



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University



University College Dublin  
**Global Engagement  
Strategy 2016-2020**





## Dear Colleagues and Partners of UCD,

Globalisation is one of UCD's key strategic initiatives. To deliver on this initiative, this ambitious strategy sets out to further enhance our international culture, grow our global reputation and increase the impact of our excellence in scholarship, research and innovation on key global issues.

The realisation of our global ambitions will be supported by our Global Centres and our extensive network of partners worldwide. We will further extend our reach, and strengthen our relationships, in areas where UCD has excellence and scale to deliver impact. Operating in a dynamic competitive global market will require flexible and agile operations.

This strategy sets out the enabling environment we will need to ensure our global engagement is successful.

UCD is Ireland's most global university but we have the capacity and ambition to become a world-leading global university.

The passionate commitment and engagement of the UCD community and our partners will help us build on our current strengths to realise our global engagement ambitions.



Professor Dolores O'Riordan  
Vice-President for Global Engagement



# UCD's Global Reach



**Top 1%**  
of higher education  
institutions  
worldwide



**160+**  
years of tradition



**400+**  
international  
university partners



**6,500+**  
international students  
from 120+ different  
countries





**1,300+**  
students have  
participated on  
the **UCD Volunteers  
Overseas programme**



**6,500+**  
students have  
participated in  
**international mobility  
programmes since  
2001**



**24%**  
research funding  
received from  
**international  
sources**



**52%**  
of papers have  
**international  
co-authors**



Over  
**230,000**  
alumni in **170  
countries**



**38**  
international  
alumni chapters



**37%**  
international  
academic &  
research staff



**1st**  
Beijing based,  
dual degree  
awarding  
institution



**5,500+**  
students  
studying  
on overseas  
programmes



**1st**  
Confucius  
Institute for  
Ireland

# As part of UCD's vision for 2020

'We will bring the best of the world to Ireland and the best of Ireland, including its distinct cultures, to the world'.





## Strategic Objectives

As Ireland's Global University, UCD's Global Engagement Strategy to 2020 has five objectives:



Develop a distinctive global culture which will encompass all aspects of university life



Extend and develop strategic relationships to enhance our global engagement



Grow our global reputation for excellence in education, research, innovation and impact



Increase the global impact of our scholarship, research and innovation



Further develop an enabling environment for UCD's global activities



# Objective 1

## Develop a distinctive global culture which will encompass all aspects of university life.

To support our ambition to develop a distinctive global culture at UCD, we will continue to internationalise the UCD experience. Ensuring that a global outlook permeates the daily activities of staff, students, faculty and alumni will be a priority.

By fostering and building upon existing international curricula, partnerships and collaborations, UCD will be recognised as the leading institute in Ireland for cultural and international diversity.

"My time at UCD has been an extremely rewarding experience. My key highlights have included teaching an international online programme, mentoring research students from across the globe and participating on the project committee for a leading international conference."



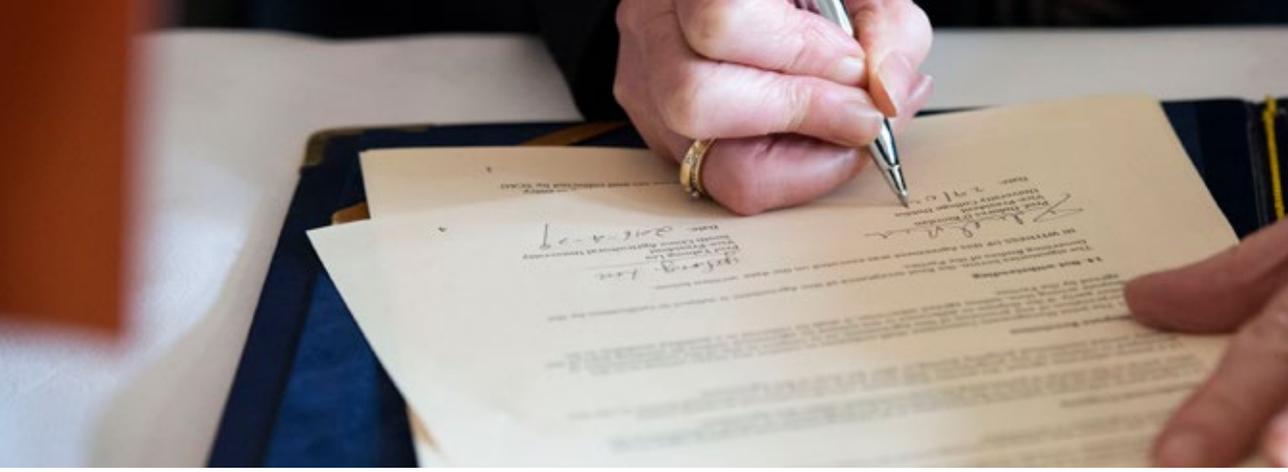
**Dr Cristina Arroyo Casabona**  
Postdoctoral Researcher  
UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science

