

ucd today

SPRING 2019



13. Research into prisoners' health brought to life

11. Fraud detection system could help protect elderly elderly

9. An eye for impact from UCD Research

5. Concussion in rugby

INSIDE

Research into prisoners' health brought to life

Contents

Features



5 Concussion in rugby

9 An eye for impact from UCD research

11 Fraud detection system could help protect elderly

13 Research into prisoners' health brought to life

CAO First Preferences – working to retain No 1



*ELLIS O'BRIEN
Director of Communication and Marketing*

The traditional 1 February CAO deadline serves as an indicator of interest and demand among school-leavers for UCD degrees and this year we have retained our position as university-of-first-choice among Level 8 colleges with 8,483 placing UCD first on their applications.

The performance is good, especially as we admit over 4,000 school-leavers through 38 entry codes. Two other universities – Maynooth (34) and Limerick (41) have now reduced their number of undergraduate entry codes to a similar number. Cork, Galway and Dublin City have 61-66 entry codes and TCD now has 125. Across the country the number of Level 8 courses offered via CAO has increased from 921 in 2018 to 1,022 in 2019. When we began the process of reducing entry codes there was a worry that there would be a consequential impact on first preferences but this has not been the case. Having said this, it is clear that applicants and their advisors need time to understand new options and this year we have seen some shifting in applications in both the Arts and Humanities and the Social Sciences streams as people become more informed about the structure and content of the DN500s and DN700s options.

Over the past two years we saw an emerging national pattern of students registering for CAO but not indicating their preference. In 2018 6,084 applicants registered 'no course choices'. This year that number has dropped to 5,351. Overall, applicants for Level 8 courses are up 2.6% but UCD first preferences are down 1.1% so, we have work to do to keep UCD top-of-mind up to the 1 July final deadline. Our expert teaching campaign, focusing on parents and influencers, went live at the end of February and we will go back out with a change of mind campaign focusing on students either side of the Leaving Cert exam timetable.

Readers may have seen our employability campaign that capitalises on our QS ranking of number 1 in Ireland and 74th in the world. Originally designed for employers and funders, we have incorporated the badge into our undergraduate campaigns and along with subject rankings badges, it can be used on materials, websites and email signatures. More information can be found on the thinkbigger.ucd.ie webpages.

UCD thanks...

Subscribers Judith Archbold, Emer Beesley, Catherine Bodey, Rupert Bowen, Kathleen James Chakraborty, Josh Clark, Catherine Cox, Ciarán Crilly, Emer Cunningham, Emma Donovan, Samantha Drennan, Rachel Farrell, Orla Feely, Marcellina Fogarty, Ronan Gough, Paul Harkin, Audrey Healy, William Johnston, Eamonn Jordan, Jessica Kavanagh, Róisín Kennedy, Beth Kocher-Gormley, Hilda Loughran, Stephen Lucek, Kate Manning, Cal Muckley, Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Valerie O'Brien, Darina O'Hanlon, Tadhg O'Leary, Siófra Pierse, Emilie Pine, Elaine Quinn, Claire Redmond, Aoife Ryan, Mark Simpson, Tara Walsh, Miceal Whelan

Produced by: Ellis O'Brien, Mary Staunton

Design: Loman Cusack Design Ltd

Print: Fine Print

Thanks to: Diarmaid Ferriter, Pat Guiry, Ann Lavan, Damien McLoughlin, Regina Uí Chollatáin

In the compilation of this publication, every care has been taken to ensure accuracy. Any errors or omissions should be brought to the attention of UCD University Relations (ucdtoday@ucd.ie). We also welcome your suggestions for articles in future editions.

Cover image: The Examination @Luca Truffarelli





Irish Book of the Year

Congratulations to Associate Professor Emilie Pine, UCD School of English, Drama and Film whose essay collection *Notes to Self* has been voted An Post Irish Book of the Year 2018. The collection explores aspects of her life including fertility, feminism, sexual violence, addiction in the family, and depression.

Maria Dickenson, Chairperson of the An Post Irish Book Awards, called the essay collection "one of the great stories in Irish bookselling in 2018. The power and honesty of Emilie's essays have captivated readers, and it's truly gratifying to see her talent rewarded."



Pictured at the Gold Medal presentation are: Prof Michael Peter Kennedy, President of the Royal Irish Academy, Prof Kathleen James-Chakraborty and Prof Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President.

RIA Gold Medal for Humanities for Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty

Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty, UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy has been presented with the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal for Humanities, becoming the first woman to receive the award. The architectural historian was awarded the prestigious prize by Minister for Education and Skills, Joe McHugh TD at a special ceremony at the RIA.

The Academy's Gold Medals are considered the highest scholarly accolade in Ireland, with only two awarded each year. Professor James-Chakraborty received her Gold Medal for her

work in the humanities, and is the seventh UCD academic to receive the honour since its inception in 2005.

Professor Peter Kennedy, President of the Royal Irish Academy said: "Through her insight, Professor James-Chakraborty's reach has advanced the boundaries of her discipline. She has hugely advanced our understanding of modern architecture through her scholarship, her public engagement, and through her role as prominent public intellectual".

A past chair of the Irish Architecture Foundation, she is a current member of the board of the Society of Architectural Historians, and of the Building of Ireland Charitable Trust, the Chester Beatty Library and the National Museum of Ireland, where she chairs one of the two standing committees of the board. To date the UCD academic has authored four monographs, more than 70 book chapters, journal articles and contributions to exhibition catalogues, and she has co-edited six collections of essays and special journal issues.

Ad Astra Awards Ceremony

UCD's flagship scholarship programme, the Ad Astra Academy held its Annual Awards Ceremony in February 2019 with over 220 guests attending to celebrate and welcome its incoming scholars across its three programmes: Academia, Elite Sports and Performing Arts. Guests included scholars and their parents, secondary school principals, Professor Mark Rogers, UCD Registrar and Deputy President, academic mentors, UCD faculty and staff, and donors of the Academy. The ceremony welcomed 57 new scholars, 17 of whom were awarded based on exceptional academic performances in their first year at UCD; 15 Elite Sports Scholars and 9 Performing Arts Scholars. Academy membership now stands at 157.

The proceedings were hosted by the Ad Astra Academy Director, Professor Barbara Dooley and included a presentation to each incoming scholar and a guest speaker from each of the Academy's three strands talking about their experiences.

Academic Scholar, Eimear Conroy (Stage 4 Physics) highlighted how the Academy enabled her to undertake the esteemed Naughton Research Experience for Undergraduates at the University of Notre Dame, USA last summer. Elite Sports Scholar, Andrew Goff (Rowing and final year Electronic Engineering student) spoke about how the Academy helped him become a



Professor Mark Rogers presents Academic Scholar, Mohammed Hamood Ali Al-Rashdi with his UCD Ad Astra Academy Scroll.

2018 Silver Medallist at the Under-23 World Rowing Championships Lightweight Quadruple Sculls. Performing Arts Scholar, Ryan O'Donnell (Children's and General Nursing student) spoke about the opportunities the Academy has enabled him to undertake including, performing Nick Payne's *Constellations* and the original *Voices of War* created by our Artistic Director, Kellie Hughes, as well as going to the Institute of Arts, Barcelona for an intensive training week with his fellow scholars. All three were exceptional speakers on the night and each of them highlighted the importance of the Academy and the impact it has had in helping them achieve their ambitions.

The evening included a performance piece, an extract from *The Third Policeman*, by UCD alumnus Flann O'Brien. It was directed by Performing Arts Artistic Director, Kellie Hughes and featured both Performing Arts Drama and

Musical Scholars. The cast featured UCD alumni Ali McMahon and Evan Lynch, along with current scholars, Lisa Lyons, Ryan O'Donnell, Luke Kehoe Roche and Dylan Browne.

The Academy is an environment where students with exceptional ability, creativity and drive are motivated, challenged and inspired. It is now a world-class Academy with scholars such as Ben Moore (Academic Scholar) winning the Fulbright Student Award to pursue a Master of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University; Peadar Timmins (Academic and Elite Sports Scholar) winning the Naughton Fellowship that has allowed him to pursue a fully funded Masters in Entrepreneurship and Technology at University of Notre Dame, USA; Elite Sports Scholars, Elena Tice being nominated for FIH (International Hockey Federation) rising star of the year and Garry Ringrose nominated for EPCR (European Professional Club Rugby) player of the year and Performing Arts alumna, Katie O'Byrne co-writing and performing a new show *Free EU Roaming* directed by alumna, Rosa Bowden at Smock Alley Theatre.

Through the continued generosity and support of alumni and friends of the University, the Academy is able to offer unique supports and opportunities, such as the Ad Astra Scholars' Room in the Student Centre, a High Performance Gym and Performing Arts Studio to its scholars. Professor Barbara Dooley, on behalf of the Academy, expressed her deep appreciation for their generosity and support.

Collaborative Doctoral Partnership Programme with European Commission's Joint Research Centre

UCD signed a Collaborative Doctoral Partnership Agreement with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission in December. The Joint Research Centre (JRC) is the European Commission's science and knowledge service. It employs investigators to carry out research in order to provide independent scientific advice and support to EU policy-makers. Education and training activities form an integral part of the JRC's work that also builds on the organisation's robust research capacity.



Pictured at the signing ceremony to mark the conclusion of an agreement are: Front row, from left, Patricia Reilly, Deputy Chief of Staff for the EU Commissioner for Education Culture, Youth and Sport; and Prof Barbara Dooley, UCD Dean of Graduate Studies and Deputy Registrar. Back row: (l-r) Prof Orla Feely, UCD Vice President for Research; Dr Emer Cunningham, UCD Graduate Studies; Jerica Zupan, EU Joint Research Centre, Project Officer for CDP Program Scientific Development; Prof Denis Shields, UCD-JRC Principal Investigator-Genomics and Bioinformatics; Prof Padraig Cunningham, UCD-JRC Principal Investigator - Machine Learning; Susan Hedigan, Head of International Research Programmes, UCD College of Science; Dr Douglas Proctor, UCD Director of International Affairs; Dr Mark Scanlon, UCD-JRC Principal Investigator Machine Learning; and Gerard Kiely, Head of the European Commission's Representation to Ireland.

The JRC issued a call to higher education institutions (HEIs) from Member States and countries associated with Horizon 2020 to participate in a new initiative of Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships (CDP). UCD has secured two of the eight CDPs awarded across Europe from 139 submissions. The collaboration will allow UCD PhD students under the supervision of UCD Principal Supervisors to carry out their doctoral research both in UCD and in the JRC research facility in Ispra, Italy, thereby benefiting

from furthering their academic research while also being integrated into the heart of the EU Commission's science-policy interface.

The UCD awardees are Professor Padraig Cunningham and Dr Mark Scanlon, UCD School for Computer Science, who will collaborate with JRC researchers on the theme of Machine Learning; and Professor Denis Shields, UCD Conway Institute, who will collaborate with JRC researchers in the theme of genomics and bioinformatics.



Our photo shows (l-r): Jack Byrne (Mount Sion Choir, Waterford); Millie Downes and Jana Antonio (Loreto College, Foxrock); Adam Renwick and Simon Caruana (Oatlands College, Blackrock); and Laolu Oriola (Mount Sion Choir, Waterford).

Choirs for Cancer 2019

To mark World Cancer Day, five secondary school and community choirs combined to highlight cancer awareness at a unique lunchtime choral event in the O'Brien Centre for Science with the help of Irish singer/songwriter, Don Mescall.

