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University College Dublin

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JUNE 2008

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INVESTING IN ART FOR OUR SAKE

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**Cover Image:**

Cover shows the sculpture of "Hibernia with the bust of Lord Cloncurry" produced around 1844 by the Waterford born artist, John Hogan. The sculpture is part of the UCD art collection located in Belfield House. Photograph courtesy of Mark Simpson.

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**Design:** Loman Cusack Design

**Print:** Fine Print

**Thanks to:**

Pádraic Conway, JP Donnelly, Catherine Godson, Ann Lavan, Maurice Manning, Cliona de Bhaldráithe Marsh, Damien McLoughlin, Patrick Wall

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 ([communications@ucd.ie](mailto:communications@ucd.ie)). We also welcome your suggestions for articles in future editions.

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Please Recycle

## Art's place in time

The arrival at UCD of 1,500 archaeologists from every corner of the globe for the 6th World Archaeological Congress (WAC-6) has spawned great interest in the issues tackled by academics and professionals in the field. The programme – which includes over 200 papers – highlights not just the traditional topics of historical and pre-historical interaction between Man and the environment but cotemporary issues such as dealing with archaeological investigation in zones of war and conflict.

Unsurprisingly, Tara and the M3 controversy has attracted attention and has been selected by the WAC Ethics Forum as a case study. The organisers have invited stakeholders to provide written submissions for their session and the forum participants, who have no specific ties to the case, will work together to articulate and negotiate different cultural views in order to think through ethical dilemmas. Their goal is not to adjudicate but rather to provide a forum for careful consideration and discussion about complex cases.

Art and archaeology is a common theme throughout the congress and in order to give participants and the wider public a visual understanding of this interplay, the UCD School of Archaeology has organised a season of Summer exhibitions, *Ábhar agus Meon (Materials and Mentalities)*.

Starting in June with *Chronoscope* in Newman House, 26 international artists display pieces that challenge the received wisdom of time and place. Multimedia installation pieces from Nigel Rolfe, Alice Maher and others reclaim Newman House as a setting for contemporary art.

Following on, one of the newest buildings on Belfield campus, Health Sciences, hosts *Glass House Stone*, an exhibition considering more closely how objects are viewed and The Irish Museum of Modern Art displays a summer-long audio installation by Fiona Hallinan entitled *The You That Is In It*.

Art runs central to WAC-6 and as part of the campus development plan, the university ran an open competition inviting artists to submit their own concepts in relation to the interplay between art and archaeology. The winner, Kevin O'Dwyer (see Feb 2008 ed of UCD Today) will interact with delegates throughout their week on campus and having taken away these experiences, will create a sculpture piece to go on permanent display in the grounds of the university.

Eilis O'Brien

Director of Communications

# Sensing the opportunities

Professor Barry Smyth speaks with Claire O'Connell about how the next generation of sensor technologies could transform our everyday lives

**A little of the right knowledge can make a big difference to your life. But how do you find out what you need to know in today's world without succumbing to information overload?**

Enter Clarity, a new research consortium that aims to improve how we capture and information from the world around us and access it in a useful way. Their approach marries sensor technology (adaptive sensing) on one side with data sorting (information discovery) on the other, and the results could transform our everyday lives, from improving our health to finding the best route to get to work.

It's about bringing information to life, according to Clarity's director, Professor Barry Smyth, who holds the Digital Chair of Computer Science in the UCD School of Computer Science & Informatics. "It's all about exploring the interface between people and technology and sensors are a vital way to bridge that gap," he explains.

Professor Smyth has been looking at that gap for over 15 years now, working on aspects of artificial intelligence to help computers recognise the usage habits of humans and offer more personalised information.

A UCD graduate, he did his doctorate with Hitachi through Trinity College Dublin before returning to UCD in 1995, building up a research group and within a few years he co-founded ChangingWorlds, a technology company that specialises in personalised information services. The venture now employs over 120 people and provides Professor Smyth with a valuable link between the lab and the commercial world.

"It has helped the research group in loads of ways, getting the technology evaluated outside of the lab for example, and just getting new ideas in from industry rather than thinking up the ideas on your own which often aren't necessarily relevant in the medium-term to industry. Now there's a rich flow of ideas from industry. And I suppose that's one of the things that has made me enthusiastic about the bigger picture of industry and academia working together."

That bigger picture has now been crystallised in Clarity, a Science Foundation Ireland Centre for Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET), which brings together researchers from UCD, DCU and Tyndall National Institute in Cork as well as industry partners.

The Centre, which was launched in April, blossomed out of a long-term collaboration between UCD and DCU called the Adaptive Information Cluster, which saw Professor Smyth working with scientists like Professor Alan Smeaton and Professor Dermot Diamond.

"At the AIC we have been working very closely together for a long time and we have made huge progress in the areas of sensors and information discovery, and in that time have been able to attract some of the larger companies to the research, companies like IBM and Ericsson and Vodafone."

Clarity is now poised to take it even further, with funding of €16.4 million and plans to incorporate around 90 researchers, who will train their sights on the "sensor web", explains Professor Smyth.

"Clarity has come together really to develop the next generation of sensor technologies - what needs to happen in the material science behind sensors to make them truly usable, much more power efficient, much more reliable, so you can just scatter them in the field and they will start sensing. And now it's all about not just communities of sensors sensing one thing but millions of sensors sensing lots of things, and what happens when that starts to be brought all together," he says. "Then once you get large communities of sensors sensing, what do you do with that information? How do you start to detect interesting things? That's the other side of what Clarity is about."

The timing is right too, as we are now on the cusp of using sensor-based information from the physical world to improve how we interact with it, notes Professor Smyth. "Oftentimes we get lots of great services from the online world, where they can track our interests and present a more personalised experience. But yet when you go to the physical world you don't get any of that," he says.

So what kinds of changes are we likely to see as we start to access and untangle the webs of information around us? Key areas include health and fitness, monitoring the environment and honing the day-to-day minutiae of life, according to Professor Smyth.

Already companies have bought into sensors as a way to improve their products, and Professor Smyth describes how Nike and Apple combined forces on a smart running shoe to keep track of your steps and link into your MP3 player.

"They stuck a little sensor in the running shoe and connected it to the iPod and it sold half a million in 90 days," says Professor Smyth. "That's the starting point for the kind of research we are looking at. And there's a lot more that you can do than just counting steps - you can start to measure respiratory rate, limb movement or their attitude and how they hold themselves."

Already the researchers have produced a vest that can monitor your posture and alert you through your computer if you are slouching. If you are susceptible to back pain, that feedback could spare you problems in the long run, notes Professor Smyth.

Sensors could also be useful for patients in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease who want to continue to live independently, according to Professor Smyth; wearable sensors could alert other family members if the person has gone somewhere unusual and may need help, while sensors in their environment could help prompt them stepwise through everyday tasks if they are finding them challenging.

Other sensor and information discovery applications include non-invasive diagnosis of disease in its early stages, managing energy usage in the home and possibly even your phone telling you the least pollen-laden route to work if you have hayfever.

"It's about understanding what's required and can be done, and often when you get those use-cases that make sense you will often find there's technology near to being ready that can be brought to bear on a lot of those problems," says Professor Smyth. "And it's about recognising those new opportunities."

*Claire O'Connell (BSc 1992, PhD 1998) is a freelance journalist.*

# Sensors

*Professor Barry Smyth, UCD Director of CLARITY CSET (right); Professor Frank Gannon, Director General SFI (centre) and Professor Alan Smeaton DCU, Deputy Director of CLARITY CSET (left)*



# UCD researchers win European medals for road transport research

**Two UCD researchers have won Young European Arena of Research 2008 (YEAR 2008) medals for their research on road transport.**

The competition, which is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students in universities across Europe, attracted 300 submissions from 28 countries and the research included various aspects of road transport from geotechnics, structures, pavements, logistics/ planning, transport economics, mechanical engineering (automotive), safety, security, energy and the environment.

There was even a category for creative ideas – “Future Visions” – where applicants could let their imagination fly and present their vision of where road transport will be in 20, 50 or 100 years.

Ireland was well represented in the fifty finalists, with one student from each of NUI Maynooth, DIT, DCU, TCD and two from UCD.

Tommy Hinks from the UCD School of Computer Science & Informatics, won a gold medal in infrastructure design and production for his doctoral work on *Geometric Approaches in Aerial LIDAR Data Analysis*, which uses a lightwave equivalent of RADAR recordings of built-up areas to make detailed, accurate 3-D mapping of cities, including its buildings and transport infrastructure. The concept will potentially find wide usage in many engineering and planning practices.”

Meanwhile Donal Gildea from the UCD Advanced Manufacturing Science Research Centre won a silver medal for automotive design and production for his research, entitled *Development of a Design Methodology for the Systematic Identification of Optimum Joining Technologies in Automotive Body-in-White Design*. His approach analyses joint databases and could potentially lead to savings in design.

Professor Eugene OBrien of UCD Urban Institute Ireland, one of the co-coordinators of the competition which was funded by the European Commission, says: “There is a wealth of Transport research being carried out in Europe’s universities – by students from all over the world. Our PhD students spend many years developing new processes and techniques to make our roads safer, greener and smarter. It is a goal of the YEAR competition to ensure that they do not work in dark rooms by themselves – the YEAR2008 website is now a showcase of the research that is taking place all over Europe. It includes hundreds of abstracts describing the work of our students – and provides links that allow anyone to make contact directly with the student to discuss their work. Students may of course use this facility to talk to each other – maybe this will lead to new links and alliances”.