"My Erasmus year in France benefited me in every way. My French improved and I made so many new friends from all over the world. I got the opportunity to experience new cultures and to travel to many different cities, such as Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Cologne and Budapest."



**Doireann Maher**  
BA International (French and History)  
Université Charles-de-Gaulle Lille 3





## Objective 2

### Extend and develop strategic relationships to enhance our global engagement.

Our commitment to the development of sustainable international partnerships is central to global engagement at UCD. These relationships provide opportunities for faculty to partner on collaborative research, for students or staff to participate on mobility programmes and for worldwide alumni to engage with each other through our network of Global Chapters.

It is our hope that the continued development of these strategic relationships and networks will enhance the world-class educational and research experience at UCD. Our relationships will be underpinned by our national qualities of friendliness, openness and empathy.





"The relationship between Nankai University and UCD is valued as one of the most important among our European partners. UCD's global outlook, academic and educational commitment, and top 1% world ranking, are key reasons why Nankai University looks forward to the future development and expansion on the current partnership."

**Professor Haiyan GAO**

Director, Office for International Academic Exchange, Nankai University

"The University of New South Wales is ranked in the top fifty of the world's leading academic institutions. As a founding member of the Universitas 21 network, we are committed to the growth and development of strategic relationships within the network. Our partnership with UCD was established in 2002 and is built on the core principles of enhancing student and staff mobility, fostering research opportunities and the development of international collaborations."

**Ms Fiona Docherty**

Vice-President, International University of New South Wales (UNSW)

"The collaboration between the University of California, Davis and University College Dublin has enabled both institutions to further develop education, research, innovation and cultural links between the institutions. This relationship enables two of the finest universities in the world to leverage on expertise, particularly in the areas of agriculture, food and health, in which both lead internationally."

**Dr Paul Dodd**

Associate Vice-Chancellor for Research University of California, Davis (UC Davis)

"The University of Glasgow is committed to strategically building global partnerships through the development of sustainable and mutually beneficial alliances with highly regarded organisations. Our relationship with UCD is built on this premise and our common interests have produced benefits for staff and students alike, as well as extending and enhancing our global reach and reputation."

**Professor Frank Coton**

Vice-Principal (Academic & Educational Innovation), University of Glasgow



**UC DAVIS**



**University of Glasgow**



# Objective 3

## Grow our global reputation for excellence in education, research, innovation and impact.

With over 160 years of tradition, UCD's reputation and success has secured its place in the top 1% of the universities in the world. The continued development of a strong global reputation is determined by how an institution is ranked relative to international peers. UCD's growth in reputation will be reliant on a coordinated engagement with institutions, government, non-government agencies and industry.

As an institution, we recognise the importance of participation and goodwill among our 230,000 alumni and friends worldwide. These relationships will not only play a key part in how UCD is recognised as the destination of choice for international students, staff and faculty, but will also facilitate the growth of our global ambassadorial network.