Each choir sang a song that has a special meaning to them, followed by a combined performance of the Don Mescall song, *Your Love Carries Me*, recorded by Don and the pupils of Mount Sion Choir, Waterford in tribute to people whose lives have been touched by cancer.

In this first live performance of the new single, they led the UCD community choir, Midlands Irish Sign Language Learners choir, the Solas Cancer Support Centre men's choir and the choirs of St Mary's Newport Secondary School, Oatlands College and Loreto College Foxrock.

All proceeds from the recording are being donated to the charities; CanTeen, CanCare4Living and the Solas Cancer Support Centre. The single is available for download.

Earlier in the morning, the school choirs visited UCD Conway Institute to hear the very personal stories of those whose lives are

touched by cancer as well as those of researchers focused on finding new ways to diagnose and treat cancer.

'Cancer Stories' participants included patient advocates, Vicky Phelan and Stephen Teap as well as Róisín Ní Chadhlá and Jovana Gajic, second year students at Ardscoil na Mara, Tramore whose HPV vaccine project was highly commended in the 2019 BT Young Scientist competition.

Miriam O'Callaghan, RTÉ was MC for the session, organised by Professor William Gallagher, Director, UCD Conway Institute and BREAST-PREDICT, the Irish Cancer Society's first collaborative cancer research centre.

Cancer research is one the key areas of focus under the Personalised and Translational Medicine strand of the Institute's research strategy.

Each year on 4 February, World Cancer Day empowers people across the world to show support, raise our collective voice, take personal action and press governments to do more. 2019 marks the launch of the three-year 'I Am and I Will' campaign, an empowering call-to-action urging for personal commitment and represents the power of individual action taken now to impact the future.

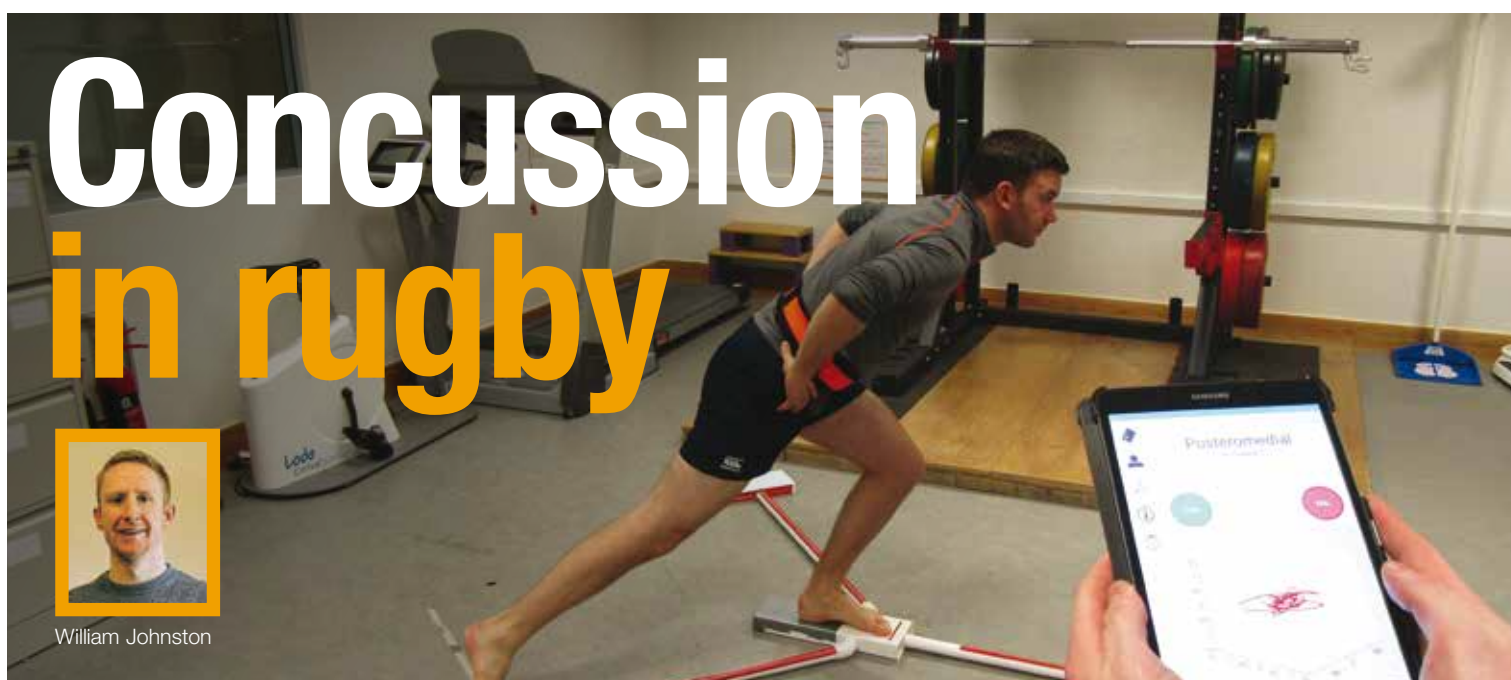


Our photo shows Commissioner Drew Harris (centre) with (on his left) Prof Joe Carthy, Principal, UCD College of Science and Prof Padraig Cunningham, Head of UCD School of Computer Science with the graduating students.

Garda Commissioner's Award

The Garda Commissioner's Award for the highest placed student graduating from the UCD MSc in Forensic Computing and Cybercrime Investigation is presented annually by the Commissioner of An Garda Síochána. The 2018 award was presented by Commissioner Drew Harris to Tobin Craig, an investigative analyst working for the US Department of Education. The winner was selected on the basis of his grade point average and the quality of his dissertation.

This distance learning programme for law enforcement officers leads to MSc, Grad Dip, Grad Cert and CPD awards. Students work full-time while they study. As well as officers from police and defence forces, there are students from government ministries and agencies, tax and revenue, competition and regulatory organisations, national security and intelligence agencies, international law enforcement agencies such as Europol, Interpol, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and EU Monitoring Missions.



William Johnston

Johnny Sexton would love life as a quarterback this past season. The NFL powers that be decreed even the remotest “roughing the passer” indiscretion would be penalised. Turns out rugby union’s textbook tackle is threatening the very existence of linebackers paid millions of dollars to rinse and repeat one job: sack the QB.

Even the crown of a tackler’s helmet glancing the QB’s shoulder pad was deemed illegal. Nor can you fall on the main man anymore. No driving them into the ground. Accidentally drop your body weight on them? “Personal foul, roughing the passer.”

The game’s gone soft, cried the majority who have never spent days, even months, recovering from severe brain injury. The tightened up ‘personal foul’ offers near total protection for the porcelain dolls of America’s game.

Sexton’s dream scenario

Game redefining rule changes have also been adopted to make rugby safer. Designed to protect players from each other, the tweaks caused some consternation.

“The game has gone too PC,” Leicester Tigers coach Geordan Murphy lamented after a red card was shown to six foot seven inch lock Will Spencer for his (now out of date) textbook tackle on six foot two inch Tommy Taylor last September. Murphy subsequently apologised, the former Ireland fullback realising he was embroiled in a watershed moment and sensing the urgent need to stop rugby from devouring itself.

Some experiments are working – others have proved deeply flawed – but The Coach always evolves quicker than the rest of us. All of a sudden they are teaching players new techniques, like tackling the player ‘below the ball’ (in order to avoid Spencer’s fate). Just look at six foot eight inch James Ryan dropping to his knees to envelope Antonie Dupont’s five foot nine inch frame in the recent Six Nations match between Ireland and France.

Clearly, there is a new textbook

“What’s actually fascinating in the US, they are bringing in a lot of rugby guys to teach tackle technique,” said William Johnston, physiotherapist and PhD researcher at the Insight Centre for Data Analytics at UCD. “They have the same problems. The tackler is at higher risk. Going in high leaves you at higher risk.”

It should be stated: at a higher risk of suffering concussion.

Honing one’s tackle technique has never been so important but there might be another way to deal with this never-ending problem.

We are talking to William Johnston about his PhD studies – a joint venture between the Insight Centre and the IRFU – and how rugby might untangle itself from the concussion web that threatens to decimate contact sport. The theory, when simplified, is that players must improve their balance to improve tackle technique and fewer concussions should follow. In 2016/17 Connacht and the Ireland under-20 squads underwent the experiment whereby 109 elite male rugby players were baseline tested in dynamic balance

“These findings add significant value to the current literature in sport related concussion; contributing an increased understanding of why individuals may be at risk of concussion.”

Professor Brian Caulfield, Director, Insight Centre for Data Analytics at UCD

performance in preseason.

“They are basically the sensors you have in your phone,” Johnston explained. “We place them on the lower back to track your central mass movement.” The results showed that players with suboptimal balance performance at baseline had “three times higher relative risk” of sustaining a concussion than those players with optimal balance performance.

“This test can never say you are 100% likely to avoid concussion,” said Johnston. “Concussion is a contact injury.”

Of course, but what can it do?

“What we can do is test players now to see if they are above the [balance] score. If below we can say if you work on your balance, movement control and tackle technique your risk of concussion should go down. Quite a lot of research shows balance is related to ankle and knee injuries but not to concussion. Over the last couple of years, research has come out of the UK where they showed movement and balance control training in community and schools rugby, where they did injury prevention programmes, and over the course of a season they had 60% reduction in concussion as well as other injuries.

That flagged to us, ‘Ok, they don’t really know the reason why there is a reduction.’ They felt maybe it is to do with neck strength because neck strength was part of it.

“Our hypothesis is that maybe it is down to movement and control. The tacklers are at the highest risk of concussion (70%) and a lot of that is around technique and the position someone goes into [contact]. Essentially this gives us a way to control a person’s control of their movement. You would assume people with poorer movement control have poorer tackle technique and that puts them at an increased risk of concussion.”

So, I improve my dynamic balance performance there is less chance of suffering a concussion?

“Theoretically. The whole idea with science is it’s incremental. This is the first study to show it. We will test this again. I was in America last summer doing the same thing with American Football and Ice Hockey.”

What was also revealed from Johnston’s work is 21 of the 109 players suffered a concussion in 2016/17. That’s 19.3%, which is slightly higher than the English RFU study (17%) in 2015/16. 13 of the 21 concussed players had a history of concussion. 31 of the 88 who did not suffer a concussion also have a history of concussion. What this showed was 27% more individuals with a history of concussion sustained another concussion during the season.

This remains an exploratory investigation but Johnston could be working in this field for a very long time. “I’d say so. The more you look into it, the more there is. There are so many next steps. I can’t see myself calling quits after I submit the PhD.”

Good. His continued research is needed

The coaches will take care of technique.

“Showing the risk is the first step in the process. Ideally we do an intervention study – identify people who would be at risk – like balance training, strength and tackle technique and then seeing if that reduces the risk. Like the lower tackle technique experiments they were doing in England.”

These experiments were abandoned as concussions increased due to ball carriers dipping into tackles when the tackler was already forced, by the trial law, to stoop low. The result was increased head on head collisions.

“It was a shame it didn’t have a positive effect but it might benefit this research as you now need to look at other ways of doing it. We can’t just implement changes in the rules of the game.”

William Johnston was in conversation with Gavin Cumiskey (BA 2001), sports journalist with the Irish Times.

University Awards



Fr Tony Coote (centre) with Prof Frank Monaghan (left) and Prof Joe Carthy.

