recruitment companies tended to have a general remit, Heraty honed in on IT recruitment — quite a visionary move considering the subsequent dotcom revolution, I suggest to her. "Visionary maybe," she says modestly. "Perhaps fortuitous as much as anything. CPL sort of grew up with the indigenous software industry here. It was a great sector to be in, particularly in the early Nineties."

As Ireland rode the crest of an IT wave, few foresaw the tough times that were to follow, with the so-called dot bomb. "Over 90% of CPL's revenue was coming from the IT sector at that time," recalls Heraty. "So we did experience tough times from around 2001 to 2003. We had gone public in 1999, however, and were raising finance to diversify into other sectors. We had just started that process as the whole dot bomb happened, so we used the time to build our brand."

Diversify they did, and very successfully. Today while the software and IT sector is still an important revenue generator for the group, it only represents about 26% of revenues, says Heraty. Now accounting and finance, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, and the managed services division are among other key sectors for the group.

As well as running a large listed company, Heraty also holds non-executive directorships with Anglo Irish Bank and Bord na Móna, and is chairperson of the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs. In all her roles, she is keenly aware of the oft-cited skills shortage in Ireland. "Part of my job is to actively encourage people to take science

and engineering as subjects to specialise in, and at CPL we see tremendous demand for people with those skills."

She recognises that much has been done in recent years to invest in the R&D side in Ireland, but says more is needed. "We do need to see more people in engineering, particularly electrical engineering and computer science, and we need to see even more courses being made available."

The skills shortage means that those in Heraty's industry today need to source candidates abroad. "That's the nature of the thing. The labour market today is a truly global one. While our first port of call is Ireland, ultimately we will go to wherever we can source the skills. Today at CPL we have 51 different nationalities working with us — it's the new Ireland."

Recipe for success

So does Heraty have any tips for budding entrepreneurs? "Well, the environment was probably never better than it is now if you're interested in setting up your own business. There are lots of opportunities out there."

However, says Heraty, the key is to find what it is you want to do, something that she has clearly achieved in her own work life. "You need to be passionate about what you do, because it is very hard work, and your business has to be a very large part of your life if you're going to be successful. So you need to enjoy it."

At a time when the phrase 'work-life balance' is much bandied about, Heraty prefers to look at life in terms of 'work-life choices'. "It's a matter of choice. You need to look at where you want to allocate your time."

And as your career progresses? "My advice is always to surround yourself with very talented people. Your team will be key to your success." This she concedes comes down to good recruitment skills, something every manager should have. Anne Heraty should know.

Ann O'Dea (BA '90, MA '92) is Editor of Irish Director magazine and a director of Whitespace Publishing Group Ltd.

'You need to be passionate about what you do, because it is very hard work, and your business has to be a very large part of your life if you're going to be successful'

HAUTE CULTURE

Danielle Barron talks to the recently appointed director of the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris, Sheila Pratschke, about her new venture and life in one of the world's most artistically rich cities



Photo by Barbara Laborde ©



Photo by Virginie Vican ©



'The centre often presents work that can be quite edgy and contemporary as well as traditional Irish artistry'

ACCORDING TO Sheila Pratschke (BA '66, DipAAdm '91), the Centre Culturel Irlandais is akin to "a little Celtic Island" located amongst the hustle and bustle of the historic Latin Quarter in the heart of Paris. "This is the only centre of its kind outside Ireland that is supported by the Irish Government to promote the work of Irish artists," she explains.

Pratschke took up her post as the director of the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris in January of this year, having been involved in arts administration for over 15 years. The brief of the centre is to exhibit a wide range of art forms including visual art, film, literature and music as well as combinations of all of these.

Originally the Irish College in Paris, a strong educational focus continues today, says Pratschke. And having been reincarnated as a cultural centre just five years ago, it is still very much a project in evolution, she explains.

"The objective is to showcase and present both the best of Irish art and artists but also to be quite experimental and be more of a laboratory space," continues Pratschke. As a result the centre often presents work that can be quite edgy and contemporary as well as traditional Irish artistry, she adds.

The magnificent building where the centre is located has 45 bedrooms, which provides accommodation for students, artists and researchers within its walls.

Three cultural programmes run each year, which roughly coincide with the academic semesters. "In each programme there is a mixture of all the art forms," says Pratschke. "There are concerts, readings, workshops with writers and poets and visual art exhibitions."

The centre has a huge range of music including traditional Irish and baroque music, while the Irish Chamber Choir of Paris is also located in the centre and performs three concerts each year. As part of Fête de la Musique, or World Music Day, Dervish will be performing at the centre on 21 June, which is Midsummer's Day. Also, Irish contemporary dance company Rex Levitates will be staying at the college during the months of May and June.

"They will also have a residency with a very famous Paris dance studio, which is a fantastic opportunity for them as that would be quite difficult to organise without our mediation," says Pratschke, adding that forging links between Irish artists and the Parisian artistic community is major aspect of the centre's work.

Audiences at the centre's many events vary considerably, she says. "We get a lot of Irish people who are living in Paris but we also get a strong French audience, particularly for our visual arts exhibitions and concerts."

On the literary side of things, a major project for Pratschke during her tenure as director will be the maintenance and restoration of the historical college library. "It's a fantastic old library of 10,000 books,

mostly from the 14th to 18th centuries but also comprising a modern collection," she says. Substantial funding has recently been allocated for the cleaning and conservation of the books as well as the digitisation of every volume in the library.

Voyage of discovery

The centre is also home to an archive of thousands of papers, which will be entered into a database. "We don't even know how far back they date, so that is going to be a huge voyage of discovery for us," she says. The centre is also developing its media library, which Pratschke hopes will shortly become a lending library.

This is a second career for Pratschke, who spent years as a teacher and trainer before founding a consultancy specialising in developmental programmes for women. In 1990, however, she decided to study for a diploma in arts administration in UCD. "It opened up a whole second life for me and I've worked one way or another in the arts since then," she says.

Indeed, Pratschke has had a varied career, having worked in the Irish Museum of Modern Art, the Kerlin Gallery and University College Dublin as well as with a number of international arts festivals. She was also director of the Irish Film Institute for seven years until 2001 when she became director of the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig in Co Monaghan, which is a workplace for creative artists.

When the offer came in to head up the Centre Culturel Irlandais, Pratschke admits it took some careful consideration. However, she soon realised that the chance to spend some time living and working in Paris was one she simply could not pass up.

"It's very different from my last job and it is quite difficult to change your life and your job at the same time," says Pratschke. "After some long and thoughtful reflection I decided it was an opportunity I just couldn't resist."

But she also says that she has enjoyed recalling her "long forgotten" French and that working and speaking in the language is getting easier every day. "And of course Paris in the springtime is so beautiful," she adds.

Pratschke envisions that she will remain at the Centre Culturel Irlandais for at least five more years. "The centre is in a stage of development and is being beautifully renovated. We are building all the time on our cultural programme and we have ambitions to develop our education provision.

"Paris is a city that has such richness in what it offers," she says. "In a way it is a city in which you compete for your audiences and it is difficult for artists to get noticed as there is so much going on, but then that's my job."

Danielle Barron (BSc in Pharmacology '05), works as a full-time reporter with the Irish Medical News and is also a regular contributor to The Irish Times.

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

UCD's Programme for the Preservation of Period Houses has seen many of the important buildings on campus, and off, restored to their former glory.

Ann O'Dea reports



Merville House today: Its original owner lends his name to Foster Avenue

THE GRAND plans for the development of Belfield campus are well documented with results of the Gateway architectural competition due this summer, but this is only part of the bigger picture. Under the watchful eyes of Sean Brennan and Aidan Grannell in the Buildings & Services Department, many of the architecturally important houses at Belfield, Carysfort and in the city centre have been sensitively restored and allocated more appropriate uses over recent years.

Indeed, it is in the cleverly restored courtyard buildings of Belfield House, now the offices of Buildings & Services, that I sit down with Sean and Aidan to chat about the projects to date. Sporting alumni will remember that these buildings housed much of the sporting equipment, rugby changing rooms and baths until recent years – we in the Canoe Club used it to store our canoes. Today they are almost unrecognisable — the old stone walls remain but pretty replacement sash windows sparkle, and comfortable modern offices occupy the interiors of what were basically old outhouses.

Financing the restoration

Having made a submission of interest in 2001, UCD was delighted to be selected to house the prestigious Clinton Institute, and the resulting funding paid for the restoration of Belfield House, whose parquet floors still bore the marks of rugby studs. It all fitted well with the strategy to obtain outside funding for the preservation programme, according to UCD's Bursar Eamonn Ceannt.

"After carrying out the restorations at Newman House on Stephen's Green some 10 years ago, we decided to put the programme in place to restore all the houses, which are an important part of Irish heritage," says Ceannt. "The Newman House restoration was funded through sponsorship from the Gallagher Group, and the aim was to gradually raise funding and restore the other important buildings as we could."

And there were many. The Belfield campus alone is made up from the land of 11 different suburban estates: Ardmore, Belfield, Belgrove, Merville, Roebuck Castle, Roebuck Grove, Roebuck House, Richview, Rosemont, Thornfield and Woodview. Sadly not all of the houses remain, but seven are still intact.

Belfield House

Belfield House, a fine, compact and elegant country house, is very much linked to the sporting history of UCD, purchased by the university in the 1930s, along with its lands, for the purpose of sporting endeavour, at a time when the scholarly pursuits were still based in the city. Today it stands pristine, its distinctive yellow lime render restored, after extensive renovations. Its fine reception rooms have been returned to their original purpose, in a renovation project handled sensitively by architects Fitzgerald Kavanagh.

Originally built in 1801 by Ambrose Moore of the La Touche family, its large bow window overlooks Dublin Bay, while its entrance hall and Oval Room boast fine neo-classical plasterwork in the Adams style — common to many of the fine Dublin houses of the



Belfield House



The Oval Room at Belfield House

day. Indeed, the Oval Room was a feature of many great Irish houses, and Irish-born architect James Hoban is believed to have been inspired by these when designing the White House in Washington. Appropriate then that today it houses the UCD Clinton Institute for American Studies.

"This house was of particular importance to us," says Sean Brennan. "After all it's the first house that was purchased here and represents the beginnings of the Belfield campus. We're delighted with the result. Anne Fitzgerald has done a marvelous job on the project. Fitzgerald of Fitzgerald Kavanagh was the architect on this and the Ligouri House project.

"We have restored the integrity of the spacious reception rooms on the ground floor and removed any unsympathetic add-ons from over the years," says Fitzgerald. And the reception rooms will now serve a purpose not unlike their original usage — to receive important visitors in elegant and impressive surroundings.

Merville House

"Every year, we try to find the funding to finance another restoration," says Ceannt. "The first to be tackled under the



One of the main reception rooms at Ligouri House (inset) on the Carysfort Campus

Programme for Preservation of Period Houses was Merville House, and again here we linked it up with funding for the NovaUCD Innovation Centre.”

Undoubtedly one of the finest houses on campus, and indeed in south Dublin, Merville was built around 1750 for the Right Honourable Anthony Foster, then chief baron of the Irish Exchequer. Foster Avenue still bears his name. Upon his death in 1778, the house passed to his son, Sir John Foster, the last speaker of the Irish House of Commons. It subsequently passed through various hands until Lt General Henry Hall took up residence there in the early 20th century,

where he set up a renowned riding school, which was still in place when purchased by UCD in 1958. Several of the surviving stable-yard buildings were renovated to form part of the Nova centre.

The concept for the centre was to restore the magnificent house as the centrepiece of a complex of subsidiary buildings that surround it. The whole project was funded by a unique public-private partnership, involving AIB, Arthur Cox, Deloitte, Ericsson, Goodbody Stockbrokers and Xilinx who contributed 75% of the €10 million raised to develop the first two phases. The balance of funds was contributed by Enterprise Ireland and UCD.

While many essential fabric repairs had been carried out over the years, the house was in need of significant restoration, says chief architect, Brian Kavanagh of Kavanagh Tuite. “The ground floor had to be restructured, the floors were in poor shape and we brought in a specialist gesso contractor and plaster restorer to painstakingly repair the wonderful plasterwork.”

The elegant reception rooms have been restored to their former glory, having previously by necessity been employed for academic use, according to Kavanagh. “Now these rooms can again be used much more suitably as reception rooms, conferencing facilities and formal areas for the Nova centre.” All other activities are housed in the modern wing and converted coach houses, which have been cleverly designed so as not to detract from the old house.

Ligouri House (formerly the Grey House)

At the Carysfort campus, again there was a fair deal of ingenuity employed in getting the lovely Ligouri House back to its best. “We wanted to build 2,500 residences at Carysfort, and it was decided to incorporate the old Grey House into the development,” explains Ceannt. “This allowed the restoration to be funded by an overall commercial package to manage and run the residences.”

Renamed Ligouri House in honour of the pioneering educator Mother Ligouri Keenan who first made it a college, the house is believed to have been built in 1804 or 1805 by John Joshua Proby. Restoration of the four-storey Palladian block, with bow ends, was completed in 2004, again under the auspices of architects Fitzgerald Kavanagh. According to Anne Fitzgerald, later partitions were removed, as was the faulty cement rendering which was replaced with the breathable lime render in pinkish brown that gives it its distinctive appearance today. The majority of the original floorboards were saved and reinstated, as were the decorative plaster ceilings.

Today, according to Brennan, the upper levels serve as faculty apartments, the garden-level floor houses the Drama Studies centre and the Hall level is used for formal receptions. The parterre garden has been restored to its Victorian scheme.

University Lodge (formerly Roebuck Grove)

University Lodge, the official residence of UCD presidents past and present, has an elegant Greek façade thought to have been added around 1840 to an earlier, more modest Georgian villa or even farmhouse. It too has been transformed through a sensitive



The fine Greek façade at University Lodge, the official residence of university presidents past and present

restoration project completed in 2004. To date the one exception to the funding strategy has been the lodge, for which funds had to be found internally — causing some controversy at the time.

“Unfortunately, time constraints meant we had to carry out the badly needed restorations in an eight-month time period between one president leaving and the other arriving,” says Ceannt. “Indeed, we had to ask President Hugh Brady to delay his move for several months even at that. It just didn’t allow time for fundraising.”

According to Desmond Barry of Sheehan & Barry Architects who worked on the restoration, the difficulty of accessing the property during tenure of various UCD presidents meant that “the house had become somewhat rundown and lacked the full range of services required in a modern residence”. He adds that it was unsuitable for its second role as a venue for public events. “It did not even have a separate catering area — the family kitchen had to be used when receptions were held there.”

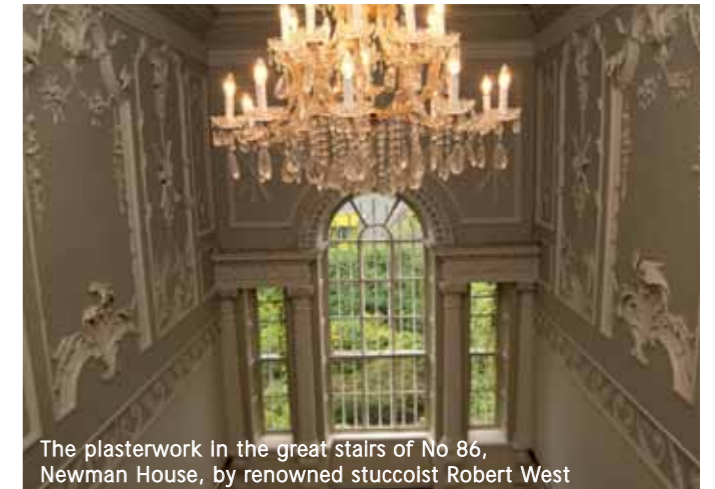
Barry explains how the house has now been cleverly restored, so that the fine formal rooms of the Greek revival section can be employed for public receptions, while the rear section of the house allows the president and his family to live a normal life with the privacy they might expect.

“The fine architectural features of the original building have now been returned to their former splendour giving the lodge a new lease of life,” he concludes.

Newman House

Sheehan & Barry Architects were also responsible for the much-lauded restoration in the 1990s of 85 and 86, St Stephen’s Green, collectively known as Newman House. Both houses are often cited as the model of good conservation practice, and visited annually by groups of scholars who want to better appreciate conservation architecture or indeed the history of important period townhouses in Ireland.

No 86 was where the Catholic University first started teaching classes back in 1854. Its neighbour No 85 was purchased 11 years later, after the death of its then owner Judge Ball. While both are



The plasterwork in the great stairs of No 86, Newman House, by renowned stuccoist Robert West

marvelous examples of 18th-century architecture, the 25 years that separate them in age mean that they have greatly contrasting styles.

Designed by the country’s leading architect of the day Richard Castle for Hugh Montgomery, MP for Fermanagh, and started around 1738, the earlier No 85 is a splendid example of the more restrained Palladian style. No 86, built for Richard Chapel Whaley in 1765, is of the later, more flamboyant Rococo style. These differences are reflected in the impressive but contrasting plasterwork in both, all of which has been meticulously restored and preserved.

“The plasterwork in No 85 is an example of the wonderful work of the Lafranchini brothers, Paul and Phillip, superb craftsmen who were in great demand among the owners of fine country houses in Ireland,” says Ruth Ferguson, curator and fount of knowledge when it comes to Newman House. “The ceiling in the Saloon and the plaster reliefs in the Apollo room are fantastic examples of Baroque influences in Dublin in the first half of the 18th century.”