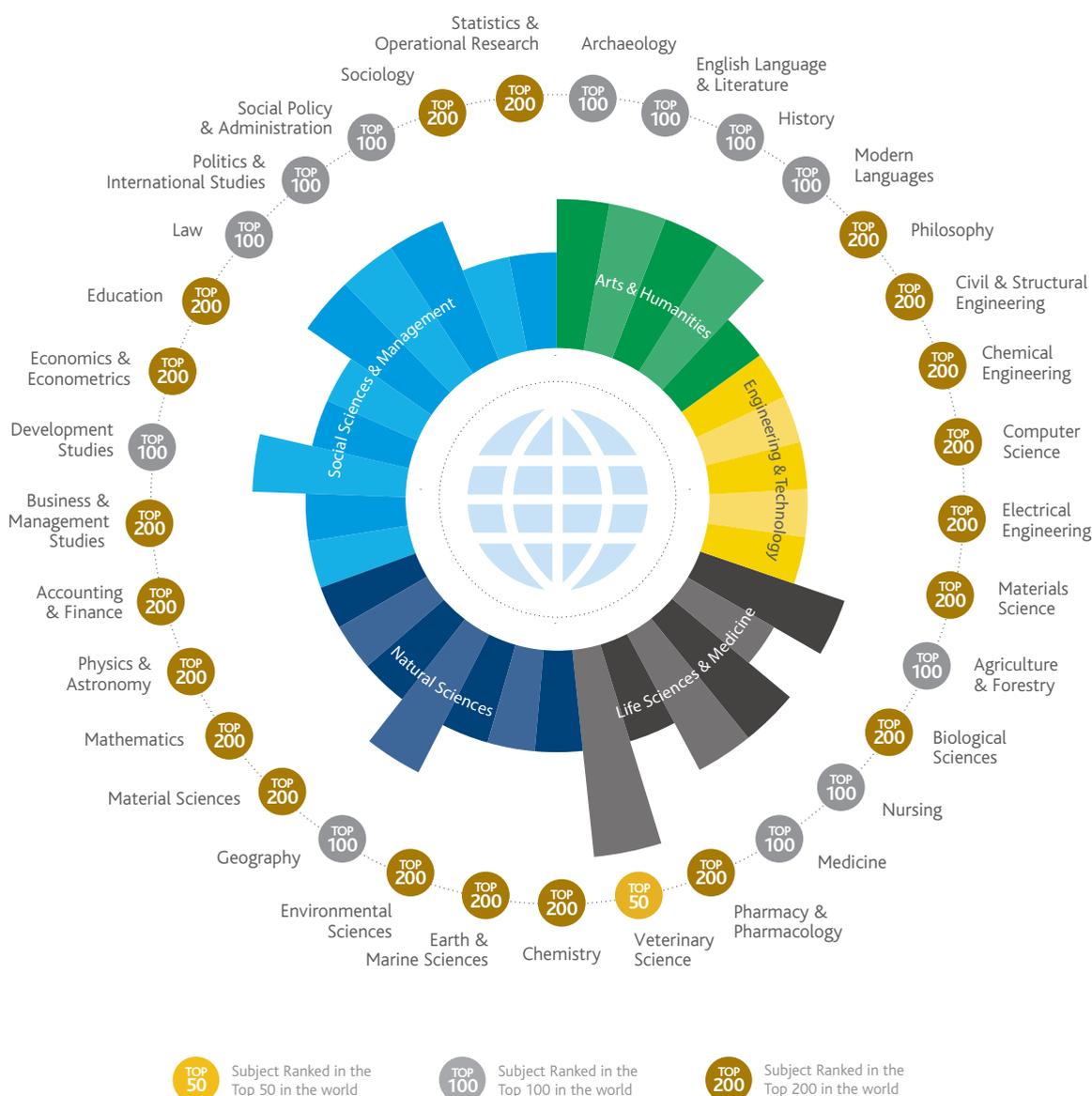


"I have really great memories when I think back to my days at UCD, both as a postgrad as well as an undergrad; being surrounded by world class academics and researchers and having the opportunity to be a part of that. Today I work in Silicon Valley in California for Google, focused on the future of mobile computing, working with some of the smartest engineers in the industry. When I think about my days at UCD I realise that it gave me the opportunity to learn how to learn and really to apply myself to any problem no matter how daunting."

**Dr Dave Burke**  
VP Engineering (Android) at Google  
BE 1997, MEngSc 1999, PhD 2003

# Overall performance by discipline

## in the 2016 QS World University Ranking by subject





Professor Des Higgins, Professor of Bioinformatics, UCD School of Medicine. A paper by Professor Higgins is one of the top 10 most highly cited research papers of all time.

# Objective 4

## Increase the global impact of our scholarship, research and innovation.

UCD will effectively communicate the impact of our excellence in research and education to our key international audiences. Leveraging the regional expertise and knowledge within our Global Centres will be an important element of projecting UCD's international impact.