Fr Tony Coote, a former chaplain at UCD for almost ten years, was conferred with an honorary doctorate in December. Friends and family gathered to celebrate his achievements, which include setting up UCD Volunteers Overseas with Professor Frank Monaghan, as well as launching the 'Please Talk' campaign.

Recently diagnosed with motor neurone disease, Fr Coote refused to allow his deteriorating mobility stop him from completing a 550km pilgrimage from Letterkenny to Ballydehob over the summer. Hundreds of people joined him on his now-famous walk, captured in a recent RTÉ documentary, and his effort helped raise €550,000 for motor neurone research.

Rather than focusing on his worsening condition, the now parish priest in St Therese, Mount Merrion, is determined to use his time to raise awareness and funds for MND sufferers.



Laura Brennan (right) with Prof Cecily Kelleher.

Before her untimely death in March, HPV vaccine campaigner Laura Brennan received an honorary degree in recognition of her advocacy in highlighting how the vaccine protects girls from developing cervical cancer as adults. The 26-year-old was diagnosed with cervical cancer stage 2B two years ago, and decided to become involved with the HSE's campaign to restore public trust in the HPV vaccine after her cancer was diagnosed as terminal.

Laura contacted the HSE on Facebook to offer her personal story as encouragement for parents to have their children vaccinated against cervical cancer. Vaccination wasn't available to Laura when she attended school, as this scheme wasn't introduced until 2010 but her tireless efforts were instrumental in encouraging parents to have their children vaccinated. Now the rate of vaccination is above 70% and rising, with over 250,000 girls in Ireland having received the HPV jab. RIP Laura.



Dr Douglas Lowy (left) with Prof Stephen Pennington

Also in December, UCD presented a Ulysses Medal, the University's highest honour, to Dr Douglas R Lowy, whose research on the molecular biology of viruses led to the development of the HPV vaccine. Chief of the Laboratory of Cellular Oncology and Deputy Director at the United States' National Cancer Institute, Dr Lowy's research was undertaken in collaboration with his colleague Dr John Schiller.

His citation was delivered by Professor Stephen Pennington, UCD School of Medicine, who said Dr Lowy had had a "positive impact of remarkable scale" in fight to the eliminate cervical cancer and greatly reduce other HPV-associated cancers.

Visit of Chief Scientific Adviser for Wales

Professor Peter Halligan, an internationally renowned psychologist and neuroscientist, and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Welsh Government, has delivered a keynote address at UCD in March. During his address Professor Halligan outlined the Welsh Government's aim to maintain and grow its extensive research collaborations with Irish and EU partners, including UCD, in order to continue to generate high impact research leading to future prosperity for all partners.

As Wales' chief scientific adviser, Professor Halligan, a UCD graduate, provides independent scientific advice to the Welsh First Minister and leads the development of the Welsh Government's science policy. He also works to promote the study of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine to help build a strong science base in Wales.



Professor Peter Halligan, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Welsh Government.

UCD itself has established strong research links with universities across Wales over many decades and has collaborated with researchers in a number of areas including; Health, Agri-food and Culture, Economy and Society.

During his address Professor Halligan said: "As Brexit approaches it is very important that Wales and Ireland strengthen and expand their historical and mutually beneficial research collaborations, often facilitated by EU funding, and I look forward to future positive developments".

Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact said: "Professor Halligan is playing a critical role in shaping science policy in Wales. We are delighted to welcome him back to UCD, as a distinguished and proud alumnus, to deliver this keynote address. Against the backdrop of a changing external landscape, we are strongly aware of the importance of our significant and long-standing relationships with many Welsh universities. We are taking purposeful steps to strengthen bilateral relations with Welsh universities, and universities across the UK, to ensure that these relationships are not only sustained post-Brexit, but continue to flourish and grow into the future".

Festschrift Celebration

In December, Dr Imelda McCarthy, a consultant to faculty of the systemic psychotherapy programme in the UCD School of Medicine was feted with a Festschrift, honouring her almost 50 years contribution to the international field of family therapy.

The School was represented by Dr Valerie O'Brien, Director of the systemic psychotherapy programme, who gave a presentation on Dr McCarthy's long association with family therapy in Ireland and UCD. This programme was previously run under the auspices of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, of

which Imelda was a co-founder 39 years ago. She was on the board of studies for UCD when the Masters in Psychotherapy was first awarded through UCD in 1991, as well as inaugurating one of UCD's first taught PhD Programmes (Families and Systemic Therapies) within the School of Applied Social Science in 1993.

During her time in UCD (1983 – 2007), Dr McCarthy served on Academic Council and was on the first Bullying and Harassment programme inaugurated by the University. In the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, she worked in the Family Studies Unit, and directed their first part-time MSoc Sc (Social Work) for mature professionals in the field.



Celebrating UCD's multicultural community are, back row (l-r): Chiara Zacchae, UCD Global; Joanna Kozielec, UCD School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering; Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Bord na Gaeilge; Ulyana O'Neill, UCD Sutherland School of Law; Oksana Osieniene, UCD Sutherland School of Law; and Dr Stephen Lucek, School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics. Front row (l-r): Licia Carlesi, UCD Culture and Engagement; Dr Arun Kumar, School of Veterinary Medicine; Suad Taimar Inam, UCD HR; and Caroline Mangan, UCD Global.

Is fearr cairde ná ór!

As Ireland embraces multiculturalism in all its forms, UCD is leading the way towards reflecting and representing the New Ireland of friends and colleagues whose cultures and customs give new meaning to Irishness. Following a campus-wide survey in 2017, the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion unit has helped to organise a new employee network: the Multicultural Employee Network at UCD (MENU). The purpose of the network is to provide support and information to colleagues and gain an understanding of the great cultural diversity within the UCD community. Among the current committee members are employees from Europe, Russia, North America, South America and India. They include both faculty and staff, all with their unique experiences of life at UCD. Membership of MENU is open to anyone within the UCD community and the committee intends to organise some fun events to give people the chance to get to know each other in a relaxed environment. Join us; you'll be more than welcome!

Is fearr cairde ná ór a deir an seanfhocal agus sin a chreideann an coiste nuabhunaithe 'Gréasán Ilchultúrtha d'Fhostaithe UCD'. Ag tógáil ar pholasáí comhionannais, éagsúlachta agus cuimsithe na hollscoile, tá grúpa fostaithe iontach diograiseach tar éis teacht le céile chun an bhunchloch a leagan don ghréasán seo. 'Sé feidhm an ghréasáin ná tacaíocht a chur ar fáil do chomhghleacaithe, eolas a roinnt agus tuiscint a fháil ar an ilghnéitheacht chultúrtha atá le sonrú taobh istigh de phobal UCD. Ar an gcoiste reatha tá ionadaithe as an Eoraip, ón Rúis, ó Mheiriceá thuaidh agus theas agus ón India. Tá idir baill foirne acadúla agus phroifisiúnta ag obair ar an togra seo le chéile, agus tá taithí saoil faoi leith ag gach éinne acu. Is féidir le pobal iomlán na hollscoile ballraíocht a ghlacadh sa ghréasán, agus eagróidh an coiste imeachtaí taitneamhacha spráilúla le gur féidir le baill an ghréasáin aithne a chur ar a chéile go héasca. Bígi linn, beidh fáilte is fiche romhat!



Sr Margarita Ryan, Dr Mags Liddy, Nano Nagle Newman Fellow in Education and Professor Deirdre Raftery at the launch of the PiNNacle research project.

Launch of PiNNacle funded by the Presentation Sisters

Wednesday 12 December saw the launch of PiNNacle, an innovative research project which aims to build teaching capacity in the developing world. Led by Professors Deirdre Raftery and Marie Clarke, UCD School of Education, this project will identify and promote what is best in teacher education for women teachers in developing contexts and provide generous Masters scholarships for women teachers from pilot schools in India and Pakistan to study at UCD.

UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks welcomed the Presentation Sisters, who have generously supported this project, Ambassador Sandeep Kumar from the Embassy of India and Ambassador Shuja Alam from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Both Ambassadors expressed their full support of PiNNacle and the education and empowerment of girls and women in India and Pakistan.

Presentation Sister Margarita spoke passionately about their "explicit mission to work for the transformation of unjust systems, the Integrity of Creation, and the flourishing of humanity and earth". She also spoke about the Presentation Sisters' commitment to "supporting important projects that strive to eliminate human trafficking, eradicate rape as a weapon of war, resist gender-based violence and violence against women, defend indigenous peoples and migrants, and support the education of girls and women".

Behavioural Sciences category at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition

The BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition was held in the RDS in January. 550 finalist projects were showcased at the event from all over the island of Ireland with 178 projects in the largest category, Social and Behavioural Sciences (32%). The projects involved interesting and challenging questions, rigorous methodologies, rewarding findings and strong presentations. UCD College of Social Sciences and Law had a stand in a very prominent position to promote the social and behavioural sciences to the thousands of primary and secondary students and their parents and teachers who attended.

The UCD Social Sciences Special Category Award was presented at the annual event's

awards ceremony by Professor Colin Scott, UCD Dean of Social Sciences to Abby Reynolds, Ailish O'Hanlon and Aoife O'Brien from Coláiste Treasa, Kanturk, Co Cork for their project 'What Do You Think Of Me? A statistical analysis of adolescents and elderly people's perceptions of aging', in the Social and Behavioural Sciences Junior Group Category. Their project investigated the perceptions of ageing and the elderly in a population of teenagers attending a co-educational school in Cork and explored the impact of implementing inter-generational social, educational and activity-based interventions. Their study consisted of a cross-sectional study using a questionnaire and incorporated an intervention study on a sub population.



Pictured is Prof Colin Scott, UCD Dean of Social Sciences presenting the UCD Social Sciences Special Category Award to Abby Reynolds, Ailish O'Hanlon and Aoife O'Brien.



Our photo shows (l-r): Norah Martyn, Past President, BSTAI; Margaret McDonnell, Honorary National President, BSTAI; Prof Laserina O'Connor; Prof Andrew Deeks; Cian O'Sullivan; Rachel Farrell (PME Programme Co-ordinator); and Prof Gerard Fealy (Dean and Head of UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems).

John O'Connor Inaugural Award for Excellence

UCD Awards Day 2018 included the presentation of the inaugural John O'Connor Award for Excellence in Business Studies Teaching. Commissioned by the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland (BSTAI), and adopted by UCD School of Education, the award commemorates the memory of John O'Connor, a graduate of UCD with a BComm (1971) and a Higher Diploma in Education (1972).

The presentation of the award was preceded by a short address from Margaret McDonnell, Honorary National President of the BSTAI, who said that, through the Award, future generations of business teachers will recognise John's contribution to business education and to the scholarship of teaching. She said that John's legacy is immense, having spent his life sharing best practice with business teachers and promoting excellence in all aspects of business studies education. He was a founding member of the BSTAI in 1975, serving for a time as chairperson of its Dublin branch and as its fourth national president.

As well as being a teacher, he was a leading textbook author with a total of 35 publications from 1976 to 2012. He was also a leading publisher, acting as managing director of a national publishing company, and later running his own publishing company, Blackwater Press Ltd.

The recipient of the inaugural John O'Connor Award 2018 was Cian O'Sullivan, a graduate of the Business Professional Master of Education (PME) degree. UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks presented the award and John's wife, Professor Laserina O'Connor, UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems also attended the ceremony.

Pioneering Proteomics Researcher and Entrepreneur receives the NovaUCD 2018 Innovation Award

The NovaUCD 2018 Innovation Award was presented to Professor Stephen Pennington, UCD School of Medicine, a global leader in proteomics research and innovation, by UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks, at an event held in December.