In contrast, in the later No 86, everything is bigger and bolder. The remarkable plasterwork is the craftsmanship of Robert West, widely regarded as Ireland’s greatest stuccoist. “The walls and ceilings of the great stairs are quite remarkable,” says Ferguson. Today it is all preserved carefully for posterity and can be visited in the summer months, or by appointment. It was this remarkable restoration job that was undertaken in the 1990s that inspired the Programme for Preservation of Period Houses.

And the work will go on, says Ceannt. Ardmore House has been partially restored in order to keep its integrity while awaiting funding, while Woodview is also earmarked for attention. Roebuck Castle, one of the most significant buildings on the Belfield campus, will benefit partially from funding donated by Peter Sutherland for a new Law School (see page 22). A lot has been done, but there’s a lot more to do.

Ann O’Dea (BA ’90, MA ’92) holds a Diploma in the Fine & Decorative Arts awarded by the Institute of Professional Auctioneers and Valuers and the Irish Antique Dealers Association. Her thesis Anatomy of an Irish Country House and Gardens c.1730-2004: The Altamont Estate was awarded first prize in 2004.

SAVING THE YOUNG

With suicide now the number one killer of young men in Ireland, experts are warning that it has become a national emergency. **Sorcha Nic Mhathúna** spoke to several of those who are trying to get to the root of the problem

Photograph: Jennifer Jacquemat/Rex Features

THE STATISTICS are alarming. An average of just under 500 people, half of them below the age of 30, die by suicide each year in Ireland. Suicide is now the number one killer of young Irish men. A recent study carried out by the Irish Association of Suicidology found that 15pc of Irish people have lost a family member to suicide and that three out of four people knew somebody who had taken their own life.

In its first annual report, published last September, the National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) revealed that the Irish suicide rate had doubled since the early 1980s, and that Ireland now ranks as the fifth highest in the EU for suicides among 15-24 year olds.

Experts have warned that suicide has become a national emergency and have called on the government to introduce targets for reducing suicide rates, as well as sustained exchequer funding of an extra €10 million over five years to fund further research.

At the moment, just 7% of the Irish health budget is allocated to psychiatric services, despite the fact that one in four people will be affected by a mental health problem at some time in their life. The equivalent health budget allocation in England and Wales is 12%, and 18% in Scotland, where €10 million a year is spent on suicide prevention.

International research has shown that between 80% and 90% of those who take their own lives suffer from a psychiatric or emotional condition and, in many cases, this is unidentified depression. Dr Paul Kelly, senior clinical psychologist at UCD's Student Health Centre and a member of the National Advisory Group to the NOSP, attributes the rapid increase in suicide levels to radical changes in society. "Society has changed dramatically in the past 10 to 20 years," he explains. "Change

'We are only three months into the study and we have already identified 40 independent clusters'

can be very stressful and difficult in a competitive and success-driven society. Young people may be comparing themselves negatively to their peers. There is a lot of pressure on them to be seen as perfect, confident and happy."

Kelly points out that, while there is a link between suicide and self-harm in that they both indicate significant distress, self-harm is a very different act: "If someone self-harms it isn't their intention to die, rather it could be seen as an attempt to save their own lives."

And while Ireland has moved on from the dark days when people who killed themselves were buried outside cemetery walls, there is still a stigma surrounding suicide, he says.

"Suicide was decriminalised in 1993, which was extremely late, and that helped the Church's attitude, but I still think that there is a lot of stigma surrounding mental health issues," he says.

A wider understanding

A number of research projects are currently under way, several of them at UCD, to provide more concrete data on the underlying causes of suicide in Ireland. Leading suicide authority Professor Kevin Malone, UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science, and a consultant in St Vincent's University Hospital, is currently engaged in a major 18-month study into evidence of clusters or groups of suicides in certain locations in Ireland. This is the first study of its kind to be carried out in Ireland. Suicide clusters are pockets of unusually high rates of suicides within communities and may occur following direct exposure to the suicide of a friend or acquaintance or through indirect exposure like hearing the news of a death by suicide within a local area.

A unique factor of the UCD study is the use of living control groups. Prof Malone and his team are meeting groups of people

across the country who have been affected by the suicide of a family member or a friend, in an attempt to find the real stories behind the statistics. It is hoped that the study's findings can help in the formation of new suicide prevention and intervention measures.

"We are only three months into the study and we have already identified 40 independent clusters," he explains. "We suspect that we will be identifying a good few more." He will be presenting data relating to the first 24 such cases to the NOSP shortly. Like Dr Kelly, he is a member of the body's National Advisory Group.

UCD researchers are also involved in a separate study examining death by drowning databases, which are held by the Water Safety Association of Ireland, and a similar project with Iarnród Éireann into fatalities recorded on Irish railways over the past 10 years. Another UCD study involves the School of Medicine & Medical Science working with Professor Richard Reilly of the UCD School of Electrical, Electronic & Mechanical Engineering to investigate the neuro-scientific aspects of suicidal depression using modern brain imaging.

Funding, however, remains a big issue for Professor Malone and his colleagues. His clusters study is being primarily funded by the NOSP, the Padraig Harrington Foundation and suicide prevention charities 3Ts and Be Not Afraid. Malone says government funding needs to be dramatically increased if real progress is to be made. "Charities shouldn't be trying to underwrite this type of research," he says. Given the sheer scale of the problem, this seems like a fair argument.

Sorcha Nic Mhathúna is a freelance sub-editor and journalist. She graduated with a Bachelor of Business and Legal Studies ('05) and is a former editor of The University Observer. She won the National Student Journalist of the Year award in 2006.

Pictured with the Please Talk mascot at the launch of the campaign: Dr Martin Butler, Vice-President for Students, UCD; Seán Óg Ó hAlpín; Fr Tony Coote, Student Adviser, UCD; Barry Colfer, Student Welfare Officer UCDSU



Please Talk

UCD student adviser Fr Tony Coote was travelling home after a particularly difficult funeral service in Derry. The deceased was a science student who had taken her own life. He turned to his two colleagues and said, "If only we could have said to her 'please talk to somebody'". It was the death of this young woman that prompted Fr Coote and others to develop a new campaign, called Please Talk. The campaign was launched by Seán Óg Ó hAlpín in the university in February.

Fr Coote says that asking for help has often been seen as a sign of weakness. "This campaign is saying that asking for help is a sign of strength," he says. One of the main aims of the Please Talk campaign is to encourage students to seek support from services like student advisers, the Student Health Centre, the confidential phone service Nightline on campus, the chaplaincy, the UCD Disability Support Service and the Students' Union welfare officer.

"A lot of students don't reveal personal issues until exam time," he explains. "We want to alert them to all the important services on the campus and to alert friends to the need to listen and if they feel they can't help, to approach somebody who can. It's not just about suicide — it's to get all students suffering with personal difficulties, whatever they may be, to talk about it and not to get stuck in a cycle of depression."

TRANSFORMING YOUNG LIVES

Early childhood intervention can reap enormous rewards and be extremely cost effective when it comes to public policy. Jane Suiter spoke to Professor Colm Harmon, director of UCD Geary Institute, which is carrying out cutting-edge research into this area

UCD ECONOMIST, Professor Colm Harmon, is in high spirits when we meet. The UCD Geary Institute, which he directs, is on a roll, attracting some of the largest funding to do some of the most exciting economics research in Europe today and Harmon has just had an acceptance from a major US journal. From major reports to cutting-edge research to the management of the institute, Harmon's is a full life. The only drawback, he laughs, is that life is so busy that he doesn't get good news from the journals as often these days.

Harmon was involved in the planning of the Geary Institute since arriving at UCD in 1996, and has been its Director since 2003. The institute is named after Roy Geary, a major figure in public policy development in Ireland, so it is appropriate that its current director should be extremely policy motivated, with an aspiration to ensure that research emanating from the institute is as relevant as possible to policymakers.

Among the new breed of UCD academics who are very focused on the outside world, regularly publishing in the top peer-reviewed journals, Harmon and his collaborators at Geary are in the top tier of economics in Europe. Indeed one of these colleagues, the Nobel Prize-winning Professor James Heckman, is ranked among the top 10 economists in the world. Geary is

the top-ranked economics institute in Ireland, according to IDEAS/RePEc and the only Irish research institute appearing on the global hot list for this ranking. "This reflects the strength of the UCD School of Economics and other schools such as Public Health and Population Sciences, Politics and International Relations and Business. It also reflects the fantastic, smart young researchers driving major projects at Geary," says Harmon.

Deeper focus

When Harmon took over as director of Geary it was a broad church, essentially looking at all areas of the social sciences from politics to economics through sociology. That has now changed and the institute is far more focused, bringing greater depth to research areas in the process. Geary still plays host to a range of academics from disciplines as varied as economics, social science and psychology and these are joined by others from the medical sciences in the Conway Institute. "Now, however, our research methodology is very similar," says Harmon. "As an example, for both medics and economists it is all about causal relationships." The result is world-leading research combining the best of both branches of science.

Geary now hosts two major research centres, one based on behaviour and health and the other on human development and

public policy. What they have in common is their interdisciplinary work where cutting-edge developments in biology and genetics and cognitive and non-cognitive abilities are incorporated into traditional economics research. Sitting on Harmon's desk is a copy of the book *From Neurons to Neighbourhoods*. That really is what we are about, he laughs.

The institute is working on some very significant projects, particularly in the area of education worldwide. Harmon and his team are working on the evaluation of the largest British school-building programme ever. UK Prime Minister Tony Blair has called it the "greatest school-renewal programme in British history reversing a generation of under-investment in our schools". It is a mark of its prestige that it was to the Geary Institute and Harmon that the British civil servants looked when they needed advice and rigorous evaluation of the project. With data on every schoolchild in Britain this is a massive project, but using its experimental design, Harmon and his team should be able to evaluate exactly what benefit money spent on upgrading schools has for students, teachers and management.

Other cutting-edge research is based on behavioural economics where psychologists and economists team together to look at the risk-taking behaviours that people indulge in, including drinking, smoking, using drugs and even not taking out a

pension. The goal is to identify any policies that can be changed which will lessen this type of risk-taking behaviour. This work involves some of the leading behavioural economics researchers in the world, including international partners at the US-based RAND Corporation.

Early childhood intervention

The institute's research into the effectiveness of early childhood intervention has the greatest potential to transform Irish children's lives over the coming years. The institute's research programme on human development and public policy has attracted some of the world-leading experts in this area as collaborators, such as Professor Richard Tremblay from Montreal, the academic with perhaps the leading reputation in the field and one of the few who straddles the clinical and the academic world. Already, ground-breaking work by Professor Paul Devereux has been produced which has found a huge causal relationship between birth weight and future earnings.

Previous research in this area has found that early intervention can reap enormous rewards with children being less likely to offend, to become teenage parents or to drop out of school. Essentially the argument is that intervening in a disadvantaged child's life in the early stages is far more cost effective than trying to deal with problems

at a later stage. At the moment it is thought that the benefits are as high as 10-1. In others words every dollar spent early will save ten dollars later. However, Harmon says this is likely to be a serious underestimate as previous programmes have only looked at so-called cognitive developments such as IQ scores. His team will also be taking into account the non-cognitive skills such as self-confidence and self-esteem.

Harmon is particularly excited about his role with The Atlantic Philanthropies Disadvantaged Children and Youth (DCY) programme. DCY is a programme aimed at changing the life course of children through providing communities in Ireland and Northern Ireland with the resources to support new childhood interventions which will be evaluated by rigorous methods. Harmon and Heckman lead a research team at both UCD and Chicago in helping to evaluate this effort and provide, where appropriate, scientific support for this next generation of early childhood interventions. "The DCY programme, co-funded in part by the Office of the Minister for Children, is the single biggest initiative of its type ever undertaken, globally, and offers an unprecedented opportunity to conduct high-impact, innovative research on the most effective childhood interventions and the best way to reduce childhood inequalities. Ireland will lead the world in generating practical knowledge

surrounding these issues and in improving children's lives."

According to Harmon, this is an unprecedented scientific event that intersects with changing lives in profound ways, and presents the most exciting opportunity — both academically and socially — to find out what works and does not work when trying to improve the lives of disadvantaged children. The work within these communities has the potential to answer several key questions such as whether working with the parents or the children is the most effective way of improving child outcomes and whether interventions that begin at pregnancy stage are better than ones that start later in the child's life.

Like all of the research programmes in Geary, their methodology is rigorously based on the scientific method. Economists have moved a long way from simply doing cost benefit analysis. "That is only part of what we are now measuring," says Harmon. "It is also crucial to include the non-cognitive and the biological and genetic." After all, the difference some of these projects could make to a child's life, and indeed to society, could well be revolutionary.

Jane Suiter (BA Economics and Politics '89) is a financial and economics journalist and for many years wrote for The Irish Times. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Political Science.

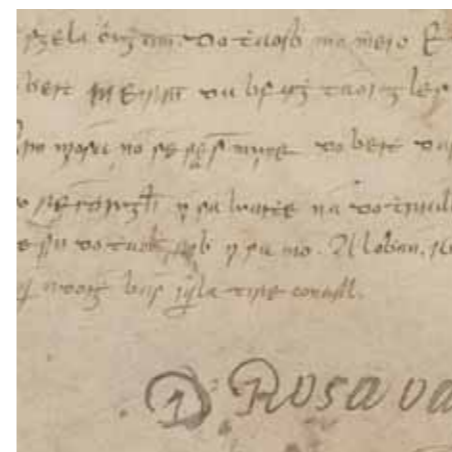


Professor Colm Harmon



COMÓRADH 1607

Tá comóradh i mbliana ar scata eachtra a d'fhág a rian ar stair na hÉireann, ar an ngaol idir Éire agus Sasana, agus go deimhin, ar an stair Ghael-Eorpach féinig. Caitheann Pat Butler súil siar ar bhliain chinniúnach 1607



LUÍONN ROSC ghríosaithe James Clarence Mangan, *O Woman of the Piercing Wail*, 'aistrithe' ón nGaolainn, go mí-chompórdach ar an gcluas chomhaimseartha. Caointear larlaí Thír Eoghain is Thír Chonaill ins an mbladar iomarcach sin a d'ardaigh deor ceofránach i súillibh gach mac is iníon na hathbheochana Cheiltí sa naoú haois déag – gach díograiseoir arbh fhiú a bháinín é, nó, i dteannta na firinne, a báinín í.

*Two princes of the line of Con
Sleep in their cells of clay beside
O'Donnell Rua:*

*Three royal youths, alas! are gone,
Who lived for Erin's weal, but died
For Erin's woe.*

*Ah, could the men of Ireland read
The names those noteless burial-stones
Display to view,*

*Their wounded hearts afresh would bleed,
Their tears rush forth again, their groans
Resound anew!*

A leithéid de ráiméis domhaite! I dteannta a lán eile, ní luíonn sin le firicí na staire ach oiread. Mar a soilsíodh dom le déanaí, ní gach éinne i mbailte fearainn Bhéara a thagann le hinsint eipiciúil Chúlthroid Dhónail Chaim Uí Shúilleabháin ach oiread. Cuir ceist ar aon Néilleach i mbaile fearainn Ghar Inis agus gheobhad léamh eile ar fad ar 'imeacht' ar gcara Súilleabhánach — 'he wasn't called Cam for nothing'. Mar an gcéanna le Teitheadh na nIarlaí. B'ábhar ceiliúradh do Suibhnigh Loch Súilí an bád Spáinneach sin faoi lán

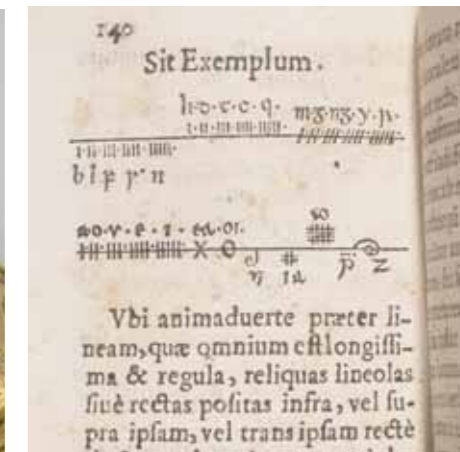


tseoil an cuan amach rompu.

Má bhréagnaíonn an fhirinne an craos náisiúnta don ngaisce eipiciúil, bíodh sin mar atá. Is fiú súil dhíchreidmheach a chaitheamh ar éachtphictiúr Thomas Ryan a léiríonn ollagón na nGael ar chladaigh Shúilí agus an bád bán ag imeacht an cuan amach uathu. Thárla coimhdheascar fuilteach idir fhearaibh an larla agus na Suibhnigh céanna díreach sular imigh an bád. Gach seans gur sin a theilg chun farraige iad faoi dheifir, seachas éileamh na taoide — rud a d'fhág bean torrach Uí Néill agus a mhac Con ar chladaigh na sinsir ina ndiaidh.

Sin go léir ráite, níl aon cheist faoi ach go mba bhliain shuntasach í 1607, ní i stair an dá oileán seo amháin, ach i bhforbairt an chaidrimh leanúnaigh a bhí riamh ann idir Éire agus an Mór-Roinn. Tugann bliain ár dTiarna 2007 an deis dúinn comóradh a dhéanamh ar cheithre eachtra éagsúil atá fite fuaite ina chéile agus a d'fhág a rian orainn mar shocháí is mar thír le ceithre chéad bliain anuas: Teitheadh na nIarlaí; bunú Choláiste Naomh Antaine na Proinsiasach Éireann i Louvain; tús curtha le Plandáil Uladh, agus bás Luke Wadding, an Proinsiasach Éireannach in 1657.