*Pictured receiving his gold medal is Tommy Hinks from the UCD School of Computer Science & Informatics*



## UCD graduate among “International Young Chemists of the Year”

**Dr Emilie Banide, a recent PhD graduate from CSCB and UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, has been selected by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) as one of its five International Young Chemists of the Year.**

She received the prestigious award based on the quality of her PhD thesis, which resulted in the discovery of new luminescent materials with potential for use in the next generation of

digital display screens. The work was supported by Science Foundation Ireland and carried out in the laboratory of Professor Michael McGlinchey at the UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology.

Dr Banide is the first recipient of the international IUPAC award from the Republic of Ireland. She will receive a commemorative plaque and US\$1,000, and will be invited to present her work at the IUPAC conference in Glasgow in 2009.

*Pictured at UCD are: Professor Michael McGlinchey of UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology with IUPAC award-winner, Dr Emilie Banide*



## Six UCD academics join ranks of RIA

**Six UCD academics have been elected as members of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) in the recent membership round announced in May. This is the highest number of academics elected from any single university.**

Election to the Royal Irish Academy is the highest academic honour in Ireland. The criterion for election to membership of the Royal Irish Academy is a significant contribution to scholarly or scientific research as shown in the candidate’s published academic work. Membership of the Academy, which is by peer nomination and election, is limited to those scientists and scholars normally resident in Ireland.

“It is a testament to Ireland’s formidable position in the academic world that the Royal Irish Academy is today able to honour such a variety of exceptional scholars in the Sciences and Humanities. Ireland can be proud of these brilliant women and men who are universally recognised as leaders in the world of learning,”

said Professor Nicholas Canny, President of the Royal Irish Academy speaking of the newly elected members.

The UCD academics newly admitted as members of the RIA are:

- Professor Carmel McCarthy, UCD School of Languages and Literatures
- Professor Brian Nolan, UCD School of Applied Social Science
- Professor Mark O’Malley, UCD School of Electronic, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering
- Mr James Maguire, UCD School of History and Archives
- Professor Attracta Ingram, UCD School of Politics and International Relations
- Professor Michael McGlinchey, UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology



*Five of the six UCD academics newly admitted as members of the Royal Irish Academy pictured with Professor Nicholas Canny, President of the RIA (centre left); Professor Brian Nolan (far left); Professor Mark O’Malley second from left); Mr James Maguire (centre right); Professor Attracta Ingram (second from right); and Professor Michael McGlinchey (far right)*

# Universities to help tackle poverty

President Mary McAleese addressed a major international conference at UCD which brought together Presidents and senior academics from 22 of the world's leading universities to discuss how universities can partner with governments and NGOs to assist the developing world.

The conference, *Strategic Partnerships with the Developing World: A New Direction for Universitas 21 in Research and Education*, took place on 8 May and was the main focus of the AGM of Universitas 21, a network of research universities, which UCD was invited to join two years ago.

Universitas 21 was founded in 1997 as a network for international higher education, bringing together a collection of some of the leading research-led universities around the world. The 14 countries represented in the Universitas 21 Network together account for some 58 per cent of the world's international overseas development assistance, noted President McAleese.

An outline for such assistance, the UN Millennium Declaration marked a commitment by world leaders to work together towards a series of Millennium Development Goals in the fight against poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination.

The eight goals are: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop a global partnership for development

A recent review suggested that the Millennium Goals will be reached by the target date of 2015 only if government agencies, NGOs, universities, private sector companies and faith organisations work more closely together in enhanced partnerships with the developing world.

Universitas 21 provides a unique platform for the member universities to develop and enhance strategic partnerships with the developing world and tackle global research projects in key priority areas like HIV/AIDS, food security, water and sanitation, said UCD president, Dr Hugh Brady.

Speakers at the symposium included Professor Charles van der Horst, Professor of Medicine and Infections Disease at the University of North Carolina, who runs HIV clinics in Malawi, and Professor Jimmy Whitworth, Head of International Activities, at Wellcome Trust.

"Universitas 21 provides a unique platform for the 22 member universities to develop and enhance strategic partnerships with the developing world," said UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady.

"Through co-operation, U21 has an unprecedented opportunity to tackle global research projects in key priority areas like HIV/AIDS, food security, water and sanitation," he said. "And the scale and geographical spread of the network gives U21 the very real potential to influence coherence in global policy making. This should lead to more, faster and better development."

Also at the symposium, UCD announced plans to establish the UCD International Development Initiative, which will increase the university's capacity to support research, education, partnership and outreach in the development arena and increase 'development consciousness' among UCD's Irish graduates.

President of Ireland, Mary McAleese speaking at the Universitas 21 symposium — *Strategic Partnerships with the Developing World*



At the symposium dinner, Donegal playwright Frank McGuinness read his poem *Cherry Blossom*, written specially for the occasion.

## Cherry Blossom

The cherry blossom  
by the science building  
comes from Japan.  
It feeds on rice  
from the north wind.  
It shuns the rose.

Beautiful men in dress suits  
knotting their bowties  
smell of the moon's  
essence most sweet  
and swear to be true  
by these blooms.

Healthy as sin,  
they are the tree of knowledge  
in the genesis  
of my garden  
I did not loot and pillage –  
none could resist.

Except the rain.  
It kissed the blossoms,  
and they thrived.  
Who would believe  
the miracle no saint  
nor scholar shamed?

The lake by the science building  
is full of flowers.  
They discard their clothing,  
unknot their bowties.  
They swim in placid water,  
they touch each other's eyes.

Light  
from the cherry blossoms  
illuminates the night.  
Daughters of the universe,  
all blood and nerves,  
bless each mother's son.

© Frank McGuinness, 2008

## College Principal appointed Deputy Chair of HEA

Professor Mary Daly, Principal of the UCD College of Arts and Celtic Studies has been elected by the Higher Education Authority as its Deputy Chairperson.

Professor Daly was educated at UCD, (BA and MA) and Nuffield College Oxford (DPhil). She has been a member of the UCD Faculty since 1973, and has also held visiting positions at Harvard and Boston College. Her teaching and research has concentrated on nineteenth and twentieth century Ireland. She is the author of nine books, and editor co-author of five.

Elected to the Royal Irish Academy in 1991, she has served as secretary 2000-2004. She was appointed to the Higher Education Authority in 2007.



# Recently Published

## Literature, Judges and the Law

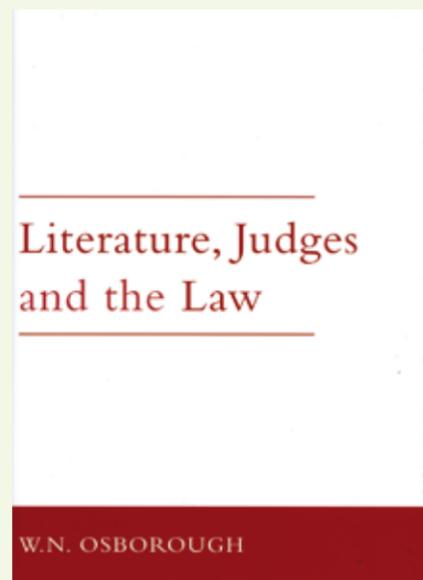
A new book from Professor Nial Osborough, Emeritus Professor in Jurisprudence and Legal History at the UCD School of Law looks at how, from time to time, members of the judiciary have found it useful to express their judgments by allusion to matters literary – quotations from the Bible or Shakespeare, for example.

No standard format attaches to the composition of judgments by judges working within the Common Law dispensation. Normally, of course, we get a recital of the facts of the individual controversy, a statement of applicable legal doctrine, an analysis of precedent and an adjudication.

Increasingly, room has had to be found for the interpretation of statute law provisions, testimony to the exponential growth in contemporary society of public law. Occasionally, literary allusion has been useful. This is designed in almost all instances to sharpen the logic inherent in the judicial decision-making process.

This book examines a host of 'fragments' thus judicially recalled – from a range of jurisdictions

(mainly England and Ireland) – and sets out to explain just a little bit more about the legal contexts which provoked the employment of these fragments and about the fragments themselves. The book, published by Four Courts Press was launched by former Minister for Justice, Brian Lenihan TD at UCD earlier this year.



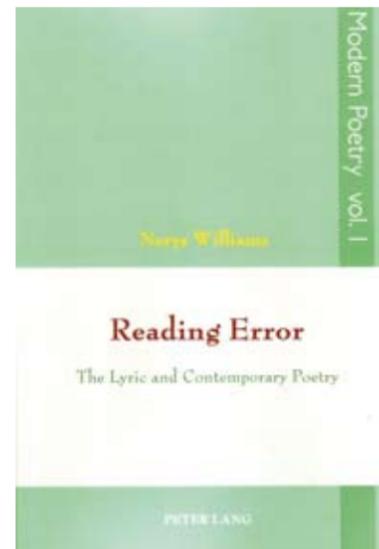
## Reading Error: The Lyric and Contemporary Poetry

Dr Nerys Williams' new book, *Reading Error: The Lyric and Contemporary Poetry* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2007) considers the development of the lyric form in recent American poetry of the past three decades.