The award was presented in recognition of his commitment and success in protein biomarker research, undertaken during the last 15 years at UCD Conway Institute, and previously in the UK, and the conversion of this research into diagnostic tests for clinical use which can have a positive impact on the lives of patients worldwide.

Professor Pennington is the founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Atturos, a UCD spin-out company, which is developing a portfolio of novel multi-marker blood tests. Atturos' first test, OCProDx, is a prostate cancer test which will help some men avoid unnecessary over-treatment. The company is planning to launch this test onto the market in 2020.

He is also the incoming President of the Human Proteome Organisation (HUPO), the international scientific organisation of over 1,000 members representing and promoting proteomics, which is headquartered in Vancouver, Canada. He is the first researcher from an Irish university to be elected to this prestigious position.



Professor Pennington is a named inventor on four priority patent filings and has also published over 90 scientific papers, edited and contributed to several books including editing one of the first books on proteomics that was translated into Chinese and Japanese. He is on the editorial board of several journals and regularly reviews manuscripts and grants for a number of organisations.

On an international level Professor Pennington has been the President of the British Society for Proteome Research since 2016 and in 2017 he was the lead organiser of the 16th Annual World Congress of the Human Proteome Organisation, held in the Convention Centre in Dublin.

Bauhaus Effects Conference

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of Bauhaus, the twentieth-century's most innovative and influential school of art, design and architecture. To mark the occasion a conference, entitled Bauhaus Effects, was held at the National Gallery of Ireland in February. Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty, UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy was one of the co-organisers, along with Sabine Kriebel from UCC, Francis Halsall, Declan Long and Sarah Pierce from NCAD, and Thomas Lier and Heidrun Rottke from the Goethe Institut Dublin.

UCD alumna Yvonne Farrell of Grafton Architects introduced fellow architect Heike Hanada, who spoke about the Bauhaus Museum she has designed that will open in Weimar this April, and gave the first keynote address. Fifteen papers were presented by scholars based in Australia, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Sweden, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

UCD support for the event was provided by UCD Research, UCD College of Arts and Humanities, UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy and UCD Humanities Institute. Dublin City Council, the German Embassy, the Goethe Institut Dublin and NCAD also supported the conference, which is one of a series of activities taking place around the world this year to mark the Bauhaus centennial.

An eye for impact from UCD research



Research at UCD delivers impact in many forms. Professor Orla Feely is inspired by the diversity and depth of those effects, and she is supporting researchers to create impact and tell their story to the world.

Some research projects have an obvious effect on our lives – perhaps the work leads to a new medicine, to innovations that fuel the growth of jobs, to new policies or to justice for the wronged. Other research may bring less tangible but no less important benefits, such as how a nation views itself, or a deeper understanding of the natural world and beyond.

For Professor Orla Feely, capturing and articulating the many forms of impact from UCD research is a constant and growing mission. “Impact is the positive difference we can make to the world, and as a University we deliver impact in lots of ways,” says Professor Feely, who is Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact at UCD.

“We deliver impact through our teaching and our graduates, through the way we conduct ourselves as an organisation and through the excellent and diverse research that we carry out. That research reaches into every area of Irish society and increasingly it is impacting at a global level.”

Capturing impact

Impact has come to the fore in the research landscape in recent years, yet the impact of a piece of research is not always easy to measure or articulate. So UCD offers researchers several forms of support to help them capture and communicate the effects and influences of their work, and has established a Research Analytics and Impact team led by Liam Cleere.

“We run courses, we have developed an impact canvas to help researchers capture and convey impact in a structured way and we bring in external experts to help,” says Professor Feely. “We run an annual Research Impact Case Study Competition that encourages researchers to develop impact case studies about their work.”

The competition has built up an impressive and diverse showcase of UCD research and its impact, including projects that have shaped policies in Ireland, that are improving the health and education of children and that are tackling important societal issues (see panel).

Research for the people

UCD researchers have been hitting the headlines recently too with wave-making research, notes Professor Feely. They include Professor David Farrell from UCD School of Politics and International Relations, recipient (with Dr Jane Suiter of Dublin City University) of the 2019 Brown Democracy Medal of the



McCourtney Institute for Democracy at Penn State University for his work on the Irish Citizens' Assembly Project.

“It is a brilliant example of how you can take research work, in this case into deliberative democracy, and channel it into influence,” says Professor Feely. “The Citizens' Assembly has played an important role in advancing democracy in Ireland. It is a true case of research impact in action.”

Professor Feely also welcomes the impact of a project led by Dr Anthony Ventresque, UCD School of Computer Science, which sees experts in artificial intelligence working alongside social scientists, educationalists, industry and NGOs to develop a chatbot that can help displaced people in refugee camps find appropriate online education that supports their futures. “It is a great example of how artificial intelligence can be used to impact positively on some of the most vulnerable people in the world,” says Professor Feely.

Another example of research impact comes from the work of Professor Eoin Casey and colleagues in UCD School of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering, she notes: “Their new technology to save energy in wastewater treatment led to the formation of spin-out OxyMem, whose technology is deployed in a number of countries around the world.”

Goals for the future

Research and its impact will be central to the new UCD strategy, which will be developed over the coming months, and external frameworks such as the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are expected to figure prominently.

“We have begun a process of mapping our research and researchers to the SDGs, to see how our research aligns to the goals and how we can join the research up to enhance this alignment,” explains Professor Feely.

She is motivated by the different types of changes that the research can bring. “We are making a positive difference in the world in so

many ways,” she says. “I am constantly amazed, energised and enthused by the impact that I see of UCD research. In my work I get to meet so many people across different areas of the University – I might be talking to people in the humanities in the morning, in medicine in the afternoon and chemical engineering in the evening. To be able to support our researchers to deliver excellent research with impact is a great privilege.”

Shining a Spotlight on Impact

UCD's Research Impact Case Study Competition has highlighted projects from across the University that deliver impact in many shapes and forms. “UCD research delivers substantial impact, and we celebrate that,” says Professor Orla Feely.

Professor Michelle Norris, Head of UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, won the inaugural competition in 2017. Her research on the funding of social housing following Ireland's economic crash in 2007/08 influenced Government policy on the provision and funding of social housing for low-income households.

In 2018, Associate Professor Crystal Fulton, UCD School of Information and Communication Studies scooped the top prize for her work on problem gambling, which informed new regulations in Ireland around gambling and which helped those providing aid for those affected by gambling addiction. “They are examples of how research can really deliver societal benefit,” says Professor Feely of the two projects.

Other case studies included work by Dr Orla Doyle, UCD College of Business on an intervention in Dublin to improve children's health and development from pregnancy through to starting school and beyond, and a project in rural Zambia by Dr Victor M Mukonka and Dr Patricia Fitzpatrick, UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science, which found that health education and giving free mother-baby delivery packs boosted the number of babies being delivered in hospitals or other health facilities there. “These are examples where we can see that interventions can very quickly have an impact on the health and education of children and families,” says Professor Feely.

Professor Orla Feely was in conversation with Dr Claire O'Connell (BSc, (Hons) 1992, PhD 1998), journalist with the Irish Times and Silicon Republic and Irish Science Writer of the Year 2016.



Our photo shows UCD President, Prof Andrew Deeks with (centre) Vice-Minister Tian and Prof Liming Wang, UCD Confucius Institute.

Visit of China's Vice-Minister for Education

UCD's Confucius Institute was awarded 'Model Confucius Institute' during a visit by China's Vice-Minister for Education, Tian Xuejun. The Vice-Minister was accompanied to campus by Chinese Ambassador to Ireland, Yue Xiaoyong and was welcomed by UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks and UCD Confucius Institute Director, Professor Liming Wang.

Over 100 people, including students, faculty and staff of UCD Confucius Institute attended the ceremony. Established with the Beijing-based Renmin University of China in 2006, the UCD Confucius Institute is the one of the earliest Confucius Institutes and also among the first group of Model Confucius Institutes. During his speech, Vice-Minister Tian praised the unique role played by the institute in building the friendship between China and Ireland.



Pictured (l-r) are Martin Shanahan, CEO IDA Ireland; Marie O'Connor, newly appointed Chair, UCD Governing Authority; Prof Andrew Deeks, UCD President; Marcellina Fogarty, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Manager; Prof Colin Scott, Vice-President for Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; and Prof Judith Harford, Vice-Principal for EDI, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law.

UCD launches Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Annual Report

Martin Shanahan, CEO, IDA Ireland was the keynote speaker at the launch of UCD's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy, strategy and action plan recently on campus. The CEO of the agency responsible for encouraging foreign direct investment into Ireland, stressed the important role that supportive EDI policies play within companies and the competitive advantage they infer. He emphasised how promoting and maintaining diversity in the workplace is crucial for attracting talent in a competitive market place and that businesses with a healthy balance of men and women were more likely to outperform their competitors, as too were those with employees from a wide mix of ethnic, social, and sexual backgrounds.

UCD President, Professor Andrew Deeks, launching the new policy along with the EDI Annual Report for 2017/18, reiterated how the University wants to ensure that employees and students can thrive and are able to participate fully in their work and study, in a respectful environment where they can reach their full potential.

The Annual Report highlighted many achievements for the year including the submission by five Schools for Athena SWAN awards; an increased number of events and EDI-related training; the award of University of Sanctuary status; and the launch of the Gender Identity and Expression policy, which recently won the national CIPD award in the Diversity and Inclusion category.

UCD's EDI policy was reviewed in 2018 to reflect the inclusive culture that now exists within the University community, and sets out the principles that UCD will adhere to. Mainstreaming EDI into University policies, practices and decision-making is one of the core objectives, supported by the appointment of Vice-Principals for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in each of UCD's Colleges.

The launch also provided the opportunity for the first UCD public engagement for Marie O'Connor, the newly appointed Chair of the UCD Governing Authority, who has a long history of promoting EDI.

UCD's EDI Strategy can be accessed on www.ucd.ie/equality



Pictured are Julie Sinnamon, CEO, Enterprise Ireland and Tom Flanagan, UCD Director of Enterprise and Commercialisation.

Over 360 Companies and Early-Stage Ventures Supported by NovaUCD

NovaUCD, the Centre for New Ventures and Entrepreneurs, has announced the results of its latest survey of companies supported since opening 15 years ago. Since then over 360 companies and early-stage ventures have been supported.

At NovaUCD new high-tech and knowledge-intensive start-up companies are nurtured and supported to enable them to develop, scale and create jobs. Early-stage ventures have additionally completed programmes run by NovaUCD, such as the UCD VentureLaunch Accelerator Programme and the UCD Start-Up Stars Programme.

Companies currently and to date, supported through NovaUCD include; BiancaMed, Carrick Therapeutics, ChangingWorlds, Corlytics, DocoSoft, EnBIO, Equinome, Genomics Medicine Ireland, Logentries, Neuromod Devices, Nuritas, OncoMark, OxyMem, Plusvital and Vivid Edge.

Julie Sinnamon, CEO, Enterprise Ireland, said, "Start-ups are the life blood of the Irish economy and a key role for Enterprise Ireland is to support the start-up ecosystem. Enterprise Ireland has supported NovaUCD over the last 15 years and I would like to congratulate the centre and the companies on their success."

Tom Flanagan, UCD Director of Enterprise and Commercialisation said, "We are very proud of the achievements of our companies and look forward to building on the successful formula for enterprise development and commercialisation that we have developed at NovaUCD. We can do even more when the expansion of our facilities is completed later this year."