Tá comhórdú á dhéanamh ag Roinn an Taoisigh ar cheiliúradh an cheithre chomóradh sin fán dteideal 'Shared Histories', i ndiaidh do Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall, Institiúid Mhichíl Uí Chléirigh i gColáiste na hOllscoile Baile Átha Cliath, agus an Louvain Institute for Ireland in Europe moladh dá leitheid a cur fá bhráid an rialtais. Mar thoradh ar sin tá clár fairsing imeachtaí,



'Níl aon cheist faoi ach go mba bhliain shuntasach í 1607, ní i stair an dá oileán seo amháin, ach i bhforbairt an chaidrimh leanúnaigh a bhí riamh ann idir Éire agus an Mór-Roinn'



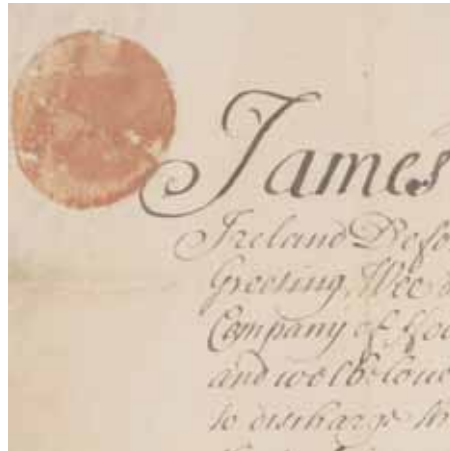
ar chuile leibhéal, faoi lán tseoil cheana féin i gciall is i gcongar.

Ní fada siar sa stair uainn na heachtraí atá á gceiliúradh, ach is tárlúintí iad a chuir marc orainn in eadarlinn na gceithre céad bliana sin, marc atá fós ag obair orainn go léir, fiú go dtí an lá atá inniu ann.

Is nuaíocht domhsa é nár sheol Aodh Ó Néill cuan Loch Súilí amach ina ard-rí neamh-chorónaithe ar Éire Caitliceach, ach gur 'stádas' é seo a 'bronnadh' air ina dheoraíocht. Bhí ainm de dhíth ar eirbeall an tsean-Ord Gaelach a fágadh ar an dtrá fholamh le himeacht na nIarlaí, samhailchomhartha a ghríosfadh an lucht leanúna dearóil chun cur i gcoinne fhórsaí míleata agus spioradálta na Corónach. Thit an Néilleach cois Tiber i gcéin isteach sa ról sin gan dua. Deineadh neamhni dá dhílseacht do Mhaighréad Tudor agus Reibiliú Caitliceach Dheasumhan á cur fá chois fhuilteach aige in 1585. B'shin eachtra náireach nár luadh i leathnaigh shollúnta *An Claidheamh Solais* riamh, ná in *Our Boys* m'óige féinig ach oiread.

Níl aon dabht faoi ach gur chinntigh an Néilleach a theideal is a thailte le fórsa airm i seirbhís na Banríona, bíodh is gur dána an volte face a imreodh sé ar ball ina héadan. D'iompaigh an Néilleach amach ina cheannaire míleata croga, seiftiúil, oilte. Ach má chuir Cionn tSáile caidhp an bháis ar an tSean-Ord Gaelach, ba bhuile báis pearsanta é leis do réimeas Thiarnaí Ulaidh trí chéile.

Ba chor suntasach leis i gcliathán na staire an fuadach agus éaló an Néilligh in 1593 le Mabel Bagenal agus an tóir a cuireadh air dá



bharr. I ndiaidh dó brú a cur ar Easpag Protastúnach na Mí iad a phósadh, chuir an fuadach agus an pósadh an dubh ifreanda ar dheartháir Mabel, an Tiarna Henry Bagenal, ní nach ionadh. Níorbh fhada go raibh Sir Henry sa tóir leanúnach ar 'bush kern' na Banríona Maighread, níos mó le teann díoltais ná dílseachta.

Thit Bagenal sa ghort i gcoinne an Néilligh, ach thug an ghráin phearsanta eatartha sprioc agus faobhar d'fheachtas na Corónach a gheobhadh an lámh in uachtar ar Thír Eoghain i ndeireadh na dála, nó a thiomáineadh chun farraige é, bealach amháin, nó bealach eile.

Ní leor riamh na sean-mheantraí nuair is stair na hÉireann atá faoi chaibidil; is lú a n-iontaofacht fós nuair is stair Ulaidh atá idir chamána agat.

Ceal spáis, is lú an méid atá le rá agam ar Phlandáil Ulaidh, ach go mba phobal righin dúthachtach an dream a thóg seilbh ar na machairí méithe is a thiomáin na Gaeil bhriste chun na n-ardtailte míthorthúla. Má chothaigh na plandálaithe meon cúng an léigir mar phlanda leochaileach ina groíthe istigh, chuir muintir na dísheilbhe a míshástacht in úil sa mhodh traidisiúnta. Le cúnamh Dé, seans gur stair iad, ar deireadh, an dá mheon sin in Uladh na gComhthuisceana Nua.

Níl ach dea-scéal áfach i gceiliúrthaí bhunadh Choláiste Naomh Antaine na Proinsiasach Éireannach i Louvain. Éacht gan comparáid atá curtha i gcrích ag na Proinsiasach thall. Dibeartha as Éirinn in 1607, d'iompaigh Flaithrí Ó Maol Chonaire,

diagóir aitheanta agus comhairleoir de chuid Aoidh Rua Uí Dhomhnaill, d'iompaigh sé an siar sin isteach ina dheis chun áileacht fhadmharthanach a chruthú. Tá Coláiste Louvain ina shéadchomhartha fuinniúil bríomhar dá fhis is dá éacht.

Níl Institiúid níos lárnaí ann, i gciall nó i gcongar, is fearr a chuir le caomhnú oidhreacht chultúrtha na hÉireann. Idir scríobh na staire, cur le éabhlú an ghaoil idir Éire agus an Mór-Roinn, 'Gaelú' ar réimsí suntasacha de eagna Caitliceach na hEorpa, pleanáil agus cur i gcrích an fhreagra Caitliceach ar an Reifirméisean, agus athlonnó an Bhrairse Éireannach d'Ord na bProinsiasach, Ordo Fratrum Minorum, níl coláiste bharrtha Louvain ann.

Bhí Luke Wadding ina réalta diagachta idirnáisiúnta, cluas an Phápa aige, an t-aon Éireannach riamh ar caitheadh votai dó i dtoghchán Pápachta. A chontrárthacht san ná Mícheál Ó Cléirigh, bráthar Proinsiasach, duine de entourage Iarla Thír Eoghain, a d'fhan fá chosaint is fá choimirce Louvain ar feadh a shaoil. Cuireadh chun na hÉireann ar dhiútae sollúnta é idir 1626 agus 1637, chun stair na hÉireann a bhailiú, a cur le chéile agus a chaomhnú. As sin tháinig an croinic Gaelach is tábhachtaí dá aois, Annála na gCeithre Máistri. Áirítear anois na hAnnála céanna i measc seoda litríochta an domhain.

Tá cartlann fhairsing lámhscríbhinní in Institiúid Mhichíl Uí Chléirigh i gColáiste na hOllscoile Baile Átha Cliath, agus stádas sainiúil ag an institiúid céanna i gcúrsaí léinn. Comhfiontar atá ann idir acadamaí ollscoile agus ord domhanda manach nach bhfaighfeá a macsamhail in aon ball eile. Ní nach ionadh ról lárnach ag an Dr John McCafferty agus an Dr Edel Breathnach in obair chomhordaithe na gceiliúrthaí go leir a bhaineann le bhliain chinniúnach 1607, thall is abhus. Tá mionsonraithe na n-imeachtaí go léir le fáil ar www.louvain400.eu/programme.shtml.

Anois, maidir leis an Súilleabháineach Béara agus Néilligh mhúisimeacha na Gar Inse...

Is é Pat Butler an ttriseoir Cónaitheach i Scoil na Gaellge, An Léinn Cheiltigh, Bhéaloides Éireann agus na Teangeolaíochta i gColáiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath, agus sé an Láithreoir/Tuairisceoir Sinsireach in RTÉ.



REMEMBERING 1607

2007 marks the anniversary of several key events that helped shape the course of Irish, Anglo-Irish and Hiberno-European history. Pat Butler journeys back to a seminal year



'It remains an indubitable fact that 2007 marks the anniversary of four key events, whose profound footprint on the course of Irish, Anglo-Irish and Hiberno-European history impinges down to the present day'



THE DECLAMATORY tone of James Clarence Mangan's *O Woman of the Piercing Wail*, a lament for the princes of Tyrone and Tyrconnell and so evocative of much of the worst of 19th century misty-eyed revivalism, falls clangorously dissonant on the contemporary ear —

*Two princes of the line of Con
Sleep in their cells of clay beside
O'Donnell Rua:
Three royal youths, alas! are gone,
Who lived for Erin's weal, but died
For Erin's woe.
Ah, could the men of Ireland read
The names those noteless burial-stones
Display to view,
Their wounded hearts afresh would bleed,
Their tears rush forth again, their groans
Resound anew!*

Not only is this a load of unmitigated doggerel but the traditional telling of the Flight of the Earls in some aspects offends against historical accuracy also. Truth be told, just as Dónal Cam Ó Súilleabháin's departure from Béara is not universally spoken of locally in the hushed heroics usually employed to describe his storied 'retreat' (*ask any O'Neill living to this day in the townland of Gar Inis near Dursy Island and you'll hear a rather less rosy description, 'he wasn't called 'cam/treacherous' for nothing!*), in a similar vein it's worth reminding ourselves that the ship departing for Spain out of Rathmullen on Friday 14 September 1607 was not exactly an unwelcome sight for many of the Suibhneigh,



jeering triumphantly in the finest Erse from Swilly's hallowed shore.

Such truths rest uncomfortably alongside our need for the epic, well served by Thomas Ryan's famous portrait of the Flight of the Earls as a source of great regret to the onlookers. Indeed, prior to hauling anchor there was an unseemly pitched battle between the Suibhneigh and the Earl's men, hence the hurried exit before O'Neill's pregnant young wife (more of whom anon) and his son Con could join them.

That justifiably revisionist take on one aspect of the Flight of the Earls said, it remains an indubitable fact that 2007 marks the anniversary of four key events (in the interlocking way that history has about it), whose profound footprint on the course of Irish, Anglo-Irish and Hiberno-European history impinges down to the present day.

These events are, not necessarily in order of priority: the Flight of the Earls, the foundation of St Anthony's Irish Franciscan College in Louvain, the early beginnings of the Ulster Plantation in 1607 and the death of the Irish Franciscan Luke Wadding (*a first-day-of-issue Irish postage stamp featuring him was part of my childhood 1960's stamp collection*) in 1657. All four anniversaries are being celebrated in the Shared Histories commemorative programme, which is being co-ordinated under the aegis of the Department of An Taoiseach, following the presentation to government of a joint proposal by Donegal County Council, UCD's Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute for the Study of Irish History and

Civilisation and the Louvain Institute for Ireland in Europe.

A veritable welter of year-long activity, academic and popular, Irish and continental, is well underway already. All four interlocking elements continue to reverberate through contemporary Irish, Anglo and European thought and culture. Each is worth teasing out, even within the rather limited horizon of this article.

Those of us reared on heroics will rejoice in the realisation that, far from leaving Lough Swilly the uncrowned king of Catholic Ireland, O'Neill's elevation to that dubious pedestal was more a product of his exile than of his going. The urgency with which the tattered remnants of the old Gaelic order sought a post-1607 figurehead about whom they might rally the disparate forces of Catholic Ireland against the Lords Temporal and Spiritual of the Anglo Plantation/Reformation helped define O'Neill's role in exile. That he had shown 'commendable' loyalty to Elizabeth Tudor in the bloody manner of his suppression of the Catholic Desmond rebellion in Munster has been conveniently omitted from the traditional telling and never quite made it either to *An Claidheamh Solais* or *Our Boys*.

Certainly, O'Neill, having secured his title and land by the sword in the service of the Crown performed a spectacular *volte face* at the Yellow Ford and elsewhere and combined against the Crown subsequently with extraordinary military acumen, courage and commitment. If Kinsale put the kybosh on the old Gaelic order as a way of life and social control, it did also personally for O'Neill and O'Donnell. O'Neill's previous elopement with Mabel Bagenal — rather fancifully compared to Helen of Troy — and his coercion of the Protestant bishop of Meath into marrying them caused a royal scandal. Hugh O'Neill — otherwise known as Lord Tyrone and Elizabeth Tudor's 'bush kern' — was pursued by Mabel's apoplectic brother, Sir Henry Bagenal, more in vengeance than in loyalty. Though fallen in battle, Bagenal's fury set the tone for the subsequent harrying of the beleaguered lords of Ulster, thus triggering their final departure.

It is wise to question the old black and white certainties when exploring Irish history in general and Ulster history in particular.

Space prevents an equal exploration on all four anniversary events. 1607 marks the early beginnings of the Plantation of Ulster with loyal, Protestant stock — a hardy, resourceful people, eventually to grow their well-documented siege mentality in the face of continuous, rumbling resentment of the dispossessed, banished to the barren uplands and well-versed in the warlike modus operandi of their antecedents. Both blighted world views are now, hopefully, a joint thing of the past.

No such reservations attend to the celebrations of the foundation of St Anthony's Irish Franciscan College in Louvain. Indeed, the Franciscan achievement at Louvain is almost without parallel across a wide range of criteria. Effectively banished from Ireland in 1607, Flaithrí Ó Maol Chonaire, Irish Franciscan theologian and aide to Red Hugh O'Donnell, was to transform adversity into a thing of rare, eternal beauty. His Irish College in Louvain, founded directly as a result of the Flight of the Earls, became the focus of an energetic cultural and political project, the fruits of which are enjoyed at home and abroad to this very day.

Louvain became central to the preservation of Ireland's unique cultural heritage, to the writing of Irish history and to the evolution of Ireland's relationship with Europe and the 'hibernisation' of significant areas of European Catholic thinking. It was also key to the strategic planning and execution of the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation and to the relocation of the then world-hub of the Irish Franciscan chapter, the brown-habited Ordo Fratrum Minorum — the Order of Friars Minor.

Luke Wadding blazed a theological trail of some brilliance across the heavens of European thought. A leading ecclesiastical diplomat who influenced many papal appointments to Irish bishoprics, Wadding would become the only Irishman ever to gain votes in a papal conclave. In contrast to such a brilliant public career, Mícheál Ó Cléirigh, one of the Earl of Tyrone's party to remain in



Louvain under Franciscan patronage, quietly masterminded the writing of perhaps the most significant chronicle of Irish history ever undertaken, *The Annals of the Four Masters*. Ó Cléirigh was sent from Louvain to Ireland between 1626 and 1637 to compile the chronicle and to copy mediaeval manuscripts. A Franciscan lay brother and member of the learned hereditary Ua Cléirigh, whose patrons were the O'Donnells, Lords of Tir Chonaill, Mícheál Ó Cléirigh life's work remains a monumental undertaking; a tribute to one man's passion, resourcefulness and unfaltering dedication. It may not be 'history' as we understand that term today but *The Annals of the Four Masters* remains a world masterpiece of unparalleled beauty of purpose and achievement.

UCD's Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute, housing a rich repository of invaluable Louvain manuscripts, is unique in world academia since it is, in essence, a co-operation between a lay university faculty and a world order of friars. The institute's Dr John McCafferty and Dr Edel Breathnach play a central co-ordinating role in the rich celebration of 1607 at home and abroad. Details are available on www.louvain400.eu/programme.shtml.

Now, regarding Ó Súilleabháin Béara and my disgruntled Neillite informant in Gar Inis...

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All images (pages 48-53) courtesy of UCD-OFM partnership, Ger Garland Design and David Davison

ELEPHANT ECONOMY

As Dublin hosts its first Ireland-India Trade Summit, [Jane Suiter](#) looks at the ongoing rapid growth in the Indian economy

THE INDIAN economy is on fire and investors are rushing in to all areas from Bollywood to Mumbai and Bangalore in an attempt to get a bit of the action. The economy is booming, expanding by more than 8% a year over the past 10 years. Last year GDP expanded by a predicted 8.5%, while this year it is expected to top 10% and perhaps even grow faster than China. The government's five-year plan to 2011-12 has an ambitious target of 9% average annual growth.

The sheer scale of this development is not lost on Europeans. The first Ireland-India trade summit was held in Dublin at the end of March this year where Charlie McCreevy, European Commissioner for Internal Market and Services, outlined the huge opportunities for European firms there. This followed the first trade mission to India in 2006 led by the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD. Over 100 companies were represented ranging from Michael McNamara and the Kerry Group to a range of software and financial firms.

Despite its reputation for overarching bureaucracy, the Indian government has done much to liberalise the economy by abolishing a lot of red tape — although some remains. Key has been India's entry to the World Trade Organisation, and the subsequent implementation of important reforms — from rationalising taxes to dismantling trade barriers. Import tariffs have been reduced, wealth tax abolished and there is now free pricing of IPOs.

Despite this growth, poverty levels remain extremely high. There are some 22 billionaires in the country, yet some 260 million people still live on the equivalent of less than US\$1 a day. But there is a growing middle class estimated by some at over 300 million people. New mobile-phone subscriptions, for example, are running at a higher monthly rate than in China.