Dr Williams, lecturer at the UCD School of English, Drama & Film, concentrates on the writing of three poets associated with language writing, Charles Bernstein, Michael Palmer and Lyn Hejinian. The discussion considers the attempts of contemporary poetry to problematise the identification of the lyric as a static model of subjectivity. Central considerations motivating the discussion are: How do contemporary lyric poets negotiate the propositions posed by postmodern thought?

What reading of lyricism can one formulate once the self is displaced from centre stage and an 'experience' of language takes its place? The book proposes that an aesthetic of error enables us to approach the reconfiguration of the lyric in recent innovative poetry. Drawing

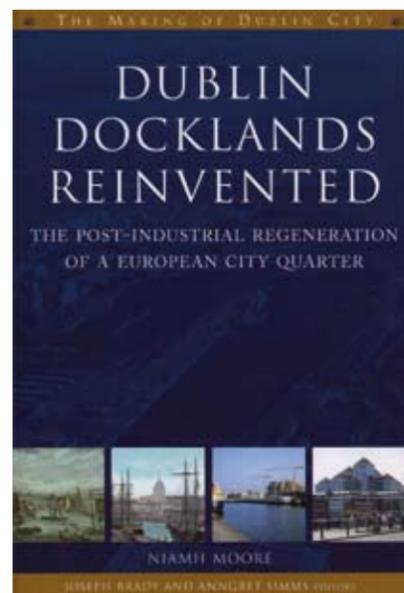
from elements of modernist poetic practice, psychoanalytic theory, language philosophy and critical theory this book pursues methods for understanding the demands placed upon the reader of contemporary poetry.



## Dublin docklands — the regeneration of a European city quarter

Over the past two decades, the redevelopment of the Dublin docklands has radically altered the physical fibre and social structure of a significant part of Dublin city, north and south of the river. There are many international parallels that can be drawn between this redevelopment and those which took place in New York, London and Sydney.

In a new book, *Dublin Docklands Reinvented*, published by Four Courts Press, Dr Niamh Moore from the UCD School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy, examines how global urban influences have interacted with local processes to transform a once marginal part of Dublin city into an economically successful and vibrant urban quarter.



"Dublin docklands has become a cornerstone of the city that embodies the rapid restructuring that has been experienced in Ireland over the last twenty years," says Dr Moore. "Large tracts of derelict and depressed environments in the inner city have been completely transformed."

According to Dr Moore, the Dublin docklands regeneration may, in general terms, be rated as a significant success but the evolution of the project was fraught with difficulties and tensions, particularly between the many different groups that have a stake in the future of the area.

"In the early 1970s and in 1980, redevelopment plans by the Dublin Port and Docks Board were rejected by a wide range of agencies and groups," says Dr Moore. "In fact, they were condemned as representing an attempt to develop opportunistically an area without adequate consideration for the surrounding communities and districts."

In *Dublin Docklands Reinvented*, published by Four Courts Press, Dr Moore places significance on the politics of redevelopment and the role of particular individuals in re-shaping the Dublin docklands. In a detailed up-to-date account of the changes that have taken place in the docklands, the book highlights some of the difficulties encountered by a number of agencies along the way, including the controversy over the redevelopment of Spencer Dock, the problems of contamination at the Grand Canal Dock and the future challenges of regenerating the Poolbeg Peninsula.

## The transformation of women's access to higher education in Ireland

'The opening of university education to women was one of the most significant developments of the twentieth century. It carried with it the potential to radically alter the role and status of women in society,' says Dr Judith Harford, the author of a new book - *The Opening of University Education to Women in Ireland*, which was officially launched in April by the then Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin TD.

Commenting on the book, Minister Hanafin said, "It captures the voices of women whom the system at the time had tried to silence. The women portrayed in this book were exceptional, courageous and visionary women, determined to secure what they viewed as their right to higher education. I know that it will make a very significant contribution to our understanding of the importance of women's admission to university in Ireland."

Dr Harford, lecturer at the UCD School of Education and Lifelong Learning notes that, "Although only a minority of middle-class women were in the social, cultural and economic position to benefit from early higher educational reform, their participation in higher education had far wider social implications. It helped to move women's role beyond the private sphere of the home and into the professions and public life."

Documenting the route to access from the beginning of the nineteenth-century, the book, published by Irish Academic Press, locates the

discussion within the wider social, political and cultural context of Irish society and within international developments in the reform of higher education for women.

It looks at the state of education for females at that time, the emergence of a reform movement, arguments for and against higher education for women, and the impact of higher educational provision on the role of women in Irish society. The book also considers at the role of Catholic Church, the emergence of women's colleges, and the advent of co-education.



# Investing in our future

## Conall O'Móráin speaks to Professor Desmond Fitzgerald, Vice-President for Research at UCD, about the importance of research funding to Ireland's future development

Research investment is the key factor that will determine whether the Irish economy can return to its previous stellar trajectory, according to Professor Desmond Fitzgerald, Vice-President for research at University College Dublin. "Hard decisions will have to be made on where the available resources are invested" says Professor Fitzgerald. "The country as a whole will benefit far more by concentrating its resources on research and development to grow our R&D capability, he argues as this is an investment in our capacity to solve the problems of today and tomorrow.

"Knowledge is the key" he states unequivocally, "the creation, harnessing and exploitation of new knowledge is what will distinguish us and secure our economic future." According to Professor Fitzgerald, if we are to produce the knowledge to take us to the next level of economic growth in Ireland, we need research investment as the foundation. "Ireland has many advantages. We are a relatively wealthy country, we are the gateway to Europe for many industries and the fact that we speak English is a big plus," he says. "But now we have to find another key differentiator and that, for me, is knowledge."

For Professor Fitzgerald, within knowledge we have to choose the areas that we have particular strengths in. "We are successful in medical sciences; and nanoscience is another

area where I can see huge growth and of course there is the ICT sector which, though no longer in a high growth phase, still offers huge opportunities in areas such as finance."

When challenged on the miniscule size of Ireland's population relative to those of Russia or China, and therefore the realistic possibilities of our country being a world leader in 'knowledge' Professor Fitzgerald cites the examples of both Finland and Switzerland - which are centres of excellence in wireless technology and financial services respectively - to show that global achievement through niche excellence is a real possibility.

"There is no reason why we could not produce the next Microsoft here in Ireland. The big driver is spending on research as a percentage of GDP. Finland keeps ploughing money into R&D while we languish in mid-table according to the OECD. Similarly, we already have 0.5% of the world's funds under management in Ireland but to grow that number, to bring it to the next significant level, needs people with quantitative skills which, yet again, points to the necessity for investment in research and training."

According to Professor Fitzgerald, some consider that it is best to wait until those areas that you have targeted for future growth, such as medical sciences or nanoscience, have reached a critical mass before you commit major investment to them. The counter argument is that we should invest now, to upfront the investment and drive the development.

"I believe in the latter approach and we have to do it now. We must attract students into the science subjects because we cannot afford to wait," he says. "We've had a tradition in Ireland (which mirrors the international experience) of training in the professions. Part of my 'vision' is that we will make studying for a PhD far more attractive. However, while we know that an MBA leaving the UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business will command an immediate salary of at least €90,000, there's no such clarity for a PhD. There is no clear professional path. The vast bulk of parents have no idea what a PhD entails so they can't describe it to their sons and daughters in an encouraging manner. We need to have compelling case studies showing potential students the benefits of going to the fourth level. When it comes to doing a PhD at the moment, it's too easy for the student to say, 'why bother?'"

But, says Professor Fitzgerald, the reasons to bother are manifold. "If PhD students self-select, that is they choose

their own areas of interest, it is personally very rewarding for them. A good PhD can be groundbreaking - a huge attraction to those who feel they want to make a difference, especially at such an early stage of their lives."

"We are very creative as a people in Ireland - we can add that creativity to the pot with our unique take on a problem - be that in the sciences, maths or humanities. The unique knowledge acquired during the PhD can lead to a range of careers, and not solely an academic one. Indeed, most PhD graduates work in the public and private sectors. We now train our PhD students for diverse career opportunities. If we go beyond this and change the mindset of our PhDs so they will think, as they do automatically in American universities, of setting up their own businesses, we could potentially transform industry in Ireland. We don't just want PhDs - we want a significant number of entrepreneurial PhDs."

As part of the package to attract entrepreneurial thinking the Irish government has launched a number of funding initiatives such as the Commercialisation Of Research and Development (CORD) grants aimed at bringing new product idea/business ventures from third-level educational institutions to market aimed at knowledge-based campus companies, academic entrepreneurs or non-academics interested in forming a campus company.

According to the ESRI, services exports currently account for 43% of total exports and by 2025 they project that market services will account for 60% of net output or value added in the Irish economy and in excess of 70% of all Irish exports. A service has a wide definition and includes the solution to people's problems, be they legal, architectural, scientific, medical etc, - issues and problems that form an ideal basis for PhD research and the commercial exploitation of the knowledge generated in conducting it.

"The country has set itself a target of producing 3,000 researchers between now and 2013, with UCD producing a third of those," explains Professor Fitzgerald. "To accomplish this we need to double the currently available accommodation, but for the meeting of this target, so crucial to our future international success, demands a realistic commitment to providing the necessary scientific infrastructure."