UCD's technology transfer team, which is responsible for the commercialisation of the intellectual property emerging from UCD's world-class research programmes, is also based at NovaUCD. Since 2003, 45 new UCD spin-out companies have been incorporated; over 825 inventions have been disclosed by UCD researchers; over 280 priority patent applications have been filed and more than 200 licensing deals have been concluded with a range of indigenous and international businesses.

UCD professor's new fraud detection system could help protect the elderly



How do you make sure your money is kept safe? This is a question that people will often ask themselves when they hear news that a

new fraud scheme is doing the rounds. Many fraudsters are transparent, with their schemes lacking credibility and authorisation – but many more are highly skilled at stealing money from people's bank accounts. It is not just telephone callers and email scammers that steal people's money – debit and credit cards can be copied and numbers stolen too.

Elderly people can be at a higher risk of being targeted by fraudsters, with some international estimates suggesting that between 10 and 20 percent of elderly people will be targeted at some point. The result is huge financial losses for elderly people across the world – which also results in financial institutions losing significant amounts of money.

This is something that Cal Muckley, professor of Operational Risk in Banking and Finance at UCD Quinn School of Business, is trying to change. He is well aware of the issues that fraud presents to financial institutions and individuals across the world, but is acutely aware of the impact it has on elderly people. He notes that many elderly people are at a higher risk of being targeted by fraudsters because they may have greater wealth after a lifetime of earning, and are also more likely to experience cognitive impairment, such as dementia.

"It's mind boggling," Muckley says. "You've got people calling at the front door conjuring up work that has to be done in the house and then charging exorbitantly for it. You've got people coming in over the telephone professing to be with various companies or financial institutions who provide misleading advice. So, let's imagine that one of these fraudulent individuals was successful. What you will have then is irregular, unusual patterns on the account of the elderly

person, which may well breach the threshold and create an alert with their financial institution."

This is where Muckley comes into the equation. A number of years ago, he and some colleagues began working on a new project to see if they could come up with a new and improved alert model for financial institutions. They believed that the systems that are in place in financial institutions across the world to detect fraud could be improved as new technologies came to the fore. They hoped that they could come up with a new system that could help to identify – and even predict – fraudulent transactions in the accounts of elderly clients, which could in turn help to protect those clients.

Muckley and his team secured funding and also gained permission from a global financial institution to allow researchers to go in and analyse their records. Over the course of 14 months, a team of three researchers worked in the financial institution, where they sifted through 250 million transactions in the accounts of people over 70. Under the financial institution's original fraud alert system, 19,395 of these transactions were flagged as being potentially fraudulent. However, just 74 of those ended up being deemed truly suspicious by analysts. By comparison, Muckley's team implemented a new system – a machine learning algorithm – which sent out 8,340 alerts on these transactions. Of these, 66 of the original fraudulent transactions were picked up – as well as a number of other cases that were originally missed.

The results of the study – and the team's new machine learning algorithm – were published in the *European Journal of Finance* last December, where they showed how they had successfully reduced the number of false positives in their financial institution. In the article, Muckley and his co-authors, Gaurav Kumar, Linh Pham and Darragh Ryan, note that this is the first systematic study of alert models designed to protect the accounts of elderly clients. This is despite the fact that elderly people are routinely targeted by fraudsters. Last May, Bloomberg reported that America's elderly population is losing \$37 billion a year due to financial fraud.

To devise their new approach, Muckley and his team used three different statistical models: logistic regression, random forest and support vector machine learning. Using these three models, they were able to come up with what

they say is a better alert model that can help banks meet their ethical obligation to protect elderly clients. They estimate that 20 percent of elderly people in the US have been victims of financial fraud. Their study claims that the systems currently in place to detect fraud in elderly clients' accounts are "inefficient" and can overlook "nuanced activity". It is because of this, they claim, that financial institutions are flooded with huge numbers of false positives – fraud alerts that are not actually fraud at all.

But things are starting to change. There have been legislative moves across the world to help better protect elderly people from financial exploitation. In Ireland, safeguarding legislation to protect people from financial abuse is in the works in the form of the Adult Safeguarding Bill and the Vulnerable Persons Bill 2015. Meanwhile, in the US, the Bank Secrecy and Elder Justice Presentation and Prosecution Acts note that financial institutions have a duty to prevent the exploitation of their elderly clients.

Muckley argues that the benefits are manifold for financial institutions who implement a new model like theirs to detect fraud. Not only will it help to protect their elderly clients, it could also result in fewer losses for the institution, and could help to protect their reputation.

"Reputation is so key to these institutions given the importance of trust," Muckley says. "The bank does have a duty of care to protect its vulnerable clients, including the elderly, and that is becoming increasingly clear."

Muckley says that financial institutions have the data they need to better detect fraud in the accounts of elderly clients – but says that they could be using that data in "a much better way".

"We don't have sight of course of precisely what other institutions are doing, but I will highlight that the institution we worked with is one of the largest financial institutions globally and is well recognised and has a very low fraudulent rate. I suspect that the kind of approach we are championing isn't used much out there. That's an awful shame, because these approaches can better protect the elderly."

Professor Cal Muckley was in conversation with Patrick Kelleher (BA 2015, MA 2017), a freelance journalist

UCD Charles Institute Researchers part of winning team

Monday, December 10 marked a very successful day for Professor Wenxin Wang, a principal investigator in the UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology and his team of researchers, including postdoctoral researcher Dr Irene-Lara Sáez and visiting researcher Dr Lara Cutlar. Their Amryt Pharmaceuticals-led project entitled *A disruptive Gene Therapy Platform, Replacing Viruses in the treatment of Genetic Conditions* secured the largest award of 27 winning projects as part of the first tranche of the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation's Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF) awards.

The €8.4 million award will be allocated across the consortium partners including UCD Charles Institute, Amryt Pharmaceuticals, Curran Scientific Ltd and DEBRA Ireland. €2.9 million will be allocated to the UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology and UCD School of Medicine to develop and expand a new platform for gene therapy for monogenic diseases such as the skin disease Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). The consortium faced significant competition, with over 300 applications submitted in the first round. The application was supported by the UCD Research Office and the project will commence in January 2019.

This award, which is part of the Project Ireland 2040 initiative, will help to fund equipment and



Photographed at the event are: (back row l-r) Prof Desmond Tobin; John McEvoy, Amryt; Sinéad Hickey, DEBRA; Jimmy Fearon, DEBRA; John Daly, Curran Scientific; (front row l-r) Rory Nealon, Amryt; Derval O'Carroll, Amryt; Irene Lara-Saez; and Lara Cutlar (Amryt). Missing from photo: Prof Wenxin Wang.

researchers and will continue to grow the Institute's position on the (inter)national map in terms of efforts to discover new and effective treatments for skin disease.

Speaking after the announcement held in RSCI, Professor Desmond Tobin, Director of the UCD Charles Institute, said: "This news provides a wonderful research fillip for us for 2019 and continues to grow the Institute's significant

translational research effort for the benefit of patients".

Professor Wenxin Wang expressed his excitement of receiving this highly prestigious award, saying: "This award will allow our team to further develop our gene therapy platform and turn our dream of developing new and efficient non-viral gene therapy into reality soon".

UCD Global - UCD Ar Fud na Cruinne

February saw the renaming of UCD International Office to UCD Global. UCD is Ireland's Global University and its key international aspirations are framed in a Global Engagement Strategy.

We encourage our students to reflect on their place in a globalised world, and our faculty and staff - drawn from many different countries - investigate global challenges in their research and develop partnerships around the world. As such, UCD's focus is increasingly on the worldwide and multilateral (the global), rather than on the strictly bilateral (the international).

Although closely associated with its work with international students, UCD Global also supports the University in a broad range of activities relating to global engagement, both at home and overseas, not least in the development of academic partnerships with institutions, organisations and governments worldwide.

The Irish translation, *UCD ar Fud na Cruinne*, means 'UCD Around the Globe', providing quite a literal translation to the University's activities, and physical presence in cities around the world, is in line with the new name. UCD Global looks forward to supporting the University in the achievement of its global strategy and aspirations into the future.



UCD Library first to launch EXPLORE

UCD Library is the first library in the world to launch Explore, a suite of new interactive floor plans across its locations. An analysis of UniShare data revealed that 25% of queries at information desks related to confusion in finding required material and navigating the Library's layout. Ongoing feedback reinforced the necessity to address these difficulties, which resulted in the commencement of a Wayfinding Project.

The most common query related to the location of a specific book and while the catalogue provides the shelfmark, students had difficulty locating the appropriate shelf. The solution to this problem came in the form of an indoor mapping web application called StackMap, supported by the assignment of aisle labels and updates to all the bookends. The process of how you search for a book remains unchanged, but now when the book is available, a blue 'Map' button is visible adjacent to the shelfmark information. Clicking on the button provides the user with directions to the specific shelf where the item is located, along with a floor plan displaying a pin icon marking the relevant shelf.

The next top query was how to locate material relating to a broad subject area, such as

history. The solution to this problem is EXPLORE, an interactive mapping service. A team from UCD Library worked closely with the StackMap team on the development of Explore to ensure it met user requirements and took the opportunity to expand its functionality to map additional spaces, such as water fountains, PC clusters etc.

The combination of StackMap and Explore means that users can find specific material, broad subject areas and services much more easily across all Library locations and floors. Not only does this enhance the user experience, it opens the collections and services to a wider population, as not everybody considers using or searching across UCD's five library sites. Already there is a marked decrease in the number of directional queries. Try it today at www.ucd.ie/library/explore.

Research into prisoners' health brought to life



For the last five years Dr Catherine Cox, associate professor at UCD School of History has been the principal investigator on a major research project into

the medical care of prisoners in England and Ireland between 1850 and 2000. The research is funded by the Wellcome Trust and is a collaboration with the University of Warwick, DCU and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

Its overarching aims are to examine who advocates for prisoners' health, how debates on human rights influence the provision of medical care for prisoners and how the system copes, or doesn't cope, with significant health challenges. For example, mental health in prisons, the HIV/AIDS epidemic of the 1980s and the provision of care for women prisoners.

The research is in its final year and while it is too early to speculate on its ultimate conclusions, Professor Cox says a number of strong themes have emerged. "Looked at as a swathe of 150 years of prison history we wouldn't say the issues facing prisoners are exactly the same, but there are certainly recurrent themes and many of the concerns today echo those of the past," she says.

"Since the 1960s the Irish prison estate has expanded significantly and the prison population has risen from 461 people in four prisons then to around 4,000 in 12 prisons now. Conditions in prisons have changed since the 1960s and these changes are part of a long history of debate and intervention concerning prisoners' right to health care that reaches right back to the penal reformer John Howard and the playwright Oscar Wilde and continues to this day."

Associate Professor Cox's research, *Prisoners, Medical Care and Entitlement to Health in England and Ireland, 1850-2000*, explores ten themes including prison health and history, the management of disease, health issues affecting political prisoners and to what extent prison doctors are constrained by dual loyalties to the prison service and to their patients.

The study also looks specifically at mental illness because of its enduring significance for prisoner wellbeing both historically and now. "If we look back to the 1830s when the modern prison system was established there was a high instance of mental health problems among adult but also juvenile prisoners and if you look at Irish prisons today, it's estimated that 8 per cent of the prison population has a severe, enduring and disabling mental health illness," Associate Professor Cox points out.