Where India is really competing is in English-speaking brainpower, particularly in the areas of engineering and computing. The majority of educated people speak English, while the education system is renowned for emphasising quantitative education, says Nick Barniville, MBA programme director at the UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business.

A further competitive advantage for India is its democratic model of government and its legal system based on British common law. The workforce is huge at over 509 million people, although the majority is still involved in agriculture. There are nevertheless some 150 million involved in services.

Global revolution

Stephane Garelli, professor at IMD Business School and the University of Lausanne and director of the World Competitiveness Centre, says the new global revolution is moving advantage from cheap manpower to cheap brainpower, and he points to India's six million plus university students, twice as many as China and three times as many as France. As a result, India is increasingly being seen as a world-class service provider, whereas China remains somewhat labelled as a manufacturing and production centre.

Productivity too is a key selling factor — Kamal Nath, the Indian Minister for Commerce, recently said that Indians would see a 50-hour working week as 'part-time work'. It is a potent mix. Software is one of the sectors that has benefited most, growing at more than 30% a year. Indian software engineers are highly prized in Silicon Valley and indeed in the Digital Hub in Dublin, but many more remain at home. Software exports have grown from US\$128 million in 1991 to US\$17 billion in 2005 with some estimates putting the total at a likely US\$60 billion by 2010. The sector now employs over 1.1 million people. Already more than 200 Fortune 500 companies outsource their software development and maintenance to India.

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors are other key sectors, with the biotech industry growing at almost 40% a year. One of the biggest success stories is Biocon, which Barniville points out was originally set up in Ireland by chief executive Kiran Mazumdar. She is now the honorary Irish consul in Bangalore and one of the top female entrepreneurs in India.

India also faces its own challenges. Despite the optimism, overpopulation is still a major disadvantage, while more prosaically there are growing fears that the economy is overheating. Inflation is running at close to 6%, the stock market is by many valuations overpriced and property prices are soaring. Some economists warn that the reserve Bank of India is not doing enough to curb an asset bubble.

A recent study from Goldman Sachs forecast that India could sustain 8% growth until 2020. This will be dependent, however, on the government paying more for education, making further reforms of the labour market and continuing to cut red tape. Most are hopeful but there remain a few doubters, chief among them *The Economist*. As it said in a recent editorial "Indians are understandably eager for their economy to sprint like a tiger rather than amble along like an elephant. Yet few animals have an elephant's stamina or can travel as far in a day — provided its way is not blocked."

UCD Smurfit School forges links with India

UCD School of Business has long seen the importance of a developing economy like India's. In 2006 UCD Smurfit School signed the first ever Irish-Indian exchange programme with the India Institute of Management in Bangalore (IIM-B), and an MBA group recently returned from a trip to India.

"The first thing that hits you when you land in India is the juxtaposition of rich and poor," says Nick Barniville, MBA programme director at the UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business. "It is very intense but enjoyable. The sights and the smells are very strong and it all sticks in your head. It's a great country with fun, friendly people."

Barniville was one of a number of the MBA group who travelled to India for the first time this year, although he himself had been several times in the past. "We decided it would give our students more competitive advantage to get exposure to business in Asia rather than limit it to Europe. This allows them to build contacts and awareness, which should be an advantage in the jobs market."

Last year the group went to Shanghai and this year divided between Shanghai and India. "A visit to Bangalore should help you understand what might happen to Irish jobs in Ireland," he argues. "It will also prepare you for the future of Irish industry and understand the context and background to outsourcing in India. Anyone who will be working in a large corporation and will be involved in decisions about where they are going to locate their assets should have a good understanding of India's potential and what can or cannot be done there."

He adds that the demand from Chinese students to study abroad is slowing as more colleges expand over there. There is still massive over-demand in India for quality courses, however. "A good Indian business school could have 200,000 people applying for 1,200 places. A lot of quality people simply cannot find a quality place to study."

So far there is only one Indian student on the MBA programme, but Barniville notes there are 15 applications for the programme next year, an indication that the Smurfit School's partnership with the IIM-B is starting to pay dividends.

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Photograph: Frank Monaco/Rex Features

Joanne Cuddihy

A SPORTING CHANCE



Conor McInerney



Ronan Flinn

Gavin Cummiskey speaks to four of this year's crop of UCD scholarship students about the constant challenges of fulfilling their academic and sporting obligations and potential

THE LIFE of a student can be carefree, especially when exams are a speck on the horizon. But there's no such luxury for UCD's 97 sports scholarship students, whose days involve a constant juggling of their chosen sport and their studies. It helps that UCD is now semesterised and that the respective Departments and Schools work in tandem with Brian Mullins's UCD Sport to provide as much assistance as possible. But the bottom line remains the same: these students must still pass their exams while simultaneously advancing their sporting prowess.

To give us a better insight into this challenge, four scholarship students took time out of their hectic schedules to talk about their daily routines. The interviews took place during midterm, a period when others can catch up on notes, study or just take a breather. But not this four...

Rugby player Conor McInerney had just finished his final training session in Benevento, outside Naples, before playing his part in the Irish under-20s Grand Slam-clinching victory over Italy. Irish record-holding 3,000m cyclist Louise Moriarty was en route to Belgium for the start of the road-racing season. Having just started a gap year, 400m Olympic hopeful Joanne Cuddihy was doing some essential shopping before a warm weather training camp in Portugal. Footballer Ronan Flinn, just out of the gym, had one eye fixed firmly on UCD's second game of the season against

Drogheda United the following evening.

These students are exceptional but they're not the only beneficiaries of UCD's ever-evolving scholarship programme. All UCD students get the benefit of the evolving state-of-the-art facilities. "Just because you're not on scholarship it doesn't mean you don't get access to the same opportunities and facilities," says sports development manager, Suzanne Bailey. "You may not be getting the financial reward, but in rugby, for example, there are plenty of guys on the first team who are not on scholarship but benefit from the same access to the same facilities, expert coaching and training as those on scholarships."

Scholarship students benefit from the High Performance Centre, run by world-renowned strength and conditioning specialist Lisa Regan and John Barry, while the UCD Institute of Sports and Health was launched this year under the guidance of former Olympic decathlete Professor Colin Boreham.

Bailey stresses the importance of scholarship students having the opportunity to complete their education in Ireland while still competing at the high end of their respective sports. She points out that this is different to the American system, where many scholarship students become burned out because they are expected to compete in collegiate competitions each week.

It comes back to striving for an even split between sporting and

'I have about 32 hours in studio a week. Another 20 hours of project work. Then there is 20 hours training'



Louise Moriarty

academic progress. In this regard, the UCD Horizons scheme caters for the student. "This means that all the courses in UCD are now studied on a modular basis over two semesters," explains Bailey. "It is done on a credit system, where a student is required to complete 60 credits in a full year of study. Though there are mandatory modules within their programmes, students can tailor their degree. In Joanne Cuddihy's case she is able to defer a whole semester without being disenfranchised."

Cuddihy, a fifth-year medical student, reached the final of the European championships in Gothenburg last year. The silver medal picked up by former scholarship student Derval O'Rourke at the same event attracted much of the attention, but this was a highly significant step in Cuddihy's track career.

The world championship comes in August, followed by the Beijing Olympics next year. UCD Horizons allows Cuddihy to halt her studies to ensure an unimpeded climb to the peak of her sprinting prowess. "I'll definitely be going back next March," insists the 22-year-old Kilkenny native. "I will then have four months before the Olympics next year so hopefully I can make that more training friendly, but everyone in UCD has always been helpful."

"There are other sporting structures in place – like Athletics Ireland – but the High Performance Centre is such a professional set-up," she says. Now, thanks to Regan's global connections, Cuddihy departs for California soon to train with the best sprint coach in the world, Dan Paff, trainer of Donovan Bailey amongst others.

Moriarty, a 29-year-old engineering graduate, returned to college this year to study architecture. She took up cycling just six years ago when her brother, and coach, Patrick, cajoled her onto the bike after injuries hampered a potential long jump and sprinting career. She has her sights set on getting to Beijing, while also building solid foundations for life after sport. "It's a bit of a juggling act being a scholarship student. I have about 32 hours in studio a week. Another 20 hours of project work. Then there is 20 hours training."

"I find ways around it all. I use the commute from Glasnevin as my recovery ride after the gym. When I need to do more, away from the

traffic, I might go up Howth hill four or five times." The last remark gives an insight into her character. It takes an iron will to be a cyclist.

"I may need some leeway next year in terms of college but I still have to get the work done," she says. "Thankfully the terms fall well as regards competitions."

McInerney began studying for his Business and Law degree two years ago after captaining the Leinster Schools. His rise through the ultra competitive second row ranks is on schedule. He serves four masters: academia, UCD rugby, the Leinster Academy and the Ireland Under-20s.

"I need an exact daily routine in place otherwise it would become impossible," he explains. It starts at 7.15am with weights and a speed session. Then it's off to lectures. On Tuesday and Thursday nights there is training with UCD, where he plays on the 1st XV.

"As I might be in camp with Ireland I have to work twice as hard," he says. "I have to organise who I get notes off if I miss lectures, and put aside time to study as you still have to do all the work. It becomes intense around exam time, but ideally I want to get my degree and then reassess where my rugby career is at." He doesn't bother to mention the weekly games — the guy is a full-time professional disguised as a student.

The same can be said of Finn. Despite spurning a three-year deal in England with Cambridge United, Finn still managed to break into the Irish Under-21 side last season. His exploits for UCD in the Eircom League ensured increased fame for the Sports Management student.

"Everyone in my family went to college so when it came to a choice between professional terms in England or further study I felt I needed to focus on the Leaving Certificate," he explains. "With the amount of players leaving Ireland at the moment, if I continue to perform for UCD that option may present itself in the future."

He'll have a plan B and even a plan C, no doubt. That's what it's all about for these scholarship students: creating choices.

Gavin Cummliskey (BA '01 History and Politics) is currently a sports reporter for The Irish Times. He attained an MA in Journalism from Dublin City University in 2003.

BEYOND BEIJING

As thoughts turn to the Olympic Games in the autumn of next year, eminent UCD sports director, Professor Colin Boreham, tells **Michael Scully** that the real benefit to Irish sport will involve what happens beyond Beijing

THE LIST of Irish athletes travelling to Beijing to participate in the 2008 Olympic Games will include several UCD students and alumni, most notably Derval O'Rourke, the world indoor 60m hurdles Silver medallist, and Joanne Cuddihy, the national 200m and 400m champion.

According to UCD's Director of the Institute for Sport and Health, Professor Colin Boreham, they will receive every ounce of support and expertise that can be provided within the confines of Belfield. However, with just over a year to go to the Games, Boreham says that the onus is now firmly on the athletes and their coaches.

A former Olympian himself — he represented Great Britain in the 1984 Los Angeles Games, when he was in the decathlon with Daley Thompson — Antrim-born Boreham claims that it would be a great achievement for O'Rourke just to reach the 100m hurdles final. "It's a tough challenge. At that level you are facing the best in the world," he says. "Ireland does have other possible medal winners. The rowers, the lightweight four, are performing at a world-class level and are very consistent. The boxer, Darren Sutherland, is very promising and the eventer Jessica Kuerten is world ranked."

What excites Boreham are the possibilities that exist beyond next year. Specifically, he's focused on what can be achieved for sport at UCD. "What UCD is interested in is a long-term contribution and it does have an important role, along with the other third-level institutions. What we want is long-term athlete development," he stresses.



Professor Colin Boreham

He cites the submission currently before the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, John O'Donoghue TD — which positions UCD as a lynchpin in Ireland's preparations for future Olympic Games — as an example of what the university is striving to achieve. "We provide a unique combination of sporting facilities, tradition, expertise and medical back-up on site," says Boreham. "Therefore what we want is for UCD to become a Centre of Excellence for the 2012 Games in London, and beyond."

"Ireland as a base for the London Games is quite an attractive proposition and if we are talking about a legacy after the Olympics, it would be to develop an infrastructure that will stand to us for the future," he continues. "We have the facilities and the playing fields, we have some of the best scientists interested in sport in the country and we have the halls of residence. This is a wonderful sporting environment and I'm hopeful that in years to come UCD will be recognised as an elite sporting location."

Encouraging talent

Boreham also speaks of the need for Ireland to put systems in place to ensure it is not relying on talent coming through

fortuitously. "We can't afford to have a system like the US and other major nations," he points out. "They can allow talent to bubble to the surface because there is so much competition, so much depth. Instead, we have to look at adopting a system like the one in place in Cuba. Talent there is actively sought out and identified in schools. If you have a boy who is 6'4" and doesn't like rugby, put him in a rowing boat and see what he can do."

"But we're getting there, and one of the key things is that the right people are being appointed to key positions now," he adds. He namechecks Steve Martin, the chief executive of the Olympic Council of Ireland, who was a double Olympic Gold medal winner for Great Britain in hockey and who worked for years for the British Olympic Association. He also mentions Sean Kelly, the former GAA president, who is now the head of the Irish Institute for Sport, and Olympic Silver medallist John Treacy, who is with the Irish Sports Council. And he speaks highly of the work being done by Brian Mullins, the UCD Director of Sport.

All of these figures, Boreham believes, are aiding the process of increasing Ireland's medal chances in Beijing and beyond. "Elite sport is now a very expensive business," he acknowledges. "We have to make sure we have everything in place to give our athletes every advantage."

Michael Scully (BA '92) is Chief Sports Writer with the Irish Daily Mirror. He graduated from UCD with a degree in History and Greek and Roman Civilization, before completing a higher diploma in Journalism at DIT Aungler Street.

GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS: MEDICAL

The UCD Medical Graduates' Association is open to all medical graduates of UCD. 2006 was an exciting year for the association as plans have been made to co-ordinate new events and restructure existing events. Professor Bill Powderly, Head of the UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science, has pledged the School's support for the association and has allocated administrative support directly from the School. The association welcomes Deirdre Brophy to the committee of the MGA as its Public Relations Officer. We are pleased to announce the launch of the association's new website, which can be found at www.ucd.ie/medicine/alumni/medicalgraduatesassociation.htm.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Annual Medical Gala Dinner

The UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science will celebrate the graduation of the Final Medical Year Class of 2007 at its annual Gala Dinner on 7 June 2007. The MGA will present its Distinguished Graduate Award and Student of the Year Award at this event. Members of the MGA are most welcome to attend. Further information is available from Deirdre Brophy at the UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science, Health Sciences Building, Belfield, Dublin 4. Telephone +353 1 716 6648 or email deirdre.c.brophy@ucd.ie.

PAST EVENTS

Alumni Gala Reunion & North American MGA Annual Scientific Meeting

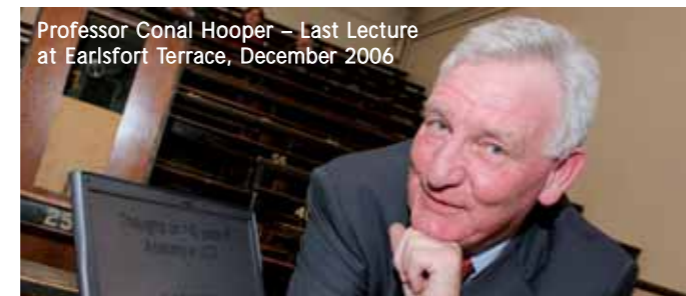
The UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science and the MGA have just launched a new event that it hopes will take place on an annual basis, celebrating the classes who graduated 60, 50, 40, 30, 25, 20 and 10 years ago. The weekend event started on Friday, 4 May with a complimentary Gala Dinner, allowing graduates the opportunity to reminisce on their days in UCD in style. On Saturday morning, graduates had an opportunity to view the state-of-the-art facilities in the new Medical School with a tour of the new Health Sciences Building. Following this, the School was delighted to welcome back its North American Medical Graduates as they opened their Annual Scientific Meeting with a keynote address by Dr Ruth O'Regan.

Medical Graduates of the classes of 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1998 – keep a check on www.ucd.ie/medicine/alumni for details of your event in 2008.

UCD MGA/UCD Medical Society Annual Careers Guidance Seminar

The Annual Careers Guidance Seminar was held on Tuesday, 27 March. Organised by the MGA and the UCD Medical Society, programme directors in medicine, surgery, anaesthetics, pathology, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, psychiatry and general practice gave a short overview of entry into basic training in their individual specialities. This was followed by one-to-one advice given by professors, lecturers and specialist registrars of the Mater and St Vincent's University Hospitals. This year's event was another great success, with special thanks going to Patrick Kelly, auditor of UCD Med Soc and to all the Med Soc team together with sponsors for the evening, Bank of Ireland and the Medical Protection Society.

Last Lecture at Earlsfort Terrace & MGA AGM



Professor Conal Hooper – Last Lecture at Earlsfort Terrace, December 2006



Mr Martin O'Donohoe, Honorary Secretary MGA; Dr Ted Murphy, President MGA; and Dr Jane Dolan, Treasurer MGA

In December 2006, a 90-year era came to an end as the Medical School moved from Earlsfort Terrace to its new state-of-the-art building on the Belfield Campus.

To mark this momentous occasion, Professor Conal Hooper (Emeritus Professor of Anatomy) delivered a highly informative and entertaining lecture on The History of Anatomy in UCD in the old anatomy lecture theatre. The lecture covered all aspects of Dublin and UCD anatomy from the grave robbers to the present day and gave many interesting and amusing historical vignettes into UCD past and present.

The evening commenced with a wine reception in the foyer of the Anatomy building, where medical graduates came together to reminisce on their days in Earlsfort Terrace.