"What our young people know, and how they innovate, is our greatest resource," claims Professor Fitzgerald. "They are the source of solutions to present-day and future economic and social problems. When we talk about a 'knowledge economy' we must understand that knowledge is created, processed and applied by human intelligence. Why should it seem even remotely controversial, then, to propose a commitment to that intelligence and its breeding grounds as a solution to current and future difficulties?"

Conall O'Móráin (BA 1979) is MD of The Media Group

# Research



UCD Vice-President for Research,  
Prof Desmond Fitzgerald

# Artificial skies—buildings designed for well-being

## Jane Suiter and Paul Kenny discuss designing buildings with the sky in mind

Paul Kenny, a Director of the UCD Energy Research Group and programme coordinator for the BSc in Architectural Science has one of only a handful of the artificial skies that exist in Europe.

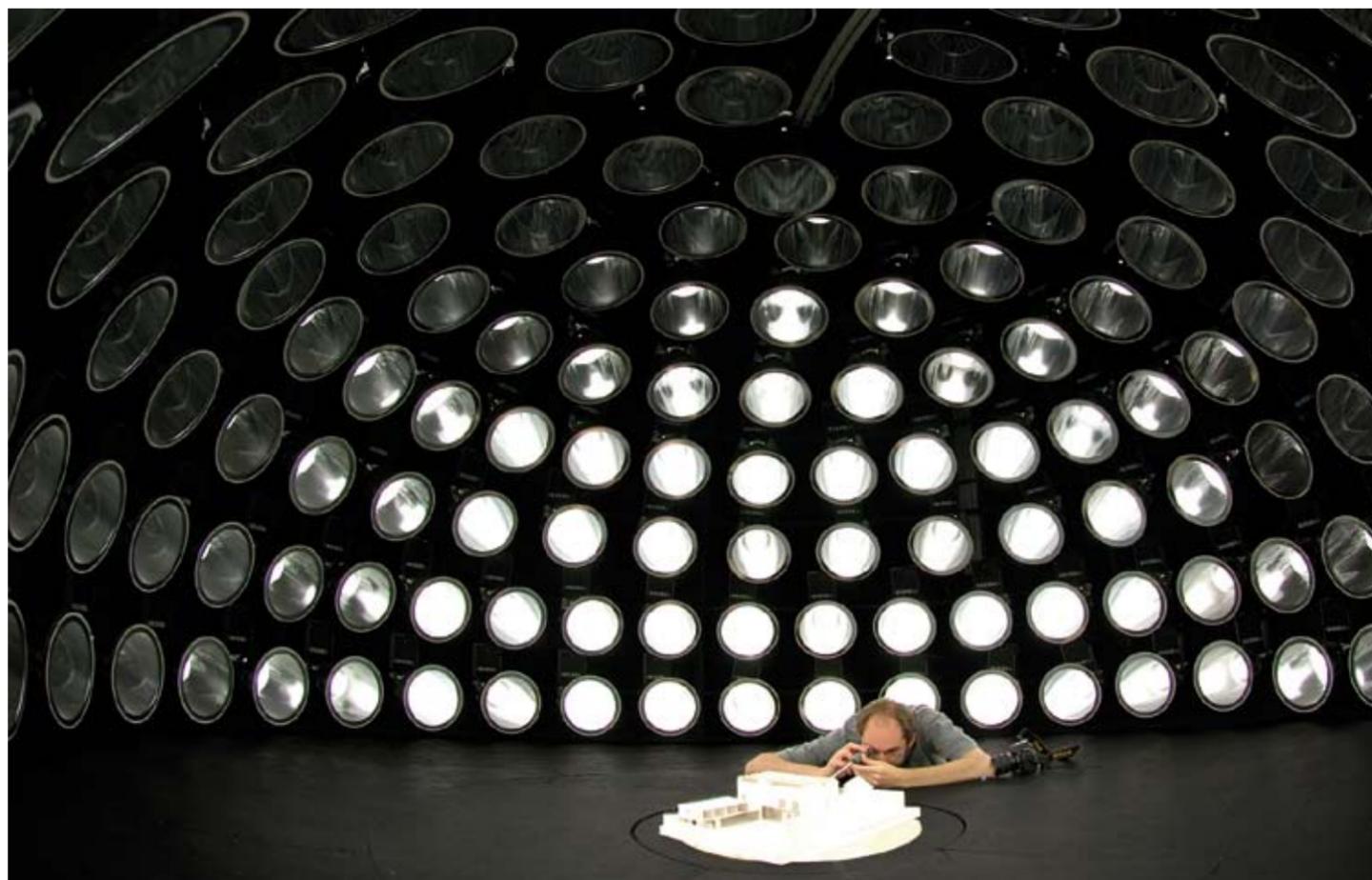
Unusually for a lecturer in architecture, Paul is an engineer by profession. He has always been busy inventing and designing. So, when it came to college, he pursued a degree in mechanical engineering.

He started his career with Ove Arup Engineers in London where he was involved in the extension to the National Gallery Sainsbury Wing. And despite the excitement of occasional police escorts and roofs being blown off by huge extractor fans, he returned to academia to complete his masters at Cranfield University in the UK before joining UCD's Energy Research Group.

Based in the UCD School of Architecture, Landscape and Civil Engineering, the Energy Research Group is one of the busiest in terms of commercial research and for many years it has successfully attained significant amounts of research funding, the majority of which is competitively obtained from within EC research and support action programmes.

Recently, the Group has undertaken projects with financial support from European Commission Directorate Generals Research and Transport & Energy, as well as a significant number of Irish public and private agencies and firms. The group has also become one of the leading experts on energy conservation and was involved with many of the earliest attempts to realise efficient buildings. The team would sit between the architect and engineer and act as "strategy catalyst". "It was a great mix of the real world while advancing a research agenda," explains Paul.

*Director of the UCD Energy Research Group, Paul Kenny*



*This image, called "Artificial Sky" was a prize-winner in the 2006 UCD Images of Research photography competition. It shows how 145 individually-controlled lamps allow researchers to simulate specific sky luminance distributions in order to study daylight and sunlight in designed spaces and in the urban environment.*

Five years' ago Paul reformatted a number of course modules in order to give students a stronger environmental agenda and working with colleagues in mechanical engineering he developed a postgraduate programme which currently has three PhD students and five postgraduates engaged in research masters. UCD ERG also runs a number of CPD or continuing professional development programmes for some of the larger architectural practices.

This year the group will be hosting the 25th anniversary conference of the Passive and Low Energy Architecture at UCD ([www.plea2008.org](http://www.plea2008.org)) with a theme of "Towards Zero Energy Building" and Paul is chair of the Technical Committee. Other countries such as Germany, Austria and Canada are already advanced in pursuing a zero carbon building policy but Ireland is still lagging. Yet buildings consume about 40 per cent of all the energy while Ireland is one of the most energy import

dependent countries in the EU. The UCD Energy Research Group was instrumental in supporting and developing guidelines for the new building energy regulations and the European Performance of Buildings Directive ratings method in Ireland known as DEAP and it also provides training to architects.

"We need to go further," says Paul. "Rather than only focusing money and research on energy supply we also need to target demand." This idea is strongly supported by the Minister for Energy and Communications, Eamon Ryan.

Paul warns that there is a danger in changing standards without adequate research. The downside became apparent during the last oil crisis in the 1970s when ventilation standards in homes changed with a consequent rise in asthma and bronchitis. Today, many of the materials used in our homes are synthetic and can be harmful if not used correctly. Something which, according to Paul, highlights the need to be acutely aware of any potential health problems associated with materials used in the structures and the overall design of the structures themselves.

Paul's own research focuses on structures and daylight. "We now know there is a third ganglion cell in the eye apart from rods and cones. It is not so much visual but appears to be linked to our physiological state via the pituitary gland and is triggered by light at 455 to 475 nm on the light spectrum in particular," explains Paul.

"Interestingly this corresponds to the colour of sky blue. We also know from the experiences of pilots, astronauts and shift workers that lack of daylight and interference in our circadian rhythm can have serious health implications from SAD to cancer. So it is important to people's well-being that buildings allow occupants to be exposed to full spectrum light. Since we spend almost 90% of our lives indoors, it is crucially important that our buildings are designed for well-being and for energy efficiency."

As part of his research, Paul will often be found on top of the Architecture Building or indeed on top of the Sugar Loaf photographing the sky with a fish-eye photo lens attached to a scientific camera. The camera takes a shot every five seconds and Paul uses these to record a time series of skies which he can then feed into a database which plugs into his artificial sky.

"The sky which is made up of 145 individual CFL lamps controlled by a computer as well as a theatrical spotlight to mimic the sun is in the UCD Urban Institute. This means that UCD will be one of the first locations where architects will be able to come in and carry out studies under recorded and repeatable real sky sequences."

On the day of our interview Paul and his research student Darragh are running a new programme and we can see the simulated impact of shadows running across a building as clouds pass overhead. He is now in the process of building a monitoring platform on the roof and adopting an outdoor camera which will allow him to record daylight and solar radiation 24/7. That data will be made freely available on a website for others researchers to use. Researchers in Canada, France and the UK are also working on advancing climate based daylight modeling and Paul is hopeful that they should be able to work together collaboratively.

If Paul has his way we will all be sitting in offices and homes with a view of the sky through large windows. How nice would that be?