"As we began to draw out the research strands we were struck by the continuity around some of the key issues. Mental health jumped out both historically and now, as did the health of



The Examination, featuring actor and stand-up comedian Willie White, who served time in prison. Photo credit: Luca Truffarelli

women not least because prisons were originally designed with men in mind. How to deal with women was a problem back in the 1850s and the prison services in Ireland and England are still struggling with the management of maternity services."



From *Living Inside: Six Voices From the History of Irish Prison Reform*, at Kilmainham Gaol Museum. Photo credit: Conor Mulhern.

It was partly these resonances with the past that prompted the researchers to consider how their findings could make an impact beyond the academic world and how the material being produced could be fashioned into something more immediate and with broader appeal than articles in scholarly journals. To this end, the team put together a programme of public engagement outputs comprising a combination of theatrical productions, art installations and exhibitions that touch on different aspects of prisoner health.

The first of these outputs took to the boards in 2017 with the premiere of *Disorder Contained*, a 'modern' history play with an original script based on research from the mid-19th century, while February this year saw the opening at the Kilmainham Gaol Museum of *Living Inside: Six Voices From the History of Irish Prison Reform*. Drawing on research by UCD's Dr Oisín Wall, this exhibition, which runs until 19 May, tells the story

of six people whose lives were entangled with campaigns for prison reform in Ireland since the 1960s through their experiences, academic research, images by the photojournalist Derek Speirs, and rarely seen historical objects on loan from the Mountjoy Prison Museum.

The academic study has also inspired *The Trial*, a 2018 visual art installation by Sinead McCann exhibited at Kilmainham Gaol, and *Health Inside*, a public art intervention displayed on advertising hoardings around the city. Using nineteenth and twentieth century images and short quotations, it highlighted conditions in Irish prisons, especially in relation to healthcare.

The most recent output was *The Examination*, a 2019 play by the theatre group, Brokentalkers, which was over a year in the making. It tells the story of prisoners struggling with mental and physical ill-health and addiction in Ireland's prison system. The play was based on interviews with prisoners and former prisoners and also drew on the wider historical analysis undertaken by Associate Professor Cox.

Public reaction to the outreach initiatives has been very positive and Associate Professor Cox says the drive to generate more outputs from academic research than traditional books and papers has really begun to gather momentum in the last five years. "There is definitely a trend towards reaching out and much more direct engagement between academic institutions and the public," she says. "As an academic you're used to being 'the expert' and speaking as a single voice. The increased interaction helps to 'de-centre' the process by adding voices through being more interdisciplinary, listening to other approaches and responses and learning from people with direct experience of whatever issue it is you're dealing with."

Associate Professor Catherine Cox was in conversation with Olive Keogh, MA, contributor to the *Irish Times*.

Books



The Kilderry Files

Dr Maurice Manning, Chancellor, NUI

Currach Press

ISBN: 978-1-78218-888-9

1997, an elderly Irish bishop dies. He had once been a figure of power and ambition in the Irish Catholic Church, expected at one point to be its leader in the future. His death revealed a stash American stocks and shares worth many millions of dollars – but what was its provenance, who owned it?

This was the dilemma facing the newly appointed bishop, his assistant bishop and the assistant's useful nephew (Miss Marple esque, always have a useful nephew!). They banded together with a motley crew to get to the bottom of the mystery. They even got a Protestant on board and this did not go down well with some!

The author takes us on a rollercoaster ride across Irish history – merging fictional and historical characters and incidents to build a story across many years which reels you in. I particularly loved the inclusion of Colonel Dan Bryan, his first person narrative was very evocative of the time, with a cameo from De Valera and many characters from that post Civil War period in Ireland.

It's got an excellent dramatis personae with the bishop's unsavoury nephew, a corrupt Italian (Sicilian of course!) Papal Nuncio, a mysterious Catholic organisation based in Spain around Franco's time and various local characters who add enormous colour to the story. It's also got honourable mention for some UCD academics of the time!

The author shows a wonderful understanding of Irish human nature, the inveterate nosiness, the (let's be honest!) constant begrudgery, the practice of keeping something back just in case it might be 'of use' sometime in the future, and well, the general cute hoor-ness that everyone thinks they have!

It was a thoroughly enjoyable read with mystery, murder, mayhem and even a little bit of romance. Happy ending? You'll have to read it for yourself...

MS



The Palgrave Handbook of Contemporary Irish Theatre and Performance

Edited by Associate Professor Eamonn Jordan, UCD School of English, Drama and Film and **Professor Eric Weitz**, TCD School of Creative Arts

Palgrave Handbooks

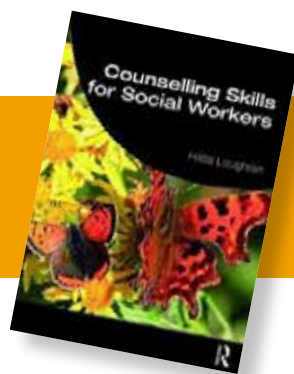
ISBN: 978-1-137-58587-5

978-1-137-58588-2 (e-book)

This Handbook offers a multiform sweep of theoretical, historical, practical and personal glimpses into a landscape roughly characterised as contemporary Irish theatre and performance. Bringing together a spectrum of voices and sensibilities in each of its four sections — Histories, Close-ups, Interfaces, and Reflections — it casts its gaze back across the past sixty years or so to recall, analyse, and assess the recent legacy of theatre and performance on this island. While offering information, overviews and reflections of current thought across its chapters, this book will serve most handily as food for thought and a springboard for curiosity. Offering something different in its mix of themes and perspectives, so that previously unexamined surfaces might come to light individually and in conjunction with other essays, it is a wide-ranging and indispensable resource in Irish theatre studies.

Over thirty of the sixty contributors are UCD faculty, former faculty, students or alumni, including essays from Dr Finola Cronin, Professor Anne Fogarty, Kellie Hughes, Dr Paul Halferty, Dr Cormac O'Brien, Associate Professor Emilie Pine and Dr Ashley Taggart.

A beautifully bound book, this is a must for theatre lovers at all levels. **MS**



Counselling Skills for Social Workers

Associate Professor Hilda Loughran, UCD School of Social, Policy, Social Work and Social Justice.

Routledge

ISBN: 978-1-138-50420-2

This book provides a theoretically informed understanding of the core skills required to provide counselling interventions that work. Over eleven

chapters these core skills are described in terms of what they mean, how they can be learned and developed, how they can be used and misused and, most importantly, how specific skills can be employed in a coherent and evidence-informed counselling approach. Associate Professor Loughran also looks in detail at the skills required to deliver interventions consistent with three approaches: motivational interviewing, solution-focused work and group work. Illustrative case examples offer opportunities for reflection and exploration of self-awareness as well as for practising and enhancing skills development.

'Although it is often said that social workers are not counsellors, as this wonderful book shows social work uses counselling skills all the time. The book is an absolute goldmine of theoretical and practical insights into how to work with service users in skilful and humane ways that can reduce suffering and help them to change. It is essential reading for all social work students and experienced practitioners who wish to keep up with new knowledge and approaches to good practice.' - Harry Ferguson, Professor of Social Work, University of Birmingham. **MS**



Censoring Art - Silencing the Artwork

Edited by Dr Róisín Kennedy UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy and **Dr Riann Coulter**, Curator/Manager at FE McWilliam Gallery

IB Tauris & Co Ltd

ISBN: 978-1-78831-383-4

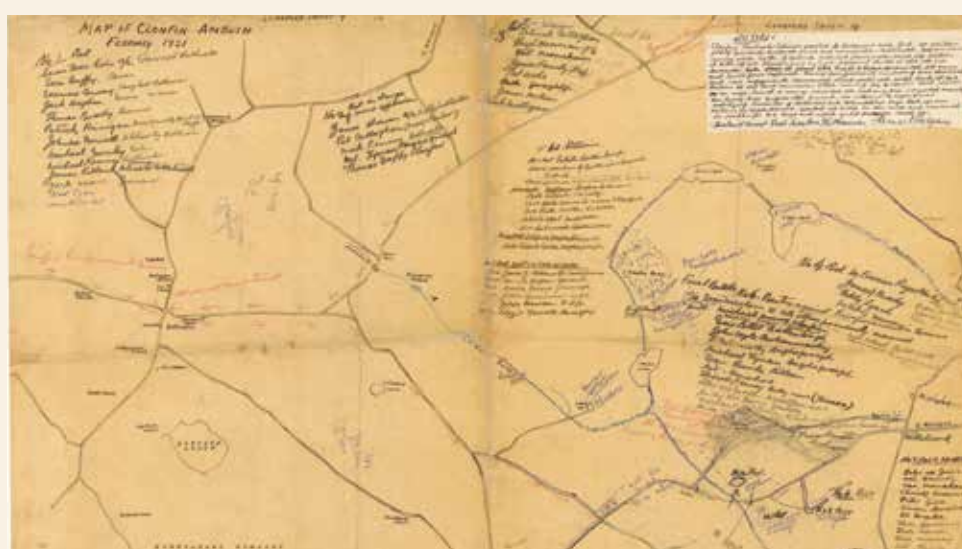
978-1-78672-529-5 (eBook)

978-1-78673-529-4 (ePDF)

When we think of censorship, we more tend to think of censorship of books and writings, not that of works of art. However, over the centuries, various forms of art have been censored, from those that have been destroyed to those hidden, ignored, transformed or even never made. This book of essays focusses on the 20th and 21st centuries and steps outside the usual bastions of art, into places like Iran, Uzbekistan, Cyprus, Macedonia, Canada and Ireland.

Art has always had the power to elicit strong opinions and to provoke reaction. But the 'establishment', whether government or society has become cautious about some forms of art. Even galleries are increasingly reluctant to take risks or embrace controversy. There are sensitivities everywhere nowadays with few willing to take chances, to step outside the accepted and comfortable. Have we become too politically correct? Are we no longer able to see art as a challenge?

The book has 10 chapters with a wide range of examples from the countries mentioned above and a really interesting photo essay of an art installation, The Great Wall of Kinsale, which was objected to by a group from the local community and its current form is far from the artist's vision of the original installation. Fascinating. **MS**



■ UCD Archives and Military Archives Collaboration

In 2018, Kate Manning, Principal Archivist, UCD Archives, with the support of Dr John Howard, Librarian, and Cécile Gordan, Senior Archivist and project manager for the Military Service Pensions Collection Project, undertook a unique collaboration to digitise 60 maps created by the Longford Brigade Committee which are held in UCD Archives as part of the Papers of Seán MacEoin (UCDA P151). Archival digital copies of the maps were made for UCD Digital Library, as well as for the MSPC project. The digitised copies retained by the Military Archives are now reunited online with the relevant files created as part of the original file series pertaining to Longford.

The Brigade Activity Reports represent the most anticipated file series within the Military Service Pensions Collection consisting of 151 files and around 400 sketches/maps of all sizes. In order to administer pension claims under the Military Service Pensions Act, 1934, the Referee and his Advisory Committee encouraged the formation of Brigade Committees around the country, comprising persons who had formerly held rank in the IRA structure. These committees were initially requested to provide listings of operations and activities undertaken by the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Republican Army, with a focus on operations during the most active years of the War of Independence (1920–1921). Some files even go on to cover IRA activity during the Civil War (1922–23), although these are a minority.

The Papers of Seán MacEoin are held in UCD Archives under the terms of the UCD-OFM Partnership Agreement. MacEoin served

as Company Captain and later O/C 1 Battalion, Longford Brigade, 1917–20; Vice O/C and Director of Operations, Longford Brigade, 1920–21; as well as Provincial Centre for the IRB with a place on the Supreme Council. His exploits with the North Longford Flying Column are the stuff of legend, particularly the engagements with the enemy at Ballinalee in November 1920 and Clonfin in February 1921 (maps of both are included in his papers).