Before the lecture, the MGA held its AGM. The President Dr Ted Murphy spoke on the past and future of the organisation and the need for increased involvement of young graduates. He stated his hope that, with the support of the UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science, a new beginning and bright future for the association could be forged.

Dr Murphy is due to continue for a further year as president, and Mr Martin O'Donohoe and Dr Jane Dolan have a further two years

GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS: MEDICAL

to run as secretary and treasurer respectively. All were returned unopposed. There were no new proposals for the committee.

The evening culminated with some of the members adjourning to Hartigan's pub to catch up on their social studies in an establishment well known by medical students for its quality of teaching. It was a most enjoyable and nostalgic evening and thanks to all who made it such a great success, all the members who attended and especially Professor Conal Hooper, Dr Patrick Felle, Mr Peter McLoughlin and to Professor Bill Powderly who kindly sponsored the refreshments for the evening.

MGA Annual Scientific Meeting



Pictured from left, were Prof John Fitzpatrick; Prof Ralph deVere White, winner of the Distinguished Graduate Award; Dr Ted Murphy, president UCD MGA; Dr John Burke, winner of the Meenan Medal; and Dr Donal Brennan, winner of the O'Connell Medal

The Ninth Annual Scientific Meeting of the MGA and the presentation of the Distinguished Graduate Award was held at the Catherine McAuley Education & Research Centre, Mater Misericordiae Hospital followed by dinner at the Medical Board Building at 59 Eccles St on Friday, 10 November 2006.

Dr John P. Burke was awarded the Patrick Meenan Medal (an award for outstanding research in medicine or surgery, which accumulates points towards entry to postgraduate training in either field) for his research on endoglin in Crohn's disease. Dr Burke presented his exceptional research paper – 'Endoglin: a novel regulator of fibroblast function in Crohn's disease associated fibrostenosis'.

The O'Connell Medal (an award for outstanding research work in oncology/haematology, which accumulates points towards entry to postgraduate training) was awarded to Dr Donal Brennan

for his excellent research paper which he presented on the evening: 'CA IX is an independent prognostic marker in premenopausal breast cancer patients with 1 to 3 positive lymph nodes and a putative marker of radiation resistance'.

Our sincere congratulations to Dr Burke and Dr Brennan on these magnificent achievements.

The Distinguished Graduate Award was presented to Dr Ralph deVere White, introduced by Professor John Fitzpatrick, consultant surgeon at the Mater Hospital. Dr deVere White is chair of urology and director of the Cancer Center at UC Davis and is a graduate of the UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science. He is also president-elect of the Society of Urologic Oncology, the leading organisation dedicated to developing new treatment strategies for urologic cancers.

UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science Annual Medical Gala Dinner



Dr Ted Murphy, President of the Medical Graduates Association, and Dr Wen-Yuan Chung, winner of the MGA Student of the Year Award

The Annual Medical Gala Dinner is a formal dinner held to celebrate the graduation of the Final Medical Year class each year. The 2006 event, held on Friday 9 June, was a fantastic success. Graduates, their families, friends and UCD Medical School staff together with staff from the teaching hospitals and members of the MGA attended this highly enjoyable evening. The MGA Student of the Year Award, as nominated by the Final Medical Class of 2006, was awarded to Dr Wen-Yuan Chung. This award was presented by Dr Ted Murphy, president of the UCD Medical Graduates Association, and was sponsored by Pfizer Healthcare, with many thanks.

Further MGA information & contact details

President: Dr Ted Murphy; Honorary Secretary: Mr Martin O'Donohoe; Treasurer: Dr Jane Dolan

Committee Members:

Dr Pauline O'Connell, Professor Irene Hillary, Professor William Powderly, Dr Declan Keane, Dr Brendan O'Daly, Dr Declan O'Callaghan, Professor Michael Moriarity, Dr John Donohoe, Ms Deirdre Brophy

To join the Medical Graduates' Association please see www.ucd.ie/alumni/join_alumni_association.htm. Once you have

become a member of the Alumni Association, you will automatically become a member of the MGA.

Contact Details:

Deirdre Brophy, UCD Medical Graduates Association, UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science, Health Sciences Centre, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4.

T: 353 1 716 6648 F: 353 1 716 6651

email: deirdre.c.brophy@ucd.ie

web: www.ucd.ie/medicine/alumni/medicalgraduatesassociation.htm

GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS: ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION

The Engineering Graduates' Association (EGA) is open to all graduates of engineering in UCD. The 2007 Annual Luncheon will take place on 20 June. All graduates are welcome and may invite colleagues or take a table. For more information or to make a booking please contact Caitriona Boushel (BE '03) at Caitriona.boushel@ee.ucd.ie or tel +353 1 7161853.

Award of Gold Medals

Annually, the EGA awards Gold Medals for Excellence in Engineering to graduating engineers. At the last ceremony, held on 26 June 2006 in the Clinton Auditorium foyer in Belfield, the Gold Medals were awarded to those achieving first place in their respective disciplines. The recipients of the 2006 Gold Medals were:

Biosystems Engineering	Richard Kennedy
Chemical Engineering	James Neylon
Civil Engineering	Paul Doherty
Electrical Engineering	Gary McGowan
Electronic Engineering	Elaine Corbett & Alan Power
Mechanical Engineering	Kevin O'Flynn



EGA President Simon Kelly with the recipients of the 2006 Gold Medals



Tony O'Brien, immediate past president of the EGA, and Prof J. Owen Lewis

Annual EGA Luncheon

The Annual Luncheon of the EGA was held in O'Reilly Hall, Belfield on 30 June 2006. As usual, this event was very well attended and offered graduates a unique opportunity to meet old friends and share experiences.

At the luncheon, the EGA made a presentation to Professor J. Owen Lewis, the last Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, which ceased to exist when the university was restructured in 2005. Engineering graduates of UCD showed their appreciation to Professor Lewis on the day and a presentation was made by the immediate past president of the EGA, Tony O'Brien (BE '74). For full details of the UCD College of Engineering, Mathematical & Physical Sciences go to www.ucd.ie/engscience/index.html.

Distinguished Graduate Award

At the 2006 Annual Luncheon, the president of the EGA, Simon Kelly (BE '75) presented the 2006 Distinguished Graduate Award to Pat Mercer (BE '69, MEngSc '70). Pat entertained the guests with his stories of college days and anecdotes from his career. Previous recipients of the award were PJ Rudden (2002), Joe O'Donovan (2003), Vincent O'Doherty (2004) and Jim Dooge (2005).

Following graduation and a career in Kosangas and Calor in the 1960s and 1970s, Pat Mercer established Flogas in the late 1970s and formed the first Irish plc in 1983. Originally Flogas was established as a regional provider of LPG in the north east. However, with Pat's vision and leadership, the company went on to compete on the national stage and to enter the UK market. He was singularly involved in the purchase of Portagas in the UK, which expanded the company's operations into a much bigger market, and this was followed with the purchase of Go-Gas in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1985.



From left: Pat Mercer and Simon Kelly, president of the EGA

He was chairman of the Irish Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association and represented the Irish LPG sector in a variety of state and European bodies. Significantly, he was an extremely influential chairman of the European body, the AGLP.

GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS: UCD WOMEN

The UCD Women Graduates' Association (WGA) is affiliated to the Irish Federation of University Women (IrFUW), University Women of Europe (UWE) and the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), which has consultative status within the UN. Membership forms can be obtained by writing to the Honorary Secretary, UCD-WGA, c/o UCD University Relations, Room 204, Tierney Building, Belfield, Dublin 4 or by email to women.graduates@ucd.ie. Annette Durkan (BA '63, H Dip Ed '64, DipEdAdm '92) is the current President of UCD WGA.

Autumn study weekend

The WGA's main project in 2006 was the organisation and hosting of the annual IrFUW study weekend, which was held in October in the Burlington Hotel. The theme of the conference was: 'Women: Agents of Change in the Developing World'. Addressing the conference, we were very fortunate to have Professor Helen O'Neill, Professor Emeritus and founding director of the Centre for Development Studies at UCD, and Dr Magdalene Umoren, Medical Missionaries of Mary, who has worked in the Developing World. We were also privileged to have Mary Akrami, a women's rights activist from Afghanistan, as a participant.



Pictured above are some of the delegates awaiting the start of the conference

UCD-WGA President Annette Durkan presenting the trophy to the winning team from Coláiste Iosagáin, Stillorgan, at the UCD heat of the Girl's under-15 Public Speaking Competition



Park, the Barry Flanagan sculptures at the Irish Museum of Modern Art, and to the Yeats' Exhibition at the National Library. There were also visits to the National Concert Hall, to the theatre and to Co. Kildare.

Pictured above are some of the group who travelled to Kildare

Our fundraising this year was in the form of a bridge evening, held in April with the proceeds going to UCD Choral Scholars, and a book sale in September for the UCD New Era Programme (www.ucd.ie/newera/).

EVENTS HELD IN 2006

In September 2006, the Annual Conference of the University Women of Europe (UWE) was held in The Hague. UCD-WGA was very well represented at this event, which had as its theme: 'Empowerment of European Women – Building Peace or Conflict?' The programme included educational/cultural activities in The Hague, Leiden and Delft.

The WGA heat of the Irish Federation's (IrFUW) Public Speaking Competition for girls under 15 was held in February 2007. The team award went to Coláiste Iosagáin, Dublin and the Individual Best Speaker award went to Eve Kearney from Wesley College. These four speakers represented the WGA in the national final of the competition in Trinity College Dublin on 3 March 2007.

Other activities during the year included an outing to the Collins Barracks Museum to see the exhibition of Philip Treacy's hats for Isabella Blow 'When Philip Met Isabella', visits to Croke

The WGA is appealing to all UCD graduates to send in photographs from your time spent in UCD. These photos are a priceless and irreplaceable record of life in UCD over the decades. Photos should be accompanied by a Photo-Call form that can be found online at www.ucd.ie/alumni/wga or can be requested by writing to UCD Photo-Call, c/o UCD University Relations, Room 204, Tierney Building, Belfield, Dublin 4. Photographs donated will be gratefully received but if you want them returned they will be copied and posted back to you. Soft copies of photos should be emailed to women.graduates@ucd.ie. Please contact the WGA first regarding the size and format required.

GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS: LAW

Curriculum development

This academic year saw the first Irish intake into the new double degree BCL/Maîtrise programme. Students will qualify with a BCL degree from UCD and a Maîtrise from the University of Panthéon-Assas (Paris II). Three new composite degrees were also introduced BCL (with politics), BCL (with philosophy) and BCL (with history).

Inaugural lecture



Professor Imelda Maher and Mr Peter Sutherland SC

Professor Imelda Maher, Sutherland Professor of European Law, delivered her Inaugural Lecture, 'Paradox and Law in the European Union', on Thursday, 2 November, 2006. Mr Peter Sutherland SC was Guest of Honour.

For a copy of the inaugural lecture visit www.ucd.ie/law/v2/images/maher_inugural_text.pdf.

€4 million for new law school at UCD

Peter Sutherland SC has made a major leadership gift of €4 million towards the development of a new law school at UCD campus at Belfield. This follows the recent inauguration of Professor Imelda Maher as the Sutherland Chair of European Law at UCD.

The gift will be a significant factor in raising additional funds from government and other sources for the €20 million development.

The UCD School of Law has 30 full-time staff and over 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Its long history has influenced the emergence of the Irish State, as most Attorneys General and Superior Courts justices, along with numerous cabinet ministers and business leaders, have been UCD law graduates.

Speaking of the Sutherland donation, the president of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady said: "Peter Sutherland is one of our most distinguished alumni. His generosity will enable us to transform the undergraduate experience of our law students. It will enhance the linkages with the humanities, social sciences and business. It will facilitate the development of fourth-level legal education and research. It will also increase our capacity in Continuing Professional Education in key areas such as European law, commercial law, competition law and intellectual property rights, as well as the development of new programmes in humanitarian law and public international law."

Peter Sutherland is chairman of BP and of Goldman Sachs International. He was Attorney General between 1981 and 1984, EC Commissioner responsible for competition policy between 1985 and 1989, Director General of GATT between 1993 and 1995 and then the first Director General of the World Trade Organisation. He has received 14 honorary doctorates including an honorary knighthood (UK 2004), a Knight of the Legion d'Honneur (France) and the first European Law Prize (Paris 1988). Mr Sutherland is a former tutor and visiting professor at UCD.



Pictured welcoming Mr Justice Adrian Hardiman to the UCD School of Law is Professor Paul O'Connor, Dean of the Law School

Judge in Residence

Mr Justice Adrian Hardiman of the Supreme Court has joined the staff of the UCD School of Law as Judge in Residence for this academic session. The Judge in Residence programme is the only one of its kind in Ireland. Previous holders of the post include the former Chief Justice, Mr Ronan Keane, Mr Justice Frank Griffin and Mr Justice Donal Barrington. During the course of his residency in the law school Mr Justice Hardiman will deliver a number of lectures to the student body as well as engaging with academics in staff seminars. One of the primary purposes of the Judge in Residence programme is to provide an interface between members of the judiciary and the academic legal community.

Mr Justice Hardiman is a graduate of UCD where he studied history, and of the King's Inns where he qualified as a barrister. Following his call to the Bar in 1974, he practised as a barrister for the next 26 years before becoming senior counsel in 1989. Mr Justice Hardiman was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2000.

He is a Bencher of the King's Inns, a Master of the Bench of the Middle Temple, London and a member of the Royal Irish Academy.

At a reception to formally welcome Mr Justice Hardiman to the UCD School of Law, the Dean, Professor Paul O'Connor, said he hoped that the revival of the Judge in Residence programme would provide the opportunity for a dialogue that will enrich the law school's educational mission, a mission that would be incomplete in the absence of engaging with those who either practise law or adjudicate on its meaning and application.

GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS: LAW

Mr Dermot Gleeson joins UCD School of Law as Adjunct Professor

Mr Dermot Gleeson, one of the country's most distinguished barristers, has joined the staff of the UCD School of Law as Adjunct Professor. Mr Gleeson graduated from UCD with a degree in Economics and Politics and a master's degree in law.

Mr Gleeson served as Attorney General from 1994 to 1997. He is currently non-executive chairman of Allied Irish Banks and chairman of the Irish Council for Bioethics. He also acts as ombudsman for De Beers in its relations with the 100 largest diamond merchants in the world.

Mr Gleeson's principal areas of practice are commercial law and constitutional law. Mr Gleeson has prepared a schedule of classes and has participated in a staff seminar on the relationship between the legal academy and the legal practitioner. He was welcomed to the UCD School of Law by the Dean, Professor Paul O'Connor, at a reception held on 31 January.

2006 30th Annual Prizegiving Bank of Ireland/Law School

The UCD School of Law recently honoured the outstanding achievement of its students at the 30th Annual Student Awards, held in the House of Lords, College Green. Sponsored by Bank of Ireland since their inception, the Student Awards are presented to the top students in one subject in each of First, Second and Third BCL.



This year's prize winners were (from left): Maeve O'Rourke, 1 BCL Tort Essay Silver Medal; James Egan, 3 BCL Jurisprudence Silver Medal; Larissa Lool, 3 BCL Jurisprudence Gold Medal; David Cluxton, 1 BCL Tort Essay Bronze Medal; Professor Mary Clayton, Vice-President for Student Affairs deputising for President Brady; Professor Paul O'Connor, Dean, School of Law; Paul Ward, 1 BCL Tort lecturer and prizegiving organiser; Mr Brian Goggin, Group Chief Executive, Bank of Ireland; Brian Byrne, 2 BCL EU Law Bronze Medal; Diarmuid Laffan, 1 BCL Tort Essay Gold Medal; Orlaith Sheehy, 2 BCL EU Law Gold Medal; Mr Justice Michael Moriarty, Adjudicator of the Tort Essay; and Kathrina Bray, 2 BCL EU Law Silver Medal.

Irish European Law Forum



Pictured at the Annual Irish European Law Forum in Newman House: Back row (from left): Prof Simon Deakin, University of Cambridge; Prof Deirdre Curtin, University of Utrecht; Prof Kenneth Armstrong, Queen Mary University of London; Prof Blanaid Clarke, UCD School of Law; Prof Peer Zumbansen, Osgoode Hall Law School; Prof Julia Black, London School of Economics; Prof Niamh Moloney, University of Nottingham; Dr Gavin Barrett, UCD School of Law. Front row (from left): Mr Patrick McGovern, Partner, Arthur Cox; Professor Imelda Maher, Sutherland Chair in European Law, UCD School of Law; Professor Collin Scott, UCD School of Law; Mr Dan Mulhall, Director General, European Division, Department of Foreign Affairs (Absent from photo: Prof Tamara Hervey, University of Sheffield).

Now in its tenth year, the Irish European Law Forum is an annual conference under the auspices of the UCD School of Law where invited scholars and practitioners present papers to an expert audience of their peers.

The forum aims to provide an opportunity for academics and practitioners to engage and to exchange views on EU law. Through the forum's annual conference leading academics present their research in order to stimulate scholarly debate in Ireland on EU law.

A different theme is chosen each year for the conference, which is held in the historic Newman House, St Stephen's Green, Dublin. This year's theme was 'Regulating Liberalising Markets and Social Europe: New Governance in the EU'.

Criminal Law Codification project

The Tánaiste and Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Michael McDowell TD, recently announced the second phase of a major development in Irish criminal law. This involved establishing a new statutory committee to oversee a project to codify all substantive criminal law into one easily accessible penal code. The Criminal Law Codification Advisory Committee will be chaired by Professor Finbarr McAuley from the UCD School of Law.