*Jane Suiter (BA 89) is a freelance writer and editor*

## Bertie Ahern addresses UCD Institute of British-Irish Studies conference on the 10th Anniversary of Good Friday Agreement

Former Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern T.D. delivered the keynote speech at the UCD Institute of British-Irish Studies (IBIS) conference marking the 10th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement in April. The event was held the day after he announced his plans to resign as Taoiseach in May 2008.

The UCD Institute for British-Irish Studies is an interdisciplinary resource, established in 1999 and based in the UCD School of Politics and International Relations. It provides a platform for academics, politicians, public servants and others to share perspectives on a range of aspects of the evolving British-Irish relationship.

Mr Ahern's address: "From Conflict to Consensus the Legacy of the Good Friday Agreement" reflected on the Good Friday Agreement as a momentous milestone in the history of Ireland. He spoke of the 10th Anniversary of the Agreement as a valuable opportunity to reflect on the enormous progress made since 1998 and the future of relations on these islands.

Introducing the then Taoiseach to the conference delegates, The President of UCD, Dr Hugh Brady spoke of Mr Ahern's achievements:

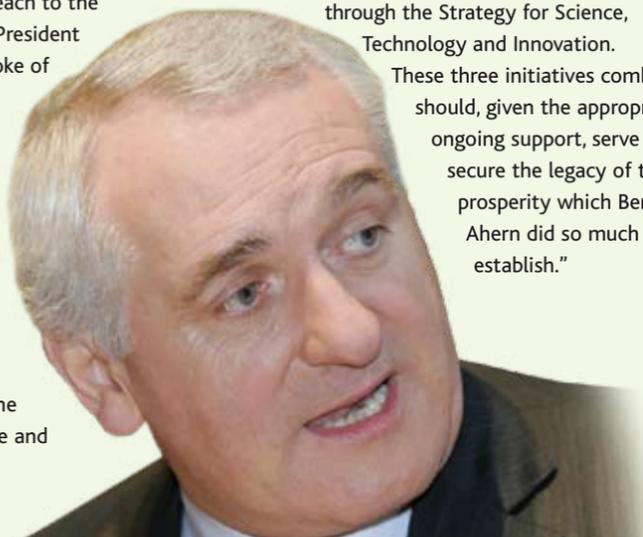
"It is the genius of Bertie Ahern that he has combined and fused so successfully the personal and the political, the local and the global. Bertie is a man of vision and a man of action – just consider three examples: the peace process, Ireland's role and

influence in Europe and Asia and Ireland's Strategy for Science Technology and Innovation."

"He is a man who saw the opportunity for a small country such as Ireland to serve as an honest broker and key influencer in the European project and who, as I mentioned above, was a decade ahead of his international counterparts in appreciating the emerging economic importance of Asia."

"As with his keen appreciation that peace has to be secured as well as delivered, so in the case of economic prosperity, the Taoiseach has appreciated like few others that, to secure that prosperity, we must invest in science and technology research and development. He is the man who gave us, early in his first term as Taoiseach, the Programme for Research in Third-Level Institutions – a groundbreaking partnership with Chuck Feeney's Atlantic Philanthropies (whose support of IBIS I should also acknowledge today). Later in that same term, the Taoiseach gave us Science Foundation Ireland and in his second term, he drove through the Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation.

These three initiatives combined should, given the appropriate ongoing support, serve to secure the legacy of that prosperity which Bertie Ahern did so much to establish."



## Tugann Bertie Ahern léacht do Institiúid Um Léann Briotanach-Éireann ar chomhaontú Aoine Chéasta

Thug Iar-thaoiseach na hÉireann, Bertie Ahern T.D eochairóráid ag comhdháil don Institiúid Um Léann Briotanach-Éireannach ag ceilúradh comóradh deich mbliana an Chomhaontú Aoine Chéasta i mí Aibreáin. Bhí an ócáid ar siúl an lá ina dhiaidh gur fhógraigh sé go mbeadh sé ag éirí as a phost mar Thaoiseach i mí Bealtaine.

Is acmhainn idirdhisciplíneach é an Institiúid Um Léann Briotanach-Éireannach a bunaíodh in 1999 agus atá lonnaithe i Scoil na Polaitíochta agus Caidreamh Idirnáisiúnta COBÁC. Tugann sé ardán don fhoireann acadúla, polaiteoirí, fostaithe na séirbhísí poiblí agus daoine eile a dearcaidh a roinnt i réimse gnéithe don chaidreamh Briotanach-Éireannach atá ag forbairt i gcónaí.

Rinne óráid an tUasal Ahern 'From Conflict to Consensus the Legacy of the Good Friday Agreement' machnamh ar an gComhaontú Aoine Chéasta mar chloch mhíle ollmhór i stair na hÉireann. Labhair sé ar an gcomóradh deich mbliana an chomhaontaithe mar dheis luachmhar le machnamh a dhéanamh ar an dul chun cinn atá déanta ó 1998 agus todhchaí na gcaidreamh ar na hoileáin seo.

Labhair Uachtarán an Choláiste agus é ag tabhairt réamhchaint do thoscairí na comhdhála faoi éachtaí an tUasal Ahern.

'Is é mór bhua Bertie Ahern ná gur éirigh leis nasc a chothú idir an pholaitíocht agus an phearsanta, cúrsaí áitiúla agus cúrsaí domhanda. Fear na físe is ea Bertie agus fear an ghnímh

chomh maith- cuimhnigh ar trí sampla: an próiseas síochána, ról agus tionchar na hÉireann ar an Eoraip agus san Áis agus Stráitéis na hÉireann um Eolaíocht, Theicneolaíocht agus Nuálaíocht.'

'Is fear é a chonaic agus a thápaigh an deis do thír bheag macasamhail Éire a bheith ag obair mar idirghábhalaí neamhspleách agus príomhthionchar aici ar thionscnamh na hÉorpa agus, mar a dúirt mé níos luaithe, a bhí deich mbliana chun tosaigh ar a chontrapáirteanna ag aithint teacht chun cinn tábhacht eacnamaíochta na hÁise.

'Leis an tuiscint atá aige go gcaithfidh síocháin a bheith urruithe chomh maith le seachadta, mar sin i gcás rath eacnamaíochta, d'aithin an Taoiseach, rud nach bhfuil aithníthe ag morán eile, le rath eacnamaíochta a chinntiú, caithfidh infheistiú a dhéanamh i dtaighde agus forbairt san eolaíocht agus sa teicneolaíocht. Is é seo an fear a thug an Clár do Thaighde in Institiúid Tríú Leibhéal-comhpháirtíochta úrnu dúinn le daonchaidís atlantacha Chuck Feeney go luath sa chéad téarma dó mar Thaoiseach (tapaím an deis le mo bhuíochas a ghabháil leo siúd as an tacaíocht thugann siad do IBIS). Níos déanaí sa téarma céanna, thug an Taoiseach an Fondúireacht Eolaíochta Éireann dúinn, agus sa dara téarma chuir sé an Stráitéis na hÉireann um Eolaíocht, Theicneolaíocht agus Nuálaíocht i bhfeidhm. Má chuirtear an trí tionscnamh seo le chéile agus an tacaíocht chúil leanúnach; ba cheart go mbeadh oidhreacht bhuanaithe as a rinne Bertie Ahern ar son na hoibre seo.

Former Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, speaking at the UCD Institute of British-Irish Studies Conference on the 10th Anniversary of Good Friday Agreement

## Exiles and emigrants: intercultural dialogues in Ireland and Europe

### Second Louvain Summer School

Past and present were up for discussion at the second Louvain Summer School in Belgium in May, which looked at the themes of migration and identity and combined insights from history with the most up-to-date analysis of contemporary Irish and world experiences of migration.

Organised by the UCD Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute, in collaboration with the Louvain Institute for Ireland in Europe, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, the DIT Conservatory of Music and the Irish Embassy to Belgium, the Summer School was held at the Louvain Institute in Leuven, Belgium.

Discussion of early modern Irish exiles covered the Irish diaspora to the Caribbean in the 17th century, Irish mercantile communities in 17th-century Dunkirk and Ostend, the contribution of exiled Irish theologians and churchmen to scholarship and politics in Europe and the Irish community in La Coruña (Spain).

Earlier periods were also discussed, including the ideals of exile in medieval Ireland, most famously epitomised by Columbanus and other monks who travelled to Europe at the time.

These historical considerations were combined with a modern analysis of migration: how the modern world views migration as a problem rather than the natural human phenomenon of movement of people, the creation of 'home' by migrant communities, perceptions of Ireland by Polish migrants and government policy in relation to the Irish diaspora.

Contributors included His Excellency Brian Nason (Irish Ambassador to Belgium), Mr Ray Bassett (Department of Foreign Affairs), Professor Dáibhí Ó Cróinín (NUI Galway) and Dr Elva Johnston (UCD School of History and Archives). It is hoped that the collaboration begun at the multidisciplinary Summer School will form a basis for further initiatives in UCD and with networks elsewhere.

## UCD Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute Annual Lecture

### Professor Craig Harline

Professor Craig Harline, Brigham Young University, gave the UCD Mícheál Ó Cléirigh annual lecture on the impact of religious conversion on families during the Reformation.