The University will invest in international social responsibility programmes consistent with UCD's expertise. One of the aims of the strategy will be to improve national and international awareness of Irish arts and culture.



"Mankind faces the global challenge of utilising resources in an environmentally and economically sustainable manner. UCD's School of Biosystems & Food Engineering leads the €8 million Sino-EU Horizon 2020 AgroCycle project, developing a protocol for the implementation of the 'circular economy' across the agri-food industry. AgroCycle places UCD and Ireland centre-stage globally in this rapidly developing domain."

**Professor Shane Ward**

Professor of Biosystems Engineering & Agrocycle Coordinator



Pictured at NovaUCD are Dr Trevor Parsons and Dr Viliam Holub, co-founders, Logentries, a UCD spin-out company acquired in 2015 by Rapid7 Inc. for \$68 million.

## Innovation & Impact

**€1.3 bn**

annual economic output generated by UCD and its students in Ireland

**35+**

UCD spin-out companies incorporated since 2003

**1,000+**

companies have collaborated on UCD research programmes

**410+**

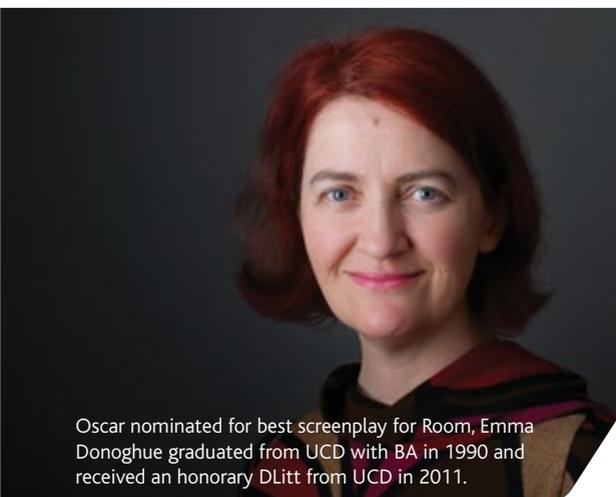
patents filed including 210+ priority patent applications since 2003

**1,300+**

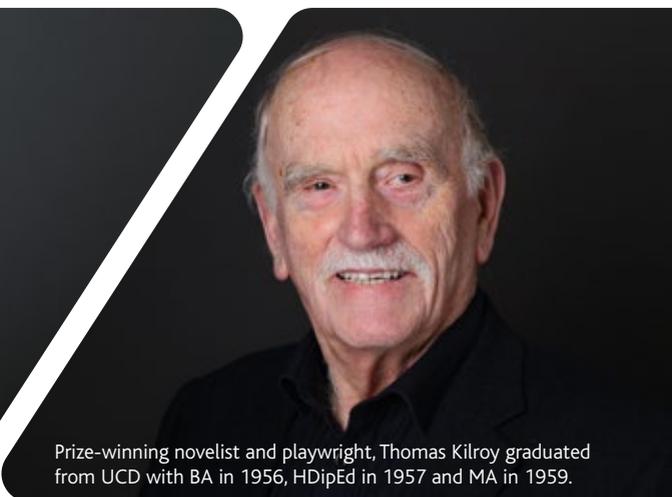
jobs currently supported by NovaUCD activities in Ireland and internationally

**€7.5m+**

earned in commercialisation income since 2003



Oscar nominated for best screenplay for Room, Emma Donoghue graduated from UCD with BA in 1990 and received an honorary DLitt from UCD in 2011.



Prize-winning novelist and playwright, Thomas Kilroy graduated from UCD with BA in 1956, HDipEd in 1957 and MA in 1959.



# Objective 5

## Further develop an enabling environment for UCD's global activities.

We are aware that a strong commitment to improving infrastructure, processes, policies and support will play a key role in the successful implementation of UCD's Global Engagement Strategy.

This focus on developing internal operations will not only lead to an increase in efficiency, but it will ultimately enhance the student, staff and faculty experience and support the creation of a culturally diverse environment.

We aspire to achieve 'best-in-class' practice for our global engagement activities.





Paul O'Donovan, 4th Year Physiotherapy, Olympic Silver Medallist and World Championship Gold Medallist.





# Ireland's Global University





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