MacEoin served on the Longford Brigade Committee, which was appointed to supervise and co-ordinate efforts to have former members awarded pensions. He dedicated a considerable amount of time to assisting former colleagues with pension applications and demonstrated admirable loyalty and commitment to former colleagues (many of whom fought against him in the Civil War) by assisting them in applying for pensions and appealing against refusal of those applications.



At the presentation of the CIPD Award for Inclusion & Diversity are (l-r) Donal O'Donoghue, Sanderson Recruitment, award sponsor; Marcellina Fogarty, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Manager, Culture & Engagement – UCD HR; and Rory Carey, Director, Culture & Engagement – UCD HR.

■ UCD success at CIPD awards

UCD became the first organisation in Ireland to win two awards in the same year at the national CIPD (Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, the professional body for HR professionals) awards held recently. The University received awards under the categories of Inclusion & Diversity, and HR and L&D Team of the Year.

The Inclusion & Diversity award recognised UCD's leadership position in creating an inclusive culture for the University community irrespective of gender identity. This award is a credit to the many members of UCD's community who contribute to this important agenda. The development of UCD's Gender Identity and Expression policy was a radical initiative that led to cultural transformation within UCD and impacts over 40,000 students, employees and visitors. As part of an innovative approach to policy development there was University-wide consultation and training of front-line staff, all contributing to embedding outcomes to support gender identity and expression.

The judges were impressed with the thoughtful design and implementation, and the co-creation and inclusive approach with students and employees. This initiative redefined the boundaries of the HR role and demonstrated how HR built a strong voice that delivered impact.

The HR and L&D Team of the Year award acknowledged UCD HR's transformational strategy 2016-2020 – *Growing through people*, the ongoing delivery of this strategy to support the University's overall objectives, and the restructuring the unit underwent to ensure it was fit for purpose to deliver a large-scale change programme.

The judges found this was an outstanding example of a team working together to deliver HR transformation. The team, all personally impacted by the change, are now over two years in and have achieved 31 of 38 major strategic projects, and recognise that the work will take another two years to properly embed. They also demonstrated significant stakeholder engagement, created a new HR service delivery model, leading an outstanding transformation in a challenging sector.

■ J M Kelly Memorial Lecture

The 2019 J M Kelly Memorial Lecture was delivered recently by Professor Nicola Lacey, Professor of Law, Gender and Social Policy at the London School of Economics. The lecture entitled 'Populism and the Rule of Law' explored ways in which contemporary populist discourse has challenged the rule of law through a variety of mechanisms.

Professor Lacey is a renowned scholar of criminal law. Author of several books, she is perhaps best known for *A Life of HLA Hart: The Nightmare and the Noble Dream* (OUP 2004). The Honourable Mr Justice Donal O'Donnell of the Supreme Court and chair of the John Kelly Lecture committee presented Professor Lacey with a small gift after the lecture. The audience of academics, students, practitioners and members of the judiciary



Prof Imelda Maher, UCD Dean of Law (left) with guest speaker Prof Nicola Lacey.

included members of Professor John M Kelly's family. The lecture honours the memory of Professor Kelly (1931-1991) who was Professor of Jurisprudence and editor of the *Irish Jurist* as well as a Government Minister and Attorney General.

Launch of 2019 Irish Young Philosopher Awards

Speaking at the launch, Senator Alice Mary Higgins chatted with pupils from Canal Way Educate Together School, Dublin 8 who were amongst the winners in last year's awards. She commented: "To ask a question can be a creative and powerful act. By encouraging children to develop and share their thoughts on life and how we live together, the Irish Young Philosopher Awards help to deepen understanding and open up new individual and collective possibilities".

Last year students submitted their philosophy projects using various mediums including posters, films, essays, and podcasts. They also visualised their philosophical thinking using mind-maps and posters. The profound philosophical topics submitted included animal ethics, the ethics of self-driving cars, gender inequality, perception,



Pictured are (l-r): Oskar Kable, Dominic Jordan, Senator Alice-Mary Higgins, Nina Reilly and Sara Bouzid.

identity, aesthetics, female empowerment, and the question of free will.

Inaugural UCD Values in Action Awards presented

Initiated by UCD's Employee Engagement Network, the UCD VIA (Values in Action) Awards recognise colleagues who bring the University's values to life. Nominations are made by colleagues across UCD and celebrate individuals or teams/committees who act as ambassadors for the UCD Values through their daily work, establish initiatives that bring those values to life and/or volunteer within the UCD Community demonstrating the values in action.

Forty nine nominations were received and six awards were presented by the President, Professor Andrew Deeks at an awards lunch held in December 2018, where staff members who reached their 25 and 40 year service anniversaries were also recognised.

Associate Professor Catherine Blake, UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science was nominated by several colleagues for the many collaborations she was involved in. These include physiotherapy students working with UCD and community clubs to provide first aid cover as part of their academic module, co-founding the Get in Gear Programme and the UCD Physio Hub.

UCD Community Choir meets every Tuesday and is open to all members of the UCD community. The choir has breathed life, fun and energy into events and showcases UCD's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

David Delaney, UCD IT Services advances UCD values through his mindfulness workshops and classes. In these he embraces a spirit of collegiality, collaborating with colleagues across campus to offer sessions to a diverse range of students and staff.

Mairéad Egan, UCD Centre for Emergency Medical Science, UCD School of Medicine is the driving force behind establishing UCD's Restart a Heart Day in 2016 with the aim of training as many students and staff as possible in basic CPR.

Tina Lowe, Accessibility Officer, UCD Access and Lifelong Learning strives to create a supportive community in which every student and employee is enabled to reach their full potential. Her ability to engage stakeholders in a collegial manner and with integrity across the University has created greater visibility and awareness about disabilities.



Pictured is UCD President, Prof Andrew Deeks presenting her VIA award to Mairéad Egan.

Associate Professor Patricia Maguire, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science came up with the idea of a pop-up choir at the 2016 UCD Festival to promote diversity and as a recognised method of improving mental health. From a small start at the Festival, Patricia was instrumental in growing the UCD Community Choir.

Transforming the future of Business Learning

The UCD College of Business has announced the next evolution of leadership in business education with the UCD Moore Centre for Business.

The €20 million investment will fuse the UCD Lochlann Quinn School of Business facilities at the UCD Belfield campus with a bespoke space designed to expand collaboration and interconnectivity between students, faculty and corporate partners around the globe. Features include the latest advances in interactive learning environments, extensive co-working zones, and transformative learning experiences to



Pictured on site are: Assoc Prof Maeve Houlihan, Director, UCD Lochlann Quinn School of Business and Prof Tony Brabazon, UCD Dean of Business with students Jack Delaney (Economics and Finance) and Alexandra Bolster (BComm Int'l).

integrate data analysis with real-world problem solving. The new building will open in September 2019.

The project is an exciting co-creation between philanthropy, corporate support and the College. An extraordinary foundational gift

donated by Angela Moore, in memory of her late husband George, a passionate advocate for excellence in business education, initiated the ambitious concept. Corporate leaders have joined this visionary project and will be announced in due course.



The UCD Symphony Orchestra in concert in the magnificent surroundings of the Église St-Pierre-le-Jeune in Strasbourg.

■ UCD Symphony Orchestra in Strasbourg

On 8 March, the UCD Symphony Orchestra travelled to the beautiful French city of Strasbourg – famed for its single-spired Gothic cathedral and home of the European Parliament – to take part in concerts organised by representatives from the local university.

The orchestra has been travelling to Europe for the past six years and has forged important links via the European Network of University Orchestras (ENUO) and the European Student Orchestra Festival (ESOF). Exchanges have taken place with orchestras in Germany (University of Mannheim), Sweden (Uppsala University) and Belgium (KU Leuven). It was at ESOF 2017 that a connection was made with l'Orchestre Universitaire de Strasbourg, with whom they took part in a joint concert at the Church of St Pierre-le-Jeune on the evening of Saturday 9 March, in front of an audience of over 600. Each orchestra performed

a selection of works they had been preparing on their own, combining at the end of the concert to form an ensemble of almost 150 student musicians in a rendition of Prokofiev's Knight's March from the ballet Romeo and Juliet, conducted by the UCD Symphony Orchestra's Artistic Director, Dr Ciarán Crilly.

The following afternoon, students from the Strasbourg orchestra and Music Scholars from the UCD Ad Astra Academy for the Performing Arts gave a chamber music recital at the delightful 14th-century riverfront Church of St Guillaume, again to a packed house.



Pictured at NovaUCD are Shane Curran, founder, Evervault and Mark Nealon, founder, myStudyPal.

■ Start-ups founded by UCD Undergraduates join the NovaUCD Ecosystem

Evervault, a cybersecurity start-up, founded by Shane Curran, a first-year UCD Business and Law undergraduate and overall winner of the 2017 BTYSTE, and myStudyPal, an edtech start-up, founded by Mark Nealon, a first-year Biomedical, Health and Life Sciences undergraduate are among the latest companies to join NovaUCD's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Current approaches by companies, large corporations and research organisations to manage vulnerable, centralised databases are no longer fit for purpose. To address this issue Evervault has developed and provides a software platform which allows these organisations to process personal data without seeing, storing or handling it. The software ensures that encrypted data is separated from any potential attackers through novel hardware and encryption approaches. This means that even if a network is compromised the encryption key remains completely hidden preventing unauthorised access to the encrypted data.

myStudyPal is a web and mobile app that provides second-level students with a simple, fast and effective way to create an accurate and fully changeable study timetable. myStudyPal negates the need for stressful late-night cramming, promotes student wellbeing and ensures a healthy work-life balance.

■ Quinn Global Life

UCD Lochlann Quinn School of Business recently hosted 'Quinn Global Life' – a week-long celebration of diversity designed to foster a culture of awareness of global cultures among students, faculty and staff. There are over 50 different nationalities in the Business School's 2,000+ student population and more than 25 different nationalities among our faculty, support and professional staff which makes for many interesting conversations both inside and outside the classroom!

Among the activities that took place were daily Global Geography Challenges, a screening of the classic film *The Roaring Twenties*, exploring business ethics and the entrepreneurial spirit, a Chopstick Skills Team challenge, a Keepy Uppy (global style) competition, a Building Cultural Awareness Interactive Workshop and a Mini Case Study Sprint Challenge.



One of the quirky activities which featured in the Quinn Global Life line-up included a global style keepy-uppy game which counted the kicks and flicks of keeping a ball from two different games (e.g. golf, American football, baseball, basketball, tennis, hurling and Gaelic football) in the air over a two-minute timeframe. Bonus points were awarded for gender and nationality mix! The winning team were Stage 1 Economics and Finance students Mark Fagan and Ryan Lucas with a combined score of 161!



Pictured back row (l-r): Prof Breandán Kennedy, Dr Shane Bergin, Dr Sarah Morton, Niamh O'Donoghue, Dr Zeljka Doljanin, UCD Writing Centre; Niamh Kelly, UCD Writing Centre; Prof Mark Rogers, Dr Scott Hamilton, UCD Writing Centre; Dr Caitriona Cunningham, UCD Physio Hub; Dr Sinead Mc Mahon, UCD Physio Hub, Ms Karen Craddock; and Mr Claran Purcell. Front row (l-r): Suzanne Bailey, UCD Sport, Dr Ulrik Mc Carthy, UCD Physio Hub, Dr Catherine Blake, UCD Physio Hub; Dr Linda Dowling-Hetherington, Dr Katie Mishler, UCD Writing Centre, Dr David McKinney, UCD Writing Centre; Dr Audrey McNamara, UCD Writing Centre and Thomond Coogan.