Professor Harline related the story of one particular family in the seventeenth-century Dutch Republic divided by religious convictions and explored how such a tale can be communicated effectively to a modern society. An expert on the narration of history to modern audiences, he is the author of *Sunday: a history of the first day from Babylonia to the Super Bowl*

and co-author with Dr Eddy Put (City Archivist, Leuven) of *A Bishop's Tale*, the life of Matthias Hovius, a seventeenth-century archbishop of Malines/Mechelen. St Anthony's College, the Irish Franciscan college in Louvain (Leuven) was founded (1607) during Hovius' lifetime.

Professor Harline and Dr Put also presented a workshop on how they collaborated in preparing the book on Hovius. Both lectures were given to encourage post-graduate students to look at different approaches to the writing of history.

# UCD to develop database servers that fix themselves

UCD has been awarded an SFI Industry Supplement Award to undertake research for the Oracle Corporation, the world's largest enterprise software company, around its database technology. The project will specifically look at ways to automate the identification and resolution of IT systems error messages in call centre, help desk and IT support environments. The collaboration between Oracle and UCD will last for two years, involving UCD Researchers and Oracle employee support.

The research will be based around autonomies, which comes from human biology and refers to the way our bodies can regulate and heal themselves without constant human intervention. The team will look to find ways to imbue computer systems with these self-diagnosing characteristics, because there is always a major challenge for IT Systems Administrators to cope with unforeseen systems behaviours, when managing large complex distributed IT infrastructures.

"The aim is to move further away from manually supported error resolutions and begin to develop software that can mine for

information and propose a solution requiring less human intervention," explains Professor Paddy Nixon who is leading the UCD Systems Research Group and the Autonomic strand of LERO (the Irish Software Engineering Research Centre). "By embedding problem diagnosis in software, our goal is to greatly reduce the costs in both time and money associated with system downtime."

"The fundamental issue for self-diagnosing systems is in understanding and specifying the range of permitted behaviours of the systems in response to changes in their environment and tasks," explains Professor Nixon. "We propose

to improve incident response management by identifying how to mine and learn from incident reports to infer the needed causal models and to provide automated responses."

Professor Paddy Nixon is SFI Professor of Distributed Systems at UCD. He leads the Systems Research Group and Directs the Autonomics research of the National Software Engineering Centre – LERO. The Centre currently involves four universities, the University of Limerick, Dublin City University, Trinity College Dublin and UCD and a network of Irish and international companies.

*Pictured following their acceptance of the 2008 Cozzarelli prize from the National Academy of Sciences are: Professor Kenneth Dawson and Dr Iseult Lynch from UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology; and Dr Tommy Cedervall, who works in UCD and Lund University*



## Dr Maurice Treacy appointed CEO to NIBRT

The Board of the National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT) announced the appointment of Dr Maurice Treacy as Chief Executive Officer. Dr Treacy joined NIBRT in April from Science Foundation Ireland where he held the position of Director of LifeSciences.

NIBRT is a world-class institute that provides training and research solutions for the bioprocessing industry. It is based on an innovative collaboration between UCD, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University and Institute of Technology Sligo.

Welcoming Dr Treacy's appointment, Mr Joe Gantly, Chairman of NIBRT commented: "The Board of NIBRT look forward with enthusiasm

to working with Maurice in achieving its mission in research and training in support of the bioprocessing industry in Ireland."

Commenting on his appointment, Dr Treacy indicated "I am delighted to join NIBRT as I see this as a truly unique opportunity to guide Ireland to become a true leader in the the Bioproduction space, with innovative research informing our training modules and providing world class value to the pharmaceutical sector".

Dr Treacy was awarded a PhD in Pharmacology from UCD in 1998 and completed a Post Doctoral Fellowship at the University of California at San Diego in 1992. He also holds an MBA from Northeastern University in Boston.

## 55 million year old fossil remains of parrots discovered near the North Sea

Fossil remains found in the North Sea indicate that parrots, which today only live in the tropics and the southern hemisphere, once flew wild over what is now Norway and Denmark.

The 55-million-year-old bone from the bird's upper wing came from a member of the parrot family, about the size of a Yellow-crested Cockatoo, according to Dr David Waterhouse, the lead author of a scientific paper on the finding published last month in the journal *Palaeontology*.

Officially named *Mopsitta tanta*, the bird has been nick-named the Danish Blue Parrot, and its discovery suggests that parrots first evolved in the northern hemisphere, and much earlier than had previously been considered.

Northern Europe was experiencing a warm period when *Mopsitta* was alive, says Dr

Waterhouse, who is currently assistant curator of natural history at Norfolk Museums Service in Britain, and was a PhD candidate at UCD when the request to identify the mysterious bone came in from the Moler Museum on the Isle of Mors.

Parrot fossils found so far in the southern hemisphere have been no older than 15 million years, so the North Sea finding suggests that parrots evolved in the northern hemisphere before diversifying further south in the tropics later on, according to Dr Waterhouse.

He worked with Dr Gareth Dyke from the UCD School of Biology And Environmental Science, University College Dublin, Bent Lindow from the University of Copenhagen and Nikita Zelenkov of the Palaeontological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, to discover the type of bird to which the bone once belonged.



*The Bord na Gaeilge Awards and Cumann Gaelach Gold Medal in association with the Office of Vice-President for Students were presented at UCD in May 2008. Pictured at the awards are (l-r): Liam Ó Cuinneagáin, Director of Oideas Gael and Chairman of Bord Údarás na Gaeltachta, winner of 'Bord na Gaeilge Award for Alumni'; Professor Michael Doherty, UCD School Of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine and Bord na Gaeilge Chairman; Aodhán Ó Deá, incoming Students' Union President, recipient of 'Bord na Gaeilge Award for Student Activity'; Clár Ní Bhuachalla, Irish Language Officer UCD; Dr Martin Butler, UCD Vice-President for Students*

# Art

## UCD's artistic heritage

### Newman House curator Ruth Ferguson talks to Kyran Fitzgerald (BA 1976) about UCD's growing art collection

Back in 1916, sixteen year old Thomas Jennings entered the College of Surgeons on the west side of St Stephens Green and took his part in the Easter Rising. Almost eighty years later, in 1995, one of his grandchildren, Ruth Ferguson, took over somewhat more salubrious quarters around the corner in Newman House. Thomas's occupation ended quickly. He surrendered along with the rest of the garrison and ended up in Richmond Barracks, from which place of detention he was soon released by a British Army with somewhat larger fish to fry. Ruth, however, shows few signs of abandoning her spacious quarters in a high ceilinged room overlooking Iveagh Gardens. Her place of work contains some of the finest examples of stucco to be found anywhere on these islands.

As Newman House curator, Ruth is responsible for the development of the university's growing art collection, regularly attending fine auctions in search of suitable acquisitions. She organises exhibitions and is also charged with ensuring that Newman House, part of which dates from 1738, is kept in tip top condition. With this aim in mind, she liaises closely with the UCD Buildings Office, and with Dublin conservation architects, Sheehan and Barry.

When she joined UCD, Ruth was put in charge of the art collection. "At the time, the available budgets were tiny. We bought prints. I worked with the Visual Arts Committee chaired by Dr Paula Murphy", she recalls. One of her key tasks, at the time, was to gather information on the existing UCD collection.

"No real records as to provenance had been kept. A lot of donkey work was required - it is still ongoing. We have been lucky in having at our disposal such wonderful scholars at the former Art History department (now the UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy).

Security is now given a higher priority. It is now much more difficult, for example, to remove pictures from the wall. However, when a work as famous as Edward Munch's 'The Scream', can be stolen, it is fair to say that no system is foolproof.

Ruth finds herself in an unusual position, given the current state of the economy. A decision by the university to put in place a new procedure under which a certain percentage of the annual capital spend - 0.5% - is devoted to works of art, means that the curator now has a much enhanced budget for commissions, or acquisitions.

"We have our limits. We do not go mad with the cheque book", says Ruth, who works closely with Eamonn Ceannt, UCD Vice-President for Capital and Commercial Development, and also with Ron Bolger, former managing partner at the accountancy firm, KPMG, on the task of making acquisitions, or awarding commissions. Together with UCD President Dr Hugh Brady, the UCD Art Committee oversees UCD's art collection.

The university cheque book has been whipped out on twelve occasions since the start of the year. Paintings by the Irish-based Barrie Cooke, the late Tony O'Malley, and the long deceased Gerard Dillon, have been acquired along with a sculpture by Bob Quinn entitled 'Birdsong.'

Quinn took up sculpting, fulltime, at a relatively late stage, having worked for many years in advertising. Some of his work formed part of the recent exhibition of sculptures in Iveagh Gardens along with works by long established artists such as Vivienne Roche and Rowan Gillespie.

Between December 2006 and the end of 2007, seventeen paintings were purchased, including two works by Nano Reid, and one by Brian Bourke. In Ruth's view, one of the College's most important acquisitions is the sculpture of "Hibernia with the bust of Lord Cloncurry" produced around 1844 by the Waterford born artist, John Hogan, who catered to wealthy English and Irish tourists doing the Grand Tour of Europe. Many of the new acquisitions are likely to end up in one of the old buildings which are to be found around the campus in Belfield.