To underpin the work of the committee, the Tánaiste also announced innovative administrative and research support arrangements for the Advisory Committee. These involve the establishment of a dedicated Research Support Unit at UCD, which will be funded by the Tánaiste's department. The Research Support Unit will be located in the UCD School of Law and will undertake the research tasks assigned to it by the Advisory Committee, becoming, in the longer term, a centre of excellence for the codification process.

ORGANISE A REUNION

UCD Alumni & Development office offers a support service for those wishing to organise a class/club reunion. Call us on +353 1 7161447 or email alumni@ucd.ie for more information. We'd be delighted to include photos of your reunions in next year's magazine.



BAgSc Class of 1956 pictured on the front lawn of Albert College in the summer of 1956

GOLDEN JUBILEE 2006

Over 135 graduates from the Class of 1956 attended their Golden Jubilee in O'Reilly Hall on Friday, 20 October 2006. The day started with an ecumenical service, followed by a ceremony commemorating their graduation 50 years ago and a lunch

for the jubilarians and guests.

Professor Patrick Cunningham (BAgrSc '56, MAgSc '57) addressed the gathering after lunch, recalling memories of his time in UCD and also speaking of his work abroad and at home.



BAgSc Class of 1956 at their Golden Jubilee in 2006 (Patrick Cunningham, guest speaker is 3rd from right, 2nd row)

RUBY AND SILVER JUBILEE 2006

The president of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady welcomed back graduates from 1966 and 1981 at the Ruby & Silver Jubilee celebration in O'Reilly Hall on Saturday, 4 November 2006. Over 320 alumni attended. Dáithí O'Ceallaigh (BA '66) and Heather Ann McSharry (BComm '81) were guest speakers on the night.



Flonnuala Monks (BMus '81), Colma Brioscú (BA '80)



Mary O'Neill, Owen O'Neill (MVB '66), Mary Cummins, Harry Cummins (MVB '66)

HOMECOMING RECEPTION 2006

Alumni from home and abroad gathered in Newman House on 22 December 2006 for UCD's Christmas Homecoming Reception. Dr Pádraic Conway, Vice-President for University Relations, welcomed all present, including alumni from the UK, Europe, the US, Asia, Australia and all corners of Ireland.



Claran Murtagh, Louise Gibney and Nuala Doyle



Dr Graham Wilson, Claire Kenna, Dr Ann Barry and Helen Mahony



Dr Andrew and Gurmeet Keaveny with Dr Phillip Nolan, Registrar, UCD

PAST REUNIONS

UCD Karate Club

A committee was formed in early 2006 for the 30th anniversary celebrations of the Karate Club. The event took place in March 2007 and approximately 70 past members attended. A Saturday afternoon class was part of the celebrations. To contact the club, email Jimmy at jimmy.fearon@dataconversion.ie.

BE 1996

Mark Hughes organised the 10-year reunion of the Engineering Class of 1996. The reunion took place in the Schoolhouse Bar on 19 August 2006 and celebrated 10 years out in the big bad world!

BAgSc 1996

The 10-year reunion took place on Saturday, 24 June 2006 in Flannery's Bar, Camden Street, Dublin. Marina Conway and Ollie Walsh organised the enjoyable night.

MB BCh BAO 1991

Tony Holohan and committee members organised a 15-year reunion of the class of 1991. The event was held on 25 November 2006 in Scruffy Murphy's, off Mount Street, Dublin 2 and the graduates enjoyed a night of 80s music.

BComm 1981

Click the Slideshow option at the top of the webpage www.photobox.ie/album/4411867 to view all the images.

BE 1966

The 40-year reunion of the Engineering Class of 1966 was held in September 2006 in Druids Heath. A group of 47 graduates attended along with two former staff members, Vincent McCabe and Jim Lacy.



UPCOMING REUNIONS/EVENTS

UCD Women's Golf Outing

Date: 2 July 2007

Venue: Milltown Golf Club

There will be dinner and prize giving on the evening in the club. For further details contact Jacqueline Fitzgerald at jacqueline.fitzgerald@ucd.ie.

Engineering Class of 1967

Date: 31 August 2007

Venue: Druids Marriott Hotel

The Engineering Class of 1967 Committee, c/o Courtney Murphy, can be contacted at murphycj@iol.ie. Full details of the event and how to book are on the website www.tallrite.com/1967reunion.htm.

Golden Jubilee of the Class of 1957

Date: 14 September 2007

Venue: O'Reilly Hall, UCD

Contact alumni@ucd.ie for more information.

Medical Class of 1977

Date: 19-21 October 2007

Venue: Dromoland Castle, Co. Clare

The weekend will kick off with registration and a traditional welcoming reception from 5pm on Friday, 19 October 2007. Contact Marian McGee at marianmcgee@eircom.net for further information.

MIE Graduate Evening

Date: 26 June 2007

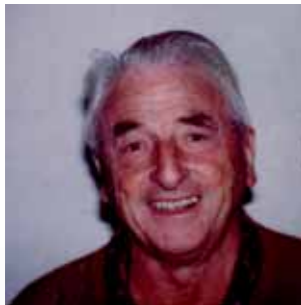
Venue: Engineering Building, Belfield

The annual gathering, at which the Deloitte medal for the graduating MIE class of 2007 is to be presented, will be held in the Engineering Building, Belfield on June 26, 2007 at 7.30pm. Details from Martine at +353 01 7161887 or mie@ucd.ie.

CLASS NOTES

Thank you to all our graduates who sent material for our Class Notes section. Due to the large number of submissions received, we have edited them considerably. Apologies for any resulting omissions.

[1940s]



NOEL MULVIN BComm '47

Noel was called to the Irish Bar in 1954 and became a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute in 1951. He was president of the Insurance Institute of Dublin in 1974 and president of the Insurance Institute of Ireland in 1975. Noel worked in Hibernian Insurance Dublin, Commercial Union Assurance in London and retired as chief executive of the Motor Insurers Bureau of Ireland in 1992. At 84 he still enjoys a round of golf!

INVITE FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to submit Class Notes for inclusion in our next edition of *UCD Connections* please contact **Sinéad Dolan**, UCD Alumni & Development on tel + 353 1 7161698 or email sinead.dolan@ucd.ie.

Submissions should be no more than 100 words and photographs are welcome. We look forward to hearing from you!

If any information is printed incorrectly, please contact UCD Alumni & Development on tel +353 1 7161698 and the error will be corrected in the next issue.



PROF EMERITUS CONOR WARD MB BCh BAO '47, DipCh '49, MD '51

Conor also has MRCP '52, FRCPI '82, FRCPG '83, FRCP (L) '95, FRCPC (Hon) '97, PhD '99. He was an Honorary Fellow at St Mary's College, University of Surrey 2002 and an honorary consultant at Kingston Hospital teaching for St George's Medical School. His biography of John Langdon Down was published by the Royal Society of Medicine and received an award from the British

[1950s]



JAMES FINBARR (BARRY) CULLEN MB BCh BAO '52, MCh '60, MD (published work) '69

James, who was born in Cavan in 1928, also has FRCS (Eng) '60, FRCSEd (ad eundem) '75 and FRCOphth '88. He is former Consultant Ophthalmologist and was Head of the Department of Ophthalmology, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary from 1962 to 1995. He was a Fellow in Neuro-Ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore between 1961 and 1962. James is currently Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore and Head of Neuro-Ophthalmology Service, Singapore National Eye Centre. He is married to Ann (née Black) from Clones, Co. Monaghan. His home address is 17 Lauder Road, Edinburgh EH9 2EN.

JAMES MADDEN BA (Latin/English) '54

Known as Fr Nicholas Madden OCD, he studied philosophy and theology with the Carmelites and did a course in Spiritual Theology in Rome after ordination. Nicholas has been engaged with novices or students for most of his life. He took a PhD in Patristic Theology at Durham and taught at St Patrick's College, Carlow as well as short stints at Ushaw and St Peter's, Wexford. Nicholas has contributed to *Studia Patristica*, *The Irish Theological Quarterly*, *The Furrow*, *Mount Carmel* and *The Cork Literary Review* and still contributes to journals and symposia. He is glad to be invited to celebrate Mass in Irish at the chapel in UCD once a month. "The winter of pale misfeature is not so formidable, D.G. With best wishes to all UCD alumni, Nicholas, OCD."



MAEVE CATHERINE FAWCETT (NÉE GLYNN) BDS '55

Born in Kilkenny in 1932, the youngest of four children of a bank manager, Maeve boarded at Dominican Convent School, Galway. She played camogie for Combined Universities. After graduating in Dentistry in 1955 she worked in London and Nottingham before establishing a single-handed practice in her home in Heanor and later in a lock-up practice with three surgeries employing two extra dentists. Maeve married a local GP, Dr Pat McCormack, in 1958 and has two daughters. The eldest is now a Consultant in G-U medicine and Senior Scientist at the MRC, and the younger a dental surgeon in London. Maeve's husband died in 1981

and three years later she married a Nottingham general surgeon and moved to Nottingham. During her working life she was the first lady president of the Nottingham Irish Graduate Society and president of the Ilkeston & District Soroptomists Club. She retired just before her 60th birthday and since then has played golf and travelled the world.



Sr Cora, pictured with Mieczyslaw Swiatkowski (BDS '55)

SR CORA (E NUALA) RICHARDSON BA '55, MA (Equality Studies) '05

Sr Cora entered The Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary (Killeshandra) the year after graduating, and then went to South Africa where she taught and became principal in a white high school, but immediately got involved in black education and politics. She taught matric English in Inanda Seminary for black girls in Kwa-Zulu, where she got to know Steve Biko, who was murdered by the police, and also taught Mangasutho Buthelezi's daughter. During this time she was a member of the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission of the archdiocese of Durban, and at Archbishop Hurley's request gave a talk on justice to the religious of the diocese. Later she taught for a short time in Hammanskraal Minor Seminary for African young men, before moving to Tzaneen Diocese for adult education and to work with young Christian students. Here Sr Cora was interrogated by the head of the Bureau of State Security, threatened with deportation, her letters were opened and phone calls tapped. She was Congregational Secretary in Dublin for six years and now gives spiritual and other support to carers of people living with AIDS and to orphans, and helps people to access pensions and social grants.

TOM GARVEY BA '56, MA '57



Tom was chief executive at Córás Trachtála (the Irish Export Board) from 1969 to 1977 and First Delegate of the European Commission, Federal Republic of Nigeria from 1977 to 1980.

He was chief executive of An Bord Phuist and An Post from 1980 to 1984. He joined the European Commission in 1984 as Director in DG Internal Market and in 1989 became first Director PHARE in DG External Relations. Tom was promoted to the post of Directeur General Adjoint in DG Environment in 1992 and retired from the European Commission in 1998. Tom's other activities include: co-Chairman of EAP Task Force, OECD; Chairman, International Committee of Inquiry into Baia Mare (Romania) Gold Mine disaster; Chairman, Golf Environment Europe Foundation; Life Fellow, Regional Environment Centre, Budapest; visiting lecturer, University of Pittsburgh and Cape Town; Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels, member and sometimes Chairman of Study Groups. He is also a Fellow of the Irish Management Institute and a Life Fellow of RSA.

KEVIN FLYNN MB BCh BAO '57

Kevin's internship was in Jervis Street. He spent five years with the Royal Canadian Air Force and was in family practice in Ontario until December 2006. Kevin now lives in the Burren near Ballyvaughan and is looking forward to the 50th reunion in May. He might be available for short-term locums and can be contacted at kflynn@netrover.com.

CUIMIN T DOYLE MB BCh BAO '58

Cuimin also has MD, BSc (NUI), FRCPI, FRCPath. He was interned at St Vincent's Hospital, St Stephen's Green from 1958 to 1959. He undertook postgraduate training in pathology at UCD and the



Western Infirmery, Glasgow, was Emeritus Professor of Pathology at University College Cork, and retired Consultant Histopathologist at Cork University Hospital. In 1963 Cuimin married a UCD science graduate, Lena McMahon (BSc '57). They have five sons – Feargal, Ronan, Cormac, Cillian and Fiachra. Chasamar go Gaeilge mar ghnath theanga an bhaile agus, in am is i dtrath, athruiomar ár n-ainm go 'Ó Dubhghaill'. Sin scéal eile! Since retiring Cuimin has developed an interest in medical poetry.

[1960s]



JEROME O'SHEA BComm '60, HDipEd '61, MEconSc '63, PhD '71, Dip Irish Folklore '96

Jerome was a Fulbright Scholar at Ohio State University from 1968 to 1969. In the 1960s he campaigned to promote Ireland's membership of the EEC for the farming and rural community. In 1977 he joined the Food

and Agriculture Organisation of the UN as consultant in the Economic and Social Policy Department. He was president of the Intergovernmental Committee on Meat and Meat Products of that organisation from 1983 to 1985 and represented Ireland at its biennial conferences in the 1980s and 1990s, and on the council of the organisation in 1995. Along with other council members in 1995 he received an audience with Pope John Paul II. In 2005 he celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Kerry's 1955 All-Ireland Gaelic football success, a year in which he won every championship medal in Gaelic football and captained South Kerry to its first ever senior championship win. To his three All-Ireland medals he also added the Papal medal he received from Pope Paul VI. He now lives in Dublin with his wife Margaret Lucey (BA '61, HDipEd '62, DipCG '69). His sons Diarmuid (MB BCh BAO 86, MD '98, FRCP, FRCPI), Donal (MB BCh BAO '89, MD '97, FRCP, FRCPI) and Conor (BComm '91, Diploma in Legal Studies, Masters in Sports Science and Sports Management from Brunel University UK/United States Sports Academy, University of Alabama) are all graduates of UCD.

TREVOR WEEKES BSc '62, PhD '66

Trevor also holds a DSc from NUI in 1982 and a DSc from the University of Chicago in 2004. He has been an astrophysicist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics since 1966. He is project scientist for the major gamma-ray telescope, Veritas, which has just seen first light (<http://veritas.sao.arizona.edu>). He still lives in Arizona, but has a small house in Wexford and can be contacted at tweekes@cfa.harvard.edu.

SEAMUS BAYNES BSc '63

Seamus worked in the cosmetics industry (Goya, Rimmel, Mary Quant) for many years, and also in the explosives industry (Kemek). He joined IDA in 1977, and also worked in its related agencies Forfás, Forbairt and Enterprise Ireland. Retired since 2001, he lives in Bray and his hobbies include music, photography and bridge. Seamus can be contacted at seamusbaynes@eircom.net.



CARMEL LEONARD BSc '64

After graduating with a BSc in Biochemistry, Carmel spent two years teaching with the St Louis Nuns in Nigeria. On her return home she worked as a biochemist in Holles Street Children's Hospital, in the Pathology Department at the Rotunda Hospital, at UCD in Earlsfort Terrace and at the Regional Hospital, Limerick. Since 1990 she has been employed as a senior biochemist at Olympus Diagnostica Ireland in Co. Clare. Carmel lives in Limerick with her husband John, whom she married in 1971. They have five children: Jane, Jeremy, David, Laura and Garrett. Jane and Garrett are both UCD medical graduates, Jeremy has a BA and MA from NUIG, David has an Aeronautical Engineering degree from UL and is currently doing postgraduate work in UCD and Laura is a pharmacist graduating from Bradford University.



MARY SPRENG-COURTNEY BA '64, MA '66, DipPsych '69

Mary received a Fulbright scholarship to go to Northwestern University, Evanston, US, where she completed an MA in Psychology. There she met her Swiss husband, who is now Professor in ETH, Zurich. In Switzerland she did training in psychoanalysis and works as a psychotherapist in her private practice

in Zurich. She is interested in transcultural phenomenon, which affects the psyche at the deepest level and which has a strong impact on our multicultural societies. She organises conferences and workshops on this theme in various countries in eastern and western Europe. Mary has two children. Her daughter, Ciara, is a partner in a law firm in Zurich and her son, Connor, is working in the World Bank.



DR AHMOD SULEMAN MOOLA MB BCh BAO '64

Ahmod settled in the US where he certified in anaesthesiology. He served in the US Army, subsequently practising at Beaumont Hospital in Michigan. Following retirement he moved to London with his family, attending The London School of Import and Export. Returning from London and sending his two daughters to university, he and his wife moved to Longboat Key, Florida. Ahmod and his wife now reside in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and have three grandchildren. They are interested in new experiences and travel.

PAUL WALSH BE (Mech) '65

Paul's other awards include CEng and FIMechE. After graduating, Paul departed for the UK, choosing on a whim to work for the former Courtaulds textile group. This was to determine the course of the vast majority of his professional career since, having returned to Ireland in 1970 and working briefly for Tegral and Irish Board Mills in Athy, he returned to the synthetic fibres business for the last 28 years of his engineering life, with synthetic fibre manufacturer and recycling firm Wellman International Ltd in Kells. Paul retired in 2003 and now works with his wife's English language school, Active English, in Lucan, Co. Dublin.



BRENDAN CARDIFF BA '66, MA '67

Brendan worked at the IPA and the IDA before joining the European Commission in 1974. He first served in the economics department, then in Africa, before returning to work on innovation policy. In 1986 he completed an MBA at Louvain. He contributed to the Delors report *Economics of 1992*. In the 1990s he helped in the expansion of the EC education co-operation programmes to include non-member states, before concentrating on the contribution of education to economic growth in the enlarged EU. From 2000 Brendan co-chaired the Alumni Association Belgium Chapter, before retiring recently.