Presentation of UCD Teaching and Learning Awards 2018

UCD's national and international reputation for educational excellence has been built over many years by the passion, innovation and commitment of its faculty and staff. Six individuals and three teams were honoured with UCD Teaching and Learning Awards at a ceremony on 27 February. The awards, presented by the Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Mark Rogers are the highest honour bestowed by the University for teaching and learning and recognise the transformative impact of the awardees on their students' learning experience.

A call for nominations was met with enthusiasm by the UCD community, with 2,163 nominations submitted by students, faculty and staff. Student nominations accounted for 93% of all nominations received. The content and volume of their nominations is a testament to the huge achievement of UCD faculty and staff in creating such a positive impact on so many lives. While the University has a long tradition of teaching and learning awards, dating back to 2002, the current awards are relatively new. Established in 2017, these awards are tiered, with awards at college and University levels. An application stage followed the nominations stage and a total of 168 applications were considered by seven college-level adjudication panels. This resulted in 53 awards at college level which were celebrated locally late last year. Each of the college adjudication panels

then made recommendations from their pool of college awardees to put forward for consideration for a University level award. Following a competitive process, nine of those awardees were selected to receive prestigious University Teaching and Learning awards.

There are two award schemes. Teaching Excellence Awards recognise individual faculty for sustained commitment to teaching excellence and student learning. Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning recognise individual staff or teams including staff and faculty, who have made outstanding contributions to student learning in a specific area.

Individual Awardees:

Dr Shane Bergin, UCD School of Education, Teaching Excellence Award;
Thomond Coogan, UCD Access and Lifelong Learning (individual award), Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning Award;
Dr Linda Dowling-Hetherington, UCD School of Business, Teaching Excellence Award;
Professor Breandán Kennedy, UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science, Teaching Excellence Award;
Dr Sarah Morton, UCD School of Social Policy Social Work and Social Justice, Teaching

Excellence Award;

Niamh O'Donoghue, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine, Teaching Excellence Award.

Team Awardees:

UCD Physio Hub, Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning Award;
UCD Sport, Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning Award;
UCD Writing Centre, Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning Award.



Dubai Global Centre

The fifth UCD Global Centre was formally launched in January in Dubai. The Global Centre, which has been operational for the past 12 months, oversees all of UCD's activities in the MENA region, including the establishment of new partnerships, the strengthening of existing partnerships, and the recruitment of international students.

UCD Vice-President for Global Engagement, Professor Dolores O'Riordan was joined by HE Aidan Cronin, Ireland's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, to officially mark the launch.

Speaking about the launch, Professor O'Riordan said: "The launch of our Dubai Global Centre is another major milestone in UCD's Strategy for Global Engagement, and it further reinforces our reputation as Ireland's Global University. The Dubai office joins our portfolio of already-established Global Centres that are located in New York, Delhi, Kuala Lumpur, and Beijing. We will be working hard over the next few years in the region developing our partnerships, recruiting students, and connecting with the many UCD alumni who are based in the region".

The UCD Dubai Global Centre will hold regular networking events and cultural celebrations, and provide vital support for students in the region who are considering UCD as a study destination. The centre currently has two full-time staff, Kevin O'Brien and Ethel de Souza, and is managed by Aisling Tiernan, UCD Senior Regional Manager for the MENA Region.

Climate Justice: Mary Robinson in Conversation

UCD Centre for Human Rights and UCD Sutherland School of Law, Environmental Regulation Research Group hosted Dr Mary Robinson at a talk on Climate Justice on 19 February. Speaking to a packed audience, former Irish president Dr Robinson spoke of her belief that the courts could provide the "necessary moon shot" to force a sweeping transformation of the Irish economy to help combat climate change. Those wishing to make a meaningful contribution to tackling climate change should make it a personal issue in their lives.

"All over the world court cases are being taken on climate change. I'm glad for that because [the court] is one way of cutting through something and forcing a situation. Scientists are telling us unequivocally that we have to stay at or below 1.5 degrees because above that, things happen. Coral reefs disappear, the arctic ice melts and the permafrost melts, and that means blow-back and climate changes of a significant type."

Speaking to Professor Andrew Jackson, UCD Sutherland School of Law the climate justice campaigner said politicians were too short-sighted, and urged lawyers to take on a more meaningful role in compelling action to be taken.



Climate Justice: Dr Mary Robinson in conversation with Dr Andrew Jackson.



Photographed supporting UCD RFC Daffodil Day 2019 are (l-r): Josh van der Flier, James Ryan, Andrew Porter, Adam Byrne, Garry Ringrose and Dan Leavy.

UCD Rugby

The Irish Rugby U20s finished off their successful Six Nations campaign winning the Grand Slam against Wales in their final game over the St Patrick's Day weekend. UCD Rugby players Charlie Ryan (Captain), Scott Penny and Michael Milne were all part of the squad throughout the championship.

UCD RFC's annual Daffodil Day took place on 7 March in aid of the Irish Cancer Society. Collidge's representative players

took part in a promotional photoshoot at the UCD Bowl in anticipation of the day itself. The Irish Rugby and Leinster Rugby players included Adam Byrne, Andrew Porter, Dan Leavy, Garry Ringrose, Josh van der Flier and James Ryan. UCD Women's Rugby captain Sarah Glynn and members of Tag Rugby were also in attendance.

Each year for the last four years students and members of the Rugby club give up their time and volunteer to raise vital funds for the society. Thanks to the remarkable generosity of faculty, staff and students of UCD, the club's Daffodil Day collection raised over €11,000.



Ciara Mageean and Mark English with their European Indoor Championship bronze medals.

European Indoor Success for UCD Athletics Club

The European Indoor Championship in Glasgow in March proved very successful for UCD Athletics as UCD Ad Astra alumna Ciara Mageean and current UCD Ad Astra Scholar Mark English both took home medals. The two athletes were competing in the 1500m and 800m respectively and put in an incredible effort to secure medals.

Mageean, a recent UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science graduate, was just pipped for a silver medal and ran a time of 4:09.43. English, who had his semi-final race scuppered, won his appeal to be placed on the starting line for the 800m final. Racing in a time of 1:47.39 in the final, the current UCD School of Medicine student was delighted the effort being put in training is now reaping rewards.

UCD Sport team recognised at the UCD Teaching & Learning Awards 2018

In January, UCD President Professor Andrew Deeks, President of UCD, announced the UCD Teaching and Learning Awardees for the 2018 calendar year.

Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning recognise individual staff or teams including staff and faculty, who have made outstanding contributions to student learning in a specific area. This year UCD Sport team of Georgina Dwyer, Paula Cashman and Suzanne Bailey were awarded a team award for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning.



Pictured are (l-r): Suzanne Bailey and Paula Cashman.



Pictured are the Gannon Cup Winners, UCD Senior Men: Orlagh Reid (Coxswain), David O'Malley (Stroke), Cameron Murphy, Andrew Kelly, Thomas Earley, Shane O'Connell, Andrew Goff, Jack Stacey, and Rob Brown (Back).

The Colours Boat Races

UCD won the men's senior in the annual Colours Race against Trinity College Dublin. The senior men from UCD Boat Club took their rivals to task and managed to claim the Gannon Cup by two-thirds of a length.

Elsewhere, while the UCD Ladies Senior crew lost out on the Corcoran Cup, the Boat Club's Novice crew soundly won the Sally Moorhead Trophy. The UCD women started strong; carving out a big lead from the start and refused to allow Trinity to get back on level terms.

Intervarsity Round-Up

UCD Sailing, Squash and Orienteering were all involved in intervarsity competitions since the turn of the year.

UCD Sailing were crowned Intervarsity Champions beating UCC in a challenging final, coupled with the Commodore of the Year award for Lucy McCutcheon. UCD Squash won their Intervarsity Championships in Belfast in early March. The Men's A team overcame stiff opposition from University College Cork, Trinity College Dublin, and Queen's University Belfast to win the National Title for the second consecutive year. This success was augmented by victory for the UCD Ladies team. Intervarsity success was also achieved by UCD Orienteering. Both the Women's and Men's teams won their respective team trophies, coupled with individual awards for Emer Perkins and Niall McCarthy.



Students and faculty at the White Coat ceremony.

2019 UCD Medicine Clinical Commencement 'White Coat' Ceremony

The 2019 UCD Medicine Clinical Commencement 'White Coat' Ceremony took place in UCD O'Reilly Hall in February. A key milestone for our medical students, the ceremony marks the formal transition from a predominantly classroom-based education to full immersion into clinical training at our affiliated teaching hospitals and with general practices in the community.

The proceedings were led by Professor Michael Keane, Dean of Medicine and Head of School, supported by faculty. Students from Stage 4 of our direct entry undergraduate and Stage 2 of our graduate entry medicine

programmes took part in the ceremony which was attended by many friends and family. As part of the ceremony, students are 'robed' with white coats by members of faculty as an

important symbol of their transition into the role of doctor in training.

In opening the event, Professor Keane noted that this transition represents a landmark in the students' education and one which he felt sure they would look back on fondly. He noted that with the privilege of clinical training comes great responsibility as our students are expected to exhibit empathy, dedication and the highest standards of professionalism.



Our image shows Ryan and Rachel capturing the drama of the piece.

ADDIKT

Performing Arts Scholar and Children's & General Nursing student, Ryan O'Donnell first performed his original one-man show, Addikt, at Culture Night Wexford 2018 to a sold-out crowd. The writing was then extended, creating a full length play of two acts, which was accepted for a week-long run in the UCD Dramsoc Theatre in February 2019. The full length version was directed by Ryan and fellow Performing Arts Scholar, Graham Butler Breen.

Based on Ryan's experience from working in methadone clinics and extensive research on the subject, Addikt revolves around Darren, a man who has been suffering from heroin addiction for years but is now serious about getting clean. The only question is: is it actually possible? Methadone clinics, being homeless, and childhood memories that haunt him: there's more than one factor involved when one resorts to drugs. The now full-length play sees fellow Performing Arts Scholar, Rachel O'Sullivan take on the role of Darren's sister, Sophie.

Using intense physical theatre, narration and dialogue, Addikt is a new piece of theatre which hopes to express the complexity of drug addiction for the person affected and for Irish society. Following on from its hugely successful run at UCD's Dramsoc Theatre, the play will be representing UCD Dramsoc at the Irish Student Drama Association (ISDA) Festival in Queens University Belfast this April and has been submitted to the Dublin Fringe Festival which takes place in September 2019.



PhD students (l-r) Emanuela Caffè, Maly Polotto and Sara Díaz Sánchez chat after talks at Graduate Conference.

Literary Smiles

The UCD School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics Graduate Conference took place in February, organised by Associate Professor Siofra Pierse, School Head of Graduate Studies with three graduate students, Bianca Cataldi, Emanuela Caffè and Sara Díaz Sánchez. Thirteen PhD students gave papers during the day on areas as varied as GAA changing room chat, French Revolution émigrés, Chinese English, and utopian socialism in Italian factories. The final speaker spoke eloquently about the torture of time management during his PhD. Graduate students organised funding from the School, the University of Salamanca and from the Istituto Italiano di Cultura.