"The Buildings Office gets little credit for the amount of refurbishment work that has been carried out," says Ruth, pointing to the examples of the President's Lodge and Belfield House which dates from the 1790s. For many years, Belfield House languished in a state of relative neglect, but it has recently re-emerged in mint condition following a major restoration exercise. Belfield House, which houses the UCD Clinton Institute, will contain a large amount of early twentieth century Irish art.

Completion of the new Health Science Complex, near the Clonskeagh end of the campus, has opened up new opportunities for the exhibition of art work. UCD has recently acquired a work by the artist, Corbin Walker, son of the late architect, Robin Walker and his wife, the writer, Dorothy Walker. Robin's firm, Scott Tallon Walker, designed a number of buildings on campus, including the main Engineering building.

The largest recent commission, worth €100,000 was awarded, following a competition, to Jason Ellis. The sculpture, known as 'Figurehead' is seven and a half feet high and consists of more than twenty tons of Kilkenny limestone. It has been installed beside the new Roebuck residences at the southern end of the campus. Ellis is regarded as one of Ireland's leading sculpture conservationists so his work should be well kept. UCD also receives donations from time to time - a recent donor is David Arnold, who donated a sculpture by Edward Delaney, an artist who made his name in the 1960s. His memorial to Thomas Davis stands in St Stephen's Green.

The university is by no means unique in its commitment to works of art. Back in the 1960s, for example, Trinity College acquired significant works of art, notably a sculpture by one of the

best known international artists of the time, Alexander Calder. The new Fleischman Gallery at UCC designed by architects O'Donnell and Tuomey has attracted much favourable attention. It was a finalist in the prestigious Stirling Prize international competition in 2006.

Ruth has plans to put in place a sculpture trail across UCD. There is also some talk that a new exhibition centre will be erected as part of the UCD Gateway Complex which is expected to transform the main, Eastern entrance to the university within the next few years.

Work on art exhibitions is another important part of the curatorial brief. Top of the priority list, at present, is an exhibition timed to coincide with the World Archaeological Congress which takes place at Belfield in July - the first time this conference has been brought to Ireland. An exhibition of materials found on archaeological digs has been timed to coincide with the gathering. There will also be a more permanent testament to the event. "We have held an open competition to select an artist to attend the conference and produce a permanent art work to be situated probably beside the Lake and Library." The winner, Kevin O'Dwyer, an Irish-American, runs the Midlands Sculpture Park.

As a result of another initiative, a young photographer, Kate Horgan, spent a year on campus (2000-2001) recording the daily lives of students and teachers with her lens. The result was a published book of photography entitled: 'A Moment Passing.' Young student artists were also given funding to produce proposals for a redesign of the concrete and pebble dash pedestrian tunnels which were erected four decades ago.

An exhibition of horses' heads by the English artist, Nick Fiddian Greene recently took place at Newman House. This venerable lady is due to host another unusual exhibition called 'Chronoscope.' The chronoscope is a device for measuring tiny shifts in time. This is a collaboration between UCD and the Greenmount Rd Gallery and Dr Ian Russell, UCD School Of Archaeology, who is also curator of the exhibition running in tandem with the World Archaeological Conference. As for 'Chronoscope': "Five artists will be responding to Newman House, a building which is, in a sense, in a time warp."

As my interview with Ruth ends, I am treated to a curator's guided tour of the premises, including a rare visit to the rococo splendour of the parlour at Number 85 St Stephens Green, the view of the manicured city centre back garden, and the chamber room where Cardinal Cullen once presided over the affairs

of the university, a floor below where the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins died. There are worse places in which to work, I think to myself as I head out into a noisy city.

*Kyran Fitzgerald, BA 1976, is a freelance journalist.*



*Pictured at the unveiling of the Figurehead sculpture are (l-r): Ruth Ferguson and artist Jason Ellis*

## UCD and Mount Carmel Hospital agree teaching and research partnership

Mount Carmel Hospital, Dublin, is to become an affiliated hospital to UCD and collaborate in medical education and research. Details of the agreement were announced by the incoming chief executive of Mount Carmel Hospital, Catherine MacDaid and the head of UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science, Professor Bill Powderly.

Mount Carmel Hospital is Ireland's largest stand-alone private maternity hospital. As an affiliated teaching hospital to UCD, it will now link in to the university's obstetrics and gynaecology training complementing the existing teaching capacity at the National Maternity Hospital, Holles St and the Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital.

Welcoming the agreement, Professor Powderly stressed the research opportunities afforded by the affiliation. "This agreement will enable us to build on the clinical research in the field. For example, we are both committed

to investigating foetal adiposity in utero. Dr Bernard Stuart, UCD School of Medicine at the Coombe, has pioneered the measurement of foetal subcutaneous fat measurement using ultrasound during pregnancy. This new research will examine the relationship between maternal sugar levels during pregnancy and foetal adiposity in utero."

Catherine MacDaid, CEO of Mount Carmel also welcomed the partnership, saying "It is important to ensure that the highest academic standards are maintained. The combined hospitals have approximately ten thousand births per annum and the research on both sites means that private healthcare will have an important part to play in contributing to the knowledge economy".

As part of the new agreement, Professor Michael Turner, UCD Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, has agreed to chair the Mount Carmel Committee on Clinical Governance.

## The Eighteenth-Century Dublin Townhouse: Form, Function & Finance

In May, a two-day interdisciplinary conference, *The Eighteenth-Century Dublin Townhouse: Form, Function & Finance*, was held at the National Gallery of Ireland as part of UCD College of Arts & Celtic Studies research strand in Material Culture.

The theme of the conference was the importance of the townhouse to Dublin's social, architectural and urban history.

Convened by Dr Christine Casey of the UCD School of Art History & Cultural Policy, the event was collaboration between UCD, NUI Maynooth, TCD and the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland, and conservation bodies including the Dublin Civic Trust, the Irish Georgian Society and An Taisce.

International collaborators at the conference included Dr Toby Barnard from Hertford College, Oxford and Dr Peter Guillery (Survey of London) along with a number of specialist delegates in international domestic architecture.

The event also saw the launch of the book *Studies in the Gothic Revival*. Edited by Professor Michael McCarthy & Karina O'Neill (Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland), it features papers delivered at the Gothic Revival Conference held in the Irish Architectural Archive in January 2005 to mark Professor McCarthy's retirement from the professorship of Art History at UCD.

The Irish and international scholars who contributed to the Gothic Revival Conference and the publication have been collaborators and colleagues of Professor McCarthy at UCD or at the University of Toronto or in studies of Irish architectural history, and include Dr Christine Casey and Dr Lynda Mulvin, both from the UCD School Of Art History & Cultural Policy, along with as well as postgraduates of the school, Barry O'Leary and Dr MA Andrew Tierney.

*Shown at the book launch are (l-r): Prof Michael McCarthy; Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty, Head of UCD School of Art History & Cultural Policy; Dr Christine Casey*

## New €120,000 scholarship for PhD in Health Literacy

Merck Sharp and Dohme Ireland (Human Health) Limited (MSD) recently announced that it will sponsor a four year PhD scholarship in Health Literacy to be conducted at UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School commencing in September 2008.

The "Merck Sharp and Dohme (MSD) Ireland Research Scholarship" will fund the cost of the student completing the UCD Michael Smurfit

Graduate Business School PhD programme, for an amount of €30,000 per annum for four years. The aim of the PhD study is to produce high quality, interdisciplinary research. The study will seek to measure health literacy in Ireland and assess the impact of culture and of language on this area. Developing an instrument for measuring the economic implications of health literacy will also form part of the study.

*Pictured are: Dr Neil Boyle Managing Director, Merck Sharp and Dohme Ireland; Dr Gerardine Doyle, Academic Director MBA in Health Care Management, UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School; Professor Tom Begley, Dean UCD Business Schools*



## More than half of young people binge drink regularly, says research

**More than half of young people binge drink regularly, and half of adolescents aged 15-19 years have used illegal drugs, according to new research on the behaviour of young people in Ireland.**

Dr Deirdre Palmer and Dr Gary O'Reilly at the UCD School of Psychology found that 51% of a sample of 462 15 to 19 year olds living in the South and South East region binge drank regularly, which is defined as five or more drinks on one occasion once a month or more. In the sample, 19% said they binge drink weekly while 4% said they binge drink several times a week.

Overall 86% of young people said they drank alcohol, and the average age for taking their

first drink was 13½ years. Meanwhile 50% of young people in the survey reported that they had used illicit drugs (including inhalants), and the average age of first drug use was 14½ years. Cannabis was the most commonly used drug.

Over half of the young people surveyed reported consequences of alcohol use including arguments, trouble at home and injuries. Consequences of drug use, reported by 11% of respondents, included performance being affected at school.

The research was presented at an international conference on Young People, Alcohol and Drugs, which took place last month at UCD hosted by Juvenile Mental Health Matters and the UCD School of Psychology.

# Leading medical schools join forces to strengthen Ireland's profile in health research

## 3 of 19 Molecular Medicine Ireland fellowships awarded to clinician scientists based at UCD

The Presidents of the UCD, NUI Galway, University College Cork, the Provost of Trinity College and the Registrar of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland have established a charitable company to coordinate their health research activities. The company, Molecular Medicine Ireland will strengthen Ireland's profile in health research by combining and building on the biomedical research strengths of each institution. Molecular Medicine Ireland will accelerate the translation of recent rapid advances in science into new ways of understanding disease and new diagnostics, drugs and devices to treat illness and protect the health of people in Ireland.