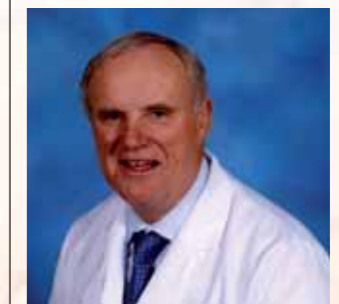
FREDDIE MORAN BE (Hons) '66

Freddie joined IBM at Greenock in 1970 as a manufacturing engineer. He retired in August 2006. Freddie was appointed an FIEE in 1988 and was elected a member of the IBM Academy of Technology in 1990. In 1998, he was appointed an IBM Distinguished Engineer, one of the first in Europe. He became the IBM Partnership Executive for the University of Edinburgh in 2002, and in 2003 he joined the board of ITI Scotland (Intermediary Technology Institute). Most recently, Freddie was responsible for strategy at Greenock, and led the very

significant reinvention and transformation of the site. He developed a healthcare/life science proposal addressing the future mission for Greenock. Freddie is recognised within IBM at the highest level for his broad understanding of the business, and continues as an IBM Distinguished Engineer Emeritus. Freddie has been happily married for the past 27 years to Hilary, a busy voluntary worker. He has three grown-up children. He has always found time for sport, and is currently involved in sailing, biking and running.

AIDAN KIERNAN BE (Mech) '69

Aidan Kiernan emigrated to Newfoundland in 1969. Having worked for 25 years with the Provincial Government and Memorial University as a senior project engineer, he moved to British Columbia in 2001 as associate vice-president of facilities and campus development for Okanagan University-College. In 2004, the University of British Columbia retained Aidan as associate vice-president of operations to start up its new Okanagan Campus. Presently, he is responsible for all non-academic activity of the university, including a US\$460 million campus expansion. Aidan is married to Mabel (née Lockyer) and they have two children, Julia and Clare. Aidan can be contacted at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, aidan.kiernan@ubc.ca.



DR DESMOND BRIAN MCDONAGH MB BCh BAO '69

Brian is also a board-certified MD, USA 1977. Because of a personal affliction, Brian studied the injection treatment of varicose veins with Dr Mary Henry in Dublin in 1979. Upon his return to Chicago he founded Vein Clinics of

America, which has since grown to 25 treatment centres. He invented the Compass outpatient treatment programme for varicose veins and published it in the *Journal of Phlebology* (UK) in 2002. He has published many articles on venous disorders and presented at many medical meetings. The Compass treatment is noted for its immediate response and has the lowest recurrence rate of all published treatments. Presently he directs his research department and enjoys patient care, as well as teaching doctors and nurses about vein disease. Brian and his wife, Miriam, have three daughters, a son, and one grandson. He divides his time between Chicago and Boynton Beach, Florida. He can be contacted at bmcdonagh@veinclinics.net.

[1970s]

CIARAN MURRAY MA '70, PhD '86

Ciaran also has a BA from UCG. He worked on the *Carlow Nationalist* and *The Irish Times* before leaving for Japan, where he is Professor of English at Chuo University. Ciaran is a council member of the Asiatic Society of Japan and has edited its *Transactions*. He has published works on the history of ideas (*Sharawadgi: The Romantic Return to Nature*), fiction (*The Secret Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*) and autobiography (*The Three & the Four: Ireland and Identity*). His wife, Fumiko, is a painter of flowers and they have a daughter, Genevieve.

PATRICK HUGH DALY BA '73, MA '75

On graduating Patrick obtained a scholarship to Louvain (KUL), where he completed his PhD in Medieval History in 1981. He worked as a conference interpreter on the staff of the European Commission in Brussels from 1981 to 1987.



Feeling a calling to the priesthood, Patrick went to the Beda College (Rome), a seminary specially catering for late vocations, and was ordained in the Basilica of SS Quattro Coronati in Easter Week 1991. He obtained an STL in dogmatic theology from the Angelicum that same year. Since 1991 Patrick has served as a priest in the Archdiocese of Birmingham. From 1993 to 1999 he was administrator of St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham and since 1999 has been parish priest at St Peter & St Paul, Wolverhampton. His presbytery is Giffard House, which was visited on occasion by Daniel O'Connell to discuss Catholic Emancipation with the then resident, Bishop John Milner. Patrick may be contacted at phdaly@pacelli.fsnet.co.uk.

NOEL FAHY BSc (Psychology and Computer Science) '74



Noel is an entrepreneur and business consultant specialising in business process solutions. Having lived in Manila and Boston, he now resides in Canada where he is business consultant to a 2,040-acre development, (bigger than the Phoenix Park!), on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. The project includes a private university, private school, a sports academy, two 18-hole golf courses, a variety of residential enclaves and a commercial village. Noel is also director of two companies in the natural/herbal healthcare field. He lives in Nanaimo on Vancouver Island and is married with two sons. He can be contacted by email at nfahy@shaw.ca.

JAMES J MCNULTY MA (Anglo-Irish Studies) '74

James went on to study Linguistics at the University of Illinois, Chicago. From 1975 to 2000 he worked as a banker in Chicago, San Francisco, London, Mexico City and Zurich. From 2000 until 2004 he was president and CEO of Chicago Mercantile Exchange. He currently serves on the board of directors for ICAP plc, UK, the New York Stock Exchange and Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He is a member of the Board of Visitors for the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Recent publications include *What's Your Real Cost of Capital?* (*Harvard Business Review* Oct 2002) and a music CD in 2004 called *Full Circle*, available on CDBaby and iTunes store. He is married with three children and lives in the Chicago area. Jim would love to know what the professors and students from that era are doing now, and he can be contacted at j3mc@aol.com.

BRIAN SPARKS BComm '74, MBA '97

Brian has spent much of his career in senior marketing positions



with Guinness. After eight years in Dublin he spent a further eight years as marketing director based in London and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He returned to Dublin in 1996 and completed the full-time MBA course in the Smurfit Business School with a thesis on political marketing in Ireland. He then became managing director in McCann Erickson advertising before setting up the Irish office of Agency Assessments International. His company specialises in the procurement process leading to the appointment of advertising, media and public relations agencies. Still a keen rugby fan, he was president of Lansdowne FC in the 2004/05 season.

JAMES COYLE BComm (Hons) '78, DPA '81

After graduating, James worked in the computer industry with Burroughs Corporation and then on his own selling Apple IIs to the business community. Following that he left for Australia and Papua New Guinea where he worked for Shell for much of the 1980s. In 1988 James returned to Ireland to take his chartered accountancy qualification and has been working in practice here since. James has been involved in anti-virus and anti-piracy business start-ups and property businesses, but at the moment runs a company secretarial practice: www.coyleaccountants.com, www.cyesta.com and www.freeconveyancing.ie. James is separated with three children and lives happily in Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

MÍCHEÁL DE BARRA BA (Irish/Spanish) '78



Rugadh agus tógadh Mícheál de Barra ar imeall na Boirne gar do Chill Fhionnuarach i gCo an Chláir.

Fuair sé a chuid oideachais ó na Bráithre Críostaí. Oileadh é mar mhúinteoir bunscoile i gColáiste Mhuire, Marino. Tá céim sa Ghaeilge agus sa Spáinnis (1978) agus

Ardteastas san Oideachas (1979) aige ó Ollscoil na hÉireann, Baile Átha Cliath. Bhain sé Máistreacht san Oideachas amach i gColáiste na Tríonóide (1995). Chaith sé tréimhsí ina mhúinteoir bunscoile agus meánscoile in Éirinn agus san Airgintín. Scaití eile tugtha aige mar chomhairleoir treorach mar leas-phríomhoide agus mar phríomhoide meánscoile. Tá sé ina chónaí faoi láthair i gCo Chill Dara lena bhean chéile, Siobhán. Scríobh sé *An Bóthar go Santiago* a foilsíodh sa bhliain 2007 ina ndéanann sé cur síos ar a aistear 800 ciliméadar ar an gCamino de Santiago agus é ag leanúint coiscéimeanna na n-oilithreach meánaoiseach go Santiago de Compostela.

DR PATRICK MURPHY BSc '78 MSc '80 PhD '83



Pat has spent most of his life looking at the stars. Much of his PhD work was carried out on Mt Hopkins in Arizona with

various telescopes. After a short time at the Space Telescope Science Institute, he joined the National Radio Astronomy Observatory and currently works at its headquarters in Charlottesville, Virginia as a Senior Software Engineer. He enjoys using Linux whenever he can, still enjoys listening to Irish music and helps his wife publish her (US) Civil War novels.



MICHAEL SCOTT BA '78

Michael is an independent international theatre director and producer. He received his theatre training in Europe and has been

theatre director of the Project Arts Centre, programme director of the Dublin Theatre Festival and director of the Tivoli Theatre Dublin and the RHA Downstairs. Currently he is artistic director of the City Theatre Dublin. His productions have been seen in Ireland, the UK, Germany, US, Iceland and France. His reinvestigations of the works of W.B. Yeats are celebrated and his production of *The Cuchulain Cycle* has been described as "the most vigorously dramatic presentation of Yeats seen in four decades".

SEAMUS MCGARDLE BSc '79, PhD (Chemistry) '82

Seamus owns a family business called Specialist Resourcing Ireland, some of whose best-known brands include Science Recruitment Ireland, Executive Search, Engineering Vacancies and @interview. Previous to this he was global director in Diageo and on the board of Storehouse - Guinness. He is also a council member of the RDS and a member of the American Chamber of Commerce and Dublin Chamber of Commerce. Seamus also has an FRSC and is a member of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland and Fitzwilliam Tennis Club.



JOANNE O'BRIEN BA (History) '79

After graduation, Joanne trained as a photographer in London. In 2000 her work was selected for inclusion in the *Faces of the Century* exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. Her first book, *Across the Water*, which she co-wrote in

1988, was a study in words and pictures about the lives of Irish women in the UK. It opened the way for many later studies on the subject and continues to be cited frequently by scholars of Irish studies. Her most recent book *A Matter of Minutes* (2002) tells the story of those closely affected by the events of Bloody Sunday in Derry in 1972. In it, black and white portraits, many made on the site of the shootings, are combined with oral testimony from relatives, surviving injured and other key witnesses. Joanne can be reached at www.joanneobrien.co.uk.

SARAH JANE SCAIFE
BA (English/Philosophy) '79

Sarah Jane also received an MPhil in Irish Film and Theatre from TCD in 2004. In 1983 she went to New York to study theatre, movement and dance. She has been an actress, director and teacher of theatre for over 20 years. She has worked with actors and students teaching and directing Samuel Beckett's dramas in Georgia, Mongolia, India, Singapore, Malaysia, China and Greece. She is married to sound engineer, Tim Martin, and has three children, Lucy, Matthew and Eve.

[1980s]



DENIS M DUGGAN BArch '80

Denis spent the first few years after college working as an architect in Dublin, followed by three years in London with Chapman

Taylor Partners. Most of the 1990s were spent in Dublin, working with Ireland's largest architectural practice (at the time), Burke-Kennedy Doyle & Partners. In 1998, Denis set up his own architectural practice, Denis Duggan Architects Ltd, and relocated to Tullamore, Co. Offaly, a total change of work and lifestyle environment. Denis is a member of the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland. He is married to Noreen O'Herlihy, who is also originally from Dublin, and they continue to live and work in Co. Offaly.



PADRAIC GILLIGAN
BA '80, HDipEd '81, MA '84

Padraic combined a part-time teaching post in the Italian Department at UCD with a full-time job teaching English and Religious Studies at Belvedere College before moving into business in the early 1990s. He now co-owns Ovation Group, an event and conference management company, which employs over 50 people in Dublin and Belfast. He is married to Rita Smyth (BSc '78) and they live in Dublin with their six children, one of whom is due to graduate in Medicine from UCD in June '07.



MICHAEL GRIFFIN
BComm '80, MBA '90

Michael qualified as a chartered accountant after his BComm, and worked with Deloitte, Dublin in its consulting practice, before setting up Petrus Consulting in 1999. His

work now involves improving performance for public and private sector clients, developing and implementing tailored scorecards for management reporting and expenditure reviews, and 'value-for money' assessments for projects and programmes. He also works internationally in several countries on regulatory reform projects and support for sectoral regulators. Living in Dublin, he is married to Nuala Madden (BA '79, H Dip '80) and they have four children. He can be contacted at michael@petrusconsult.com.



DECLAN O'KEEFFE
BA '80, HDipEd '81

After graduating Declan started teaching in Clongowes Wood College where he remains to this day as head of business studies and editor of *The Clongownian*. While in college Declan was captain of the Mountaineering Club, sparking a passion for the sport, which has grown over the years. He became involved in mountaineering at a national level through the Mountaineering Council of Ireland and in 2003 was elected president, an office he still holds. Declan remains close to his mountaineering roots, is Graduate Liaison Officer of UCD Mountaineering Club and is a regular on Sunday hikes during the season. He may be contacted on dokeeffe@clongowes.net.

AILISH MAHER BComm '82

After some years in London, Ailish worked as an English teacher in Spain and Portugal. She obtained the Institute of Linguists' Diploma in Translation in 2001 and an honours master's degree in Translation Studies from Dublin City University in 2003. As a freelancer (based near Barcelona), her activities include translation from Spanish, Catalan and Portuguese to English and the editing of non-native writing in English, mainly in the medical/pharmaceutical and legal/institutional fields. She is the Barcelona-based Mediterranean Editors and Translators Workshops chairperson. She's keen to locate Bernie Lyons, BComm '81. Her email address is gaebolga@gmail.com.



MARTIN DESMOND MCCOURT
BE (Elec) '83

Dr Martin McCourt is executive vice-president at Gemalto South Asia, responsible for all aspects of the smart card company's operations in south Asia. Based in Singapore, Martin has responsibility for S&M, R&D and manufacturing. Prior to this, he spent 20 years in optical fibre communications with Corning Inc. and was most recently vice-president for Corning Cable System's Project Services business and a board member of the European Fiber to the Home Council. He set up BICCOR, a joint venture between Corning and BICC, headquartered in Singapore, in the 1990s and later participated in the acquisition and integration by Corning of BICC and Siemens telecom cable businesses in

Europe. He has lived and worked in the UK, France, Germany, US and China and spent extended periods in Latin America and Southeast Asia. Martin also has an MBA from INSEAD, and a PhD in Integrated Optics from the Institut National Polytechnique in Grenoble, France.



DAN O'BYRNE BComm '83

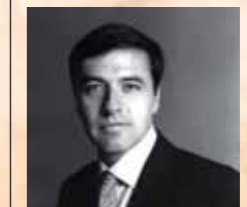
Since graduating Dan has held various sales jobs in insurance, hardware and men's clothing. He went to New York in 1985 with an eye on the bar business. Though lucrative, the nights were long and the work was often draining at the 'Old Stand', one of the many Irish places that populate Manhattan's East Side. A stint at a mutual fund led to employment in trading stocks for Royce & Associates. Today Dan is a principal and vice-president of this money manager with US\$30 billion in assets under management. Royce is a wholly owned subsidiary of Legg Mason Inc., the ninth-largest US fund manager. Dan is also vice-president of Royce Value Trust, the oldest and largest small-cap closed-end fund in the US, and Royce Micro-Cap Trust, both listed on the New York Stock Exchange, and Royce Focus Trust, listed on Nasdaq. He plays a key role in securities trading for all funds managed by Royce. Dan lives in Douglaston, Queens with his wife Mary, who just retired as partner at Daruma Asset Management. They have three children, Kate, Tom and Mary.



DR MARIA DÍAZ-TORRES
PhD '84

After her PhD, Maria became the director of the Electron Microscopy Unit at UCD for a few months and then went to the US for her postdoctorate (University of Georgia and Tufts Medical School in Boston). Now she is a senior scientist (Molecular Genetics) at Genencor Int. (a Danisco Company) in Palo Alto, California. Her work has won the Dupont Sustainable Growth Excellence Award and the Presidential Green Chemistry Award for new innovation. She has published a large number of papers, is the inventor of more than 40 applications (granted patents, pending and inventions) and she is the sole inventor of other patents. She is married to Nigel and has a daughter, Laura. Maria can be contacted at mdiaz-torres@genencor.com or treswheatons@yahoo.com.

PAUL KILDUFF
BComm '85, DPA '86



After graduation Paul qualified as a chartered accountant with Deloitte. He spent six years working in

the City of London with Prudential Securities Inc. and HSBC Bank and later returned to live and work in Dublin, where he is a vice-president with US investment bank Merrill Lynch & Co. On his return to Ireland Paul found the time to begin writing a financial thriller loosely based on his time working overseas in the global financial markets. To date four of his novels, *Square Mile*, *The Dealer*, *The Frontrunner* and *The Headhunter* have been published by London-based Hodder & Stoughton and he is presently completing his fifth thriller, *The Missing*. In his spare time Paul plays tennis badly and maintains a website about his writing (www.paulkilduff.com).

PAUL MURPHY
BSc (Industrial Microbiology & Chemistry) '85

After five years in the UK in the brewing industry, Paul moved to New York in 1990. While working at the NY Blood Center, a non-profit blood donation and distribution agency, he attended Baruch College, earning an MBA in Healthcare Administration in 1997. He began working as an IT consultant to the hospital industry the following year at Kurt Salmon Associates, where he is now a senior manager. Paul's home today is in Atlanta, Georgia with his partner John, but he enjoys frequent travel around the US providing consulting support to hospitals and healthcare providers of all kinds.