Molecular Medicine Ireland is funded by the Government's Higher Education Authority under the PRTL 4. Molecular Medicine Ireland replaces the Dublin Molecular Medicine Centre which, since 2002, has coordinated the biomedical

research activities of University College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

"Building on the considerable strengths of the member institutions in medical research, Molecular Medicine Ireland creates a critical mass of expertise and infrastructure in medical research. It sends a strong message that this country is a good place in which to do research," said Dr Mike Kamarck, Chair of Molecular Medicine Ireland and Executive Vice-President of Wyeth.

"Molecular Medicine Ireland will assist the institutions build a sustainable system of world class teams in biomedical research, which is a key goal of Government science and technology policy" said the Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin who officially launched Molecular Medicine Ireland in Dublin on 17 April 2008. The Minister praised the foresight of

the heads of the five institutions in taking this important step towards developing a world-class system in health research in Ireland.

"Molecular Medicine Ireland has taken the initiative, with its member institutions, to train tomorrow's leaders in health research," said Dr Ruth Barrington, Chief Executive of Molecular Medicine Ireland. "With funding of €10m awarded by the Higher Education Authority, Molecular Medicine Ireland has put a fellowship programme in place to train medical graduates as clinician scientists. Clinician scientists are trained in both the clinical care of patients and in the biological sciences that are revolutionising the practice of medicine. Each of the newly appointed fellows will undertake a PhD in one of the five member institutions and will also participate in a shared career development programme organised nationally by Molecular Medicine Ireland while undertaking his or her doctorate."

The MMI fellows will take part in a 3-year structured PhD programme, which gives them the opportunity to build on their clinical experience by expanding their research expertise. They will continue to take clinical sessions in their hospitals but will have capacity to undertake lab-based research in their specialist area.

The UCD fellows are:

- Dr Eoin Feeney, who will examine the early effects of antiretroviral drugs on mitochondrial DNA and genes regulating lipid metabolism
- Patrick Collier, who will investigate the role of Endothelial to Mesenchymal Transition in Cardiac Fibrosis
- Aidan Ryan, who will research the therapeutic potential of lipoxins and lipoxin analogues in diabetic nephropathy

# UCD researcher helps identify most effective initial treatment for HIV

One of the most frequently prescribed HIV-treatment regimes is the most successful at suppressing the virus, new research has found.

A major clinical trial published last month in *The New England Journal of Medicine* evaluated commonly used anti-HIV-drug combinations for patients starting therapy for the first time.

It confirmed that one of the most frequently prescribed triple-drug regimens for initial HIV-1 infection is, indeed, the most effective

at suppressing HIV. The study team also found that a two-drug regimen performed comparably for patients who were susceptible to severe side effects of the three-drug combination.

The study is the largest of its kind to date and included 753 participants at 55 centres in the US and South Africa. It looked at three-drug regimens that included one of the first classes of anti-HIV drugs approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, called nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs), and a two-drug

regimen that did not include NRTIs. Although effective and commonly prescribed, NRTIs can produce severe side effects in some patients.

Professor Bill Powderly, Head of the UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science and Dean of Medicine at UCD was one of the co-authors of the research paper. He explained that even when various treatments are available on the market it remains extremely important to study their relative effectiveness and side effects. The

new study would also open the way toward simpler regimens that contain fewer drugs, he added.

Professor Powderly is principal investigator for the Dublin HIV Cohort, a project funded by the Health Research Board to study the natural history and complications of HIV in a diverse population of patients infected with the virus. This study currently includes over 1,000 patients from the Mater Hospital, St James's Hospital and Beaumont Hospital.

Shown here are participants at 52nd Interpol Working Party Meeting on IT Crime – Europe. The event was hosted at UCD by the Centre for Cybercrime Investigation and the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics. This was the first time the event was hosted by a university. More than forty law enforcement officers from all over Europe, along with UCD CCI staff, participated in the meeting, which was opened by Detective Chief Superintendent Pat Brehony, Director of the Garda Bureau of Fraud Investigation and Head of the Garda Computer Crimes Investigation unit



## Hugo Hamilton addresses UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland

Author Hugo Hamilton delivered the final talk in the Humanities Institute's spring series of interdisciplinary seminars, which centred on issues of identity and memory. Hamilton addressed a large audience of graduate students and academics, and spoke movingly of his childhood in Dublin, reflecting on questions of self-perception and nationality as the child of Irish-German parentage.

Hamilton, who has written several novels, read extracts from his forthcoming book *Disguise*, which examines lost identity and considers the ambiguity of home and belonging.

The seminar series is designed to provide a platform for leading-edge research in the humanities with a view to addressing an interdisciplinary audience and transcend traditional academic and disciplinary boundaries.

Among the contributors were Dr Fergus O'Ferrell (The Adelaide Hospital Society) on notions of citizenship in healthcare reform in Ireland and Dr Colin Breen (University of Ulster), who spoke about linkages between archaeology, identity and genocide in Africa.



Author Hugo Hamilton

# Cell biologist receives UCD Ulysses Medal

One of the world's leading experts in cell biology, Professor Shuh Narumiya was awarded the UCD Ulysses Medal at the UCD Conway Institute in May. Professor Narumiya received the award in recognition of his scientific research and discoveries in the area of cell biology which have resulted in over 370 peer-reviewed publications and significant research awards.

"Over the last twenty years, Professor Narumiya has reinvented the field of cell signalling and cell biology" said UCD President Dr Hugh Brady, presenting the award. "Of all the scientists gathered here today at the UCD Conway Institute, I can safely say that about 88% of them are already using Professor Narumiya's work, and the remaining 12% will be using it in the near future."

Professor Narumiya is the 'father figure' of two fields of scientific research: prostanoids

and the *Ras homologue* (Rho) protein family. For the past 20 years, he has been working to understand Rho cell signalling, and in particular the molecular process by which virtually every system in the body is regulated by Rho. His scientific journey began with his discovery of the *Ras homologue* Rho as a target of bacterial toxins right and continued through to his identification of its role in tumour formation and cancer.

Accepting the award, Prof Shuh Narumiya, Professor and Dean of the Kyoto University Faculty of Medicine, drew comparisons between his own life's work and the wanderings of Homer's Odysseus and Joyce's Stephen Bloom.

According to Professor Narumiya, his scientific work focuses on two main questions: how cells make their shape, move and form tissues; and how derangement of these mechanisms can lead to disease.



Professor Shuh Narumiya receiving the UCD Ulysses Medal

## Winners of President's Research Fellowship Scheme

UCD President Dr Hugh Brady recently announced the winners of the 2008 President's Research Fellowship Scheme. The scheme is intended to support individuals whose research, and professional development as researchers, would benefit from a period of focused research and aims to enhance UCD's reputation internationally as a research-intensive university.

The following researchers were awarded Fellowships under the 2008 scheme:

**Professor Maria Baghramian**  
School of Philosophy

**Professor Orla Feely**  
School of Electrical, Electronic and Mechanical Engineering

**Professor Declan Gilheany**  
School of Chemistry & Chemical Biology

**Professor Tom Inglis**  
School of Sociology

**Professor Attracta Ingram**  
School of Politics & International Relations

**Professor Paul Malthouse**  
School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Engineering

**Professor Aidan Moran**  
School of Psychology

UCD Vice-President for Research, Professor Des Fitzgerald commended the scheme winners: "The President's Research Fellowship Scheme is the most prestigious of our internal funding programmes. It provides our most accomplished academics with the opportunity to work in other academic centres, pursue new ideas, complete monographs or simply dedicate more time to research".

UCD is committed to becoming a leading international research-intensive university that drives innovation and creative discovery within its community of world-class researchers. Within this context, the President's Research Fellowship Scheme offers the academic community the opportunity to apply for a fellowship to enhance their research profile. It provides practical support for full-time permanent academic staff members by facilitating the recipient to take sabbatical leave to commit their time to a research project.

The scheme is overseen by a committee which this year was chaired by Professor Catherine Godson.



Pictured clockwise from back left are: Professor Aidan Moran; Professor Declan Gilheany; Professor Des Fitzgerald, UCD Vice-President for Research; Professor Catherine Godson, Chair of the President's Research Fellowship committee; Professor Tom Inglis; Professor Maria Baghramian; Professor Attracta Ingram; UCD President Dr Hugh Brady; Professor Orla Feely; Professor Jonathan Malthouse

## Professor Werner Jeanrond at UCD

As part of its *Distinguished Guest lecture series*, the UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland (HII) recently welcomed Professor Werner Jeanrond, Chair of Divinity at University of Glasgow to speak on the topic of *Ambiguous memories: retrieving western traditions of love today*.

Professor Jeanrond delivered a most stimulating lecture where he examined how the concept of love had been treated diversely throughout history in biblical texts, in the writings of dominant figures such as Augustine and Aquinas and in the 20th century by his predecessor in the Chair of Theology at Lund, Anders Nygren. He drew attention to the relative neglect of the topic in theological writing in the period since Nygren's seminal work, *Agape and Eros* was

published in 1930. He sketched how his own forthcoming work, which is both a historic and systematic treatment of the theme of Love, is an attempt to redress this imbalance.

After the lecture, Professor Jeanrond engaged in a rich question and answer session with UCD academics and students from various disciplines and visitors from Trinity