GEOFF SCALES BE '85

After graduating Geoff moved to south Florida and spent a few years enjoying life in the sun before embarking on a career in heavy and highway construction in central Florida. As a registered professional engineer, he is currently project manager for a US\$100 million reconstruction project of a main artery through Orlando, Florida. Geoff is married to Linda with two daughters Katrina and Jessica. They live in Cocoa, near the Kennedy Space Center, and enjoy sun, tennis and radio-control flying.

JOHN S MCCORMACK
BAgrSc '86

Also a graduate of UCG (BSc '79), John has worked extensively in the international development field, starting with APSO in the 1980s, then with the Department of Foreign Affairs in Lesotho. He then undertook a master's degree from Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine in 1990 and has worked in the bilateral, multilateral, NGO and private sectors in Southern Africa, eastern Europe and CIS and has also worked in the FAO.

COLMAN O'MURCHÚ BE '86

Upon graduation, Colman joined SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals (now GSK), where he worked in engineering roles for 12 years in Cork, Belgium and the US. He moved to the US permanently in 1991, obtained an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School in 1999, and then helped start and run a software company. After that came several years in early-stage venture capital, and he is now with an intellectual property commercialisation company. Colman lives near Philadelphia and is married to Connie and they have two children, Liam and Maeve.

PÓL ANTHONY BOND
BA (English/Economics) '87,
DCRE (Special Education) '93,
Dip Cathetics '95, MA
(Educational Psychology) '06

Pól has a Masters of Education from Maynooth, a HDip from Trinity and a BSc (Psych) from the Open University. Since graduating he has returned to work in Ballyfermot as a special ed teacher and also works part-time as an educational psychologist for County Dublin VEC. Pól has used his training as a psychologist to improve his teaching and offers free assessments to his school as a means of giving something back to the community where he works. He is currently awaiting the establishment of a working Doctorate in Educational Psychology from UCD so that he can learn and contribute more.



CLODAGH KAVANAGH
BAgrSc '88

Clodagh is currently manager of Darley Flying Start management training programme based at Kildangan Stud, Co. Kildare. She was manager of the Racing Academy and Centre of Education, Kildare from 1993 to 2003.



JAMES KAVANAGH BA '89

James also has a C. Dip Pens., QFA and AIIPM. He is a senior associate with Watson Wyatt, specialising in pensions and consultancy advice for individuals, corporates, semi-state bodies, state bodies and trustees. He has over 15 years experience in his field and is married with one daughter. James is currently a committee member of the Irish Association of Pension Funds, a director of the Retirement Planning Council of Ireland and a member of the Life Insurance Association. James is a regular columnist and has lectured in Dublin City University and the Institute of Taxation.

[1990s]

MICHAEL J DUKE
BSc '91, MSc '94

Michael is the proprietor of New Village Nurseries, Fuerty, Co. Roscommon specialising in production of broadleaf trees for domestic and commercial markets. Still based in Dublin, he spends time hill walking and occasionally sailing (he's a qualified instructor) and dabbling in property (not for much longer!). He can be contacted at mickduke@gmail.com.



DAVID FITZPATRICK
BA '91, MA '96

After finishing his MA, David won a University of Nottingham Studentship where his thesis, *Opening Strategies in Sophoclean Tragedy*, was awarded a PhD in 2002. He worked at The Open University between 2000 and 2006. Initially, he was the project officer for the Classics section of The Subject Centre for History, Classics and Archaeology, part of an initiative in the UK aimed at sharing good teaching and learning practice in higher education. He was then an administrator in its Arts faculty with responsibilities for research and finance. He returned to Ireland in September 2006 and works in Trinity College's Research and Innovation Services.

LUCY MASTERSON BA (Hons)
'91 (Philosophy and Greek & Roman Civilisation), DBS '92

Lucy also has a Dip PR (DIT Rathmines) and has been working in the advertising industry in Dublin since 1992. Her last job before she

set up her own consultancy, ADREM, was as an account director at McConnell's Advertising. Lucy now operates as an advertising/communications consultant specialising in retail.



JENNI BARRETT BA '92, DBS '93

After leaving UCD Jenni spent several years in a number of financial and marketing roles with financial institutions including Bank of Ireland. Through her interest in the arts she joined the National Concert Hall in 1999 as development executive, where she worked for a number of years developing the hall's corporate sponsorship and membership programmes. After this she spent some time as director of development with The Ark Cultural Centre for Children in Temple Bar, Dublin. She is currently executive director of Clongowes Wood College Foundation where she is responsible for sourcing the private funding for the college's development programme. She is a member of the board of Children's Books Ireland and lives in Dublin. In her spare time she can often be found 20 metres underwater, scuba diving – preferably somewhere hot! Jenni can be contacted at jenni.barrett@eircom.net.

PETER COSGROVE
BComm '92,
MBS '93

Peter spent 18 months travelling after leaving UCD and then joined JP Morgan in London. He moved from there to a management consultancy role



in London and then to recruitment company Robert Walters. He returned to Dublin in 2003 where he joined Hudson, a global recruitment and talent management company, as a country manager for Ireland. Hudson specialises in mid to senior level recruitment and talent management consultancy for the professional sector.



JOHN H. HARRINGTON
MA (Anglo-Irish Literature) '92

John is working for Acadian Asset Management in its marketing, sales and client service group. Acadian is a global money manager based in Boston with US\$45 billion in assets under management. John recently moved to Wellesley, Massachusetts from Boston with his wife, Bethany, and his two children, Andrew and Elizabeth. His work email is JHarrington@Acadian-Asset.com. John also has a BA, MBA and Masters of Science in Finance from Boston College.

IVAN S. KEOGH BE '92

Following graduation and three years of site engineering on the M1 and M50 road projects, Ivan spent 10 years living and working in Southeast Asia providing engineering and project management to multinational industrial and commercial clients, the US State Department and the US Department of Defense, in a range of

building, environmental engineering and humanitarian aid projects. Ivan has recently relocated to Dubai to take up the post of director and regional market manager for Royal Haskoning to develop the core marine engineering business and build a team to include environment, water and wastewater, architectural and building services engineering capabilities. Current landmark projects include the breakwater design for the Palm Island and The World developments, reclamation design for the Dubai Waterfront islands and environmental impact assessment services for the Palm Deira development project. For further information on any of the above projects please visit www.royalhaskoning.com or contact i.keogh@royalhaskoning.com.



ALI M. AL-GHAMDI MA '93

Ali studied in the Geography Department (Digital Mapping) and worked with Professor Anne Buttmer and Dr Joseph Brady. He is now an associate professor of digital mapping and GIS at King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He teaches cartography and GIS and supervises postgraduate students. Ali can be contacted at aligdi23@yahoo.com. He would like to get in touch with staff or classmates from 1993. He had good times and nice memories of Ireland and its friendly people.

THOMAS BLONDEL DBS '93

Thomas also has a Lic. Sciences Économiques, 1992, from UC Louvain, Belgium. As a Belgian, Thomas was one of the few foreigners in the



1993 DBS class. He has very good memories of the year he spent in Dublin. He is presently working in Brussels as sales manager for a Toronto-based mining company and loves the job. Thomas is married and is the very proud father of a three-year-old daughter and a five-month-old son. He sends his regards to any DBS '93 classmates who remember him.



MARK GALLAGHER BAgSc '93

Mark also has an MBA '97 (TCD). He is currently a senior vice-president with Silicon Valley Bank based in Boston. SVB is a technology-focused commercial and investment bank servicing the entrepreneurial community worldwide. Mark leads the software and services practice in the US north-east. He previously worked with Kepak Group in Clonee, Co. Meath and ABN Amro in Dublin prior to moving to the US. He is married to Michelle and they have three children, Jack, Cormac and Annie.

DR JORDI VIVES-BATLLE PhD (Experimental Physics) '93

Jordi also has an MSc Atomic and Nuclear Physics ('88) and a BSc Physics, Autonomous University of



Barcelona ('88). He is a specialist in radiological protection, radioecology and radiochemistry. He has substantial research and academic experience gained over 20 years working for universities, government and industry in Catalonia, Ireland, US and England, and is author or co-author of more than 50 scientific publications. For the last 10 years Jordi has worked as senior environmental consultant at the Westlakes Research Institute, Cumbria, predicting the impact of radioactive discharges on both humans and ecosystems. Current research focuses on biokinetic/pharmacokinetic modelling and dynamic ecosystem assessment methodologies, in collaboration with the England & Wales Environment Agency, EU, IAEA and ICRP. Jordi is married to UCD alumna Sandra Vives-Lynch (BSc '92) and has two children. In his free time he is a keen amateur composer and author of over 25 chamber and orchestral compositions. His organisation website is www.westlakes.org/.

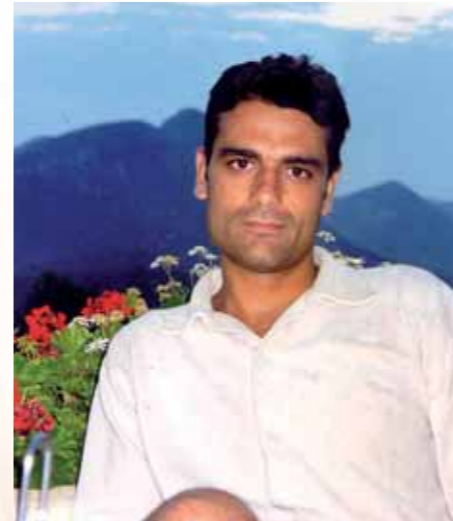


IAN GRAHAM MA '94

Ian Graham is a film and television producer and director. His credits include *Created Dracula*, a documentary about the life of Bram Stoker. He is the director of four major film documentaries about James Joyce made for RTÉ. These include *Images of Joyce*, *The Scandal of Ulysses*, *Joyce - The Journey Home* and *James Joyce - The Trials of Ulysses*, the latter recently screened on SBS television. Ian has been the recipient of several Arts Council awards, as well as a Gregory Peck film award. Ian also teaches film studies and lives in Dublin. He can be contacted at iangraham@alumni.ucd.ie.

ANDREW MICHEL ABOUD MB BCh BAO '95

Andrew also has an MSc (London) and MRCPsych (UK). He returned to his native England after graduating. In 1998 he spent a year in central Queensland where he met his wife Bronwyn. They returned to the UK and lived in south London. Andrew trained in Psychiatry at St Georges Hospital, and then in Forensic Psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital. In addition he worked as a Research Fellow at the Institute of Psychiatry, and completed a master's degree at the same institution. He then worked as a locum consultant at the Maudsley Hospital and at Broadmoor High Security Hospital. In 2006 Andrew and Bronwyn emigrated to Brisbane with their three children where he is now employed by Queensland Health as a consultant forensic psychiatrist.



DIMITRIOS ANDREADIS MSC (RESEARCH) '96

Dimitrios studied Computer Science at Technological Educational Institute of Athens. He served in the Greek Navy for two years and the telecoms software industry for another seven years while working for Intracom and Motorola in Athens and Cork. Attracted by the open source movement he joined JBoss in 2004 (later bought by Red Hat), the leading provider of open source

software/middleware. He is currently the project lead of JBoss AS, the most popular Java application server in the world. Dimitrios works remotely for JBoss from Athens, evangelising open source, riding his motorcycle and enjoying the good weather and the company of his wife, Voula, and daughter, Aggeliki. Having spent three fantastic years of his life on the Emerald Isle, Dimitrios hopes he'll get a chance to meet again with all the friends he made, since, as he likes to say, "The world is a very small place, indeed."

FIONNÁN MURRAY BComm '96

After graduating Fionnán worked in AIB Bank and then Masterfoods. He has been working with Vodafone since 2000. Fionnán married Lisa (BComm '96, AITI '02) in 2000 and they have two children, Abigail and Christopher. They live in Bray, Co. Wicklow and Fionnán is a member of Woodbrook Golf Club. He can be contacted at fionnanmurray@yahoo.ie.



ELEANOR CURRAN MANNING BSocSc '97

Eleanor is currently teaching fifth and sixth grade social studies at St Mary Elementary School in Annapolis, Maryland, where she recently moved with her husband, Jack, and their chocolate labrador, Guinness. After two years as a family support worker in Dublin, Eleanor received her Masters in Elementary Education from Boston College, Lynch School of Education, in 2000. If anyone is interested in having a 10-year reunion in Dublin this July, please email Eleanor at elleleanor@Optonline.net.



JAIME (DANIEL) MCKEOWN BSocSc '97, MA (European Studies) '99

After graduating, Jaime worked as cabinet officer for the New South Wales Government in Sydney. Liaising with ministerial offices and state agencies on behalf of the Premier, his work covered such topics as the Sydney Olympics and state readiness for the Y2K bug. A new millennium brought a new direction and since 2000, he has worked as sponsorship and exhibition manager for London-based events company PCI Fitch, organising events and exhibitions for clients including Microsoft, Intel, Vodafone, GSK, Bentley Motors and BP. When time allows, he gets out his records for a spot of DJing.

KHALED AHMED SELLOW MSc '98

Khaled would like to take this opportunity to send warm regards to everyone at UCD. He still remembers the saying: "Ireland: places to go, things to do and people to see." After taking his BSc in chemistry in his home country (Egypt) he headed to Ireland to gain his master's degree, also in chemistry. During his stay as an overseas student, Khaled says he felt no homesickness because everyone offered help and support. He travelled to Detroit and worked as a teaching assistant in the Chemistry Department at Wayne State University. Finally, he returned home and now works as a laboratory director for a huge water drilling company. Khaled can be contacted at ksellow@hotmail.com.

**ALFRED MASIKYE NAMOAH
MDevSt '99**

Alfred is from Uganda and has also obtained a BA (Hons) and the Postgraduate Diploma in Education from Makerere University. He works in the same university now, in the Department of the Academic Registrar and was recently promoted to the rank of Deputy Academic Registrar in charge of the Graduate School. Alfred can be contacted at anamoah@isae.mak.ac.ug.

[2000s]

**JOHN REID MSc (Agr)
In Rural Development '00**

John worked for APSO in Dublin as a training co-ordinator for people travelling overseas to start development work. In 2002 he went to Afghanistan with Concern for 18 months and worked as a programme co-ordinator in north-east Afghanistan on a food-security programme. In 2004 he moved to Liberia in west Africa and worked as programme manager for Concern for 18 months on a livelihood security programme funded by the EU. Since March 2006 John has been working with Concern, in Monrovia, Liberia, as the assistant country director for all programmes. Main programme interventions are in water, sanitation and livelihood security, which includes rice and cassava production and road and bridge rehabilitation.



**ALISON CURRY
BSC
(Psychology)
'01, MBS '05**

Alison worked for two years in Dublin after graduation, and then travelled to Australia,

New Zealand and South America before coming back to UCD to complete an MBS at

the Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business in 2005. Alison entered the Analyst Training Programme in People and Change Consulting at Deloitte in London. She has been with Deloitte for 18 months and has worked on Human Resources Transformation and Organisational Design projects in both the public and private sectors. She lives in southwest London.

**PETER FRANCEV
MA (Philosophy) '01**

Peter attended UCD for postgraduate studies after receiving his BA in Philosophy (with a minor in English literature) from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California. Upon matriculation from UCD, he taught high school English in Los Angeles, and after two years decided to return to postgraduate studies at his undergraduate alma mater where he received an MA in English literature, graduating cum laude. Since 2005, Peter has been a professor of English at Mount San Antonio College in Walnut, California. He married Jennifer Hess in 2006 and they currently live in southern California with their two dogs. Now, Peter is preparing for PhD study in English literature, writing a dissertation on Byron.

JOHN FREEMAN BCL (Hons) '01

John graduated from Kings Inns in 2004 as a Barrister at Law and is now a legal and compliance executive with Davy (www.davy.ie).

**DAVID O'REILLY
BComm '01, MBS '02**

David spent the past four years working in the City of London as an investment banker at UBS Investment Bank and Dresdner Kleinwort. He has focused on mergers and acquisitions work in the technology, media and telecoms (TMT) sector. In December 2006, he rejoined his former employer, Ion Equity, in its London office, to focus on European M&A work and private equity fundraisings in the TMT sector. He lives in Pimlico in London. He can be reached at david@ionequity.com.



DERMOT DOORLY BA '02

After graduating in sociology and information studies, Dermot travelled to Fiji, New Zealand, Australia and North America. On his return he continued his studies and received a Diploma in Sound Engineering & Multimedia from The Sound Training Centre of Ireland. He recently started working for stock photography agency Getty Images as a photo editor in their new Dublin office. Dermot has also worked as a sound/graphic designer for a number of Irish theatre companies.

VITTORIA ROMANAZZI BA '04

Vittoria is Italian and spent six years studying in UCD. The week after his graduation he got married and moved back to Italy. He is now an English teacher and proud of his experience in UCD. Thanks to it and its professors he got a great education without any difficulties! He loves Dublin and UCD and twice a year he visits them and his Irish friends.

**SEVVANTHINATHAN GOGULAN
BSc (MIS) '05**

Sevvanthinathan graduated with a 2:1 from the UCD degree programme conducted in collaboration with NIBM Sri Lanka. He then worked for a year as an information management associate in the UNDP Mine Action Programme, Sri Lanka. In August 2006 he got a timely breakthrough to pursue the full-time MBA programme in Management of Technology from the School of Management, Asian Institute of Technology, in Bangkok. He will graduate in May 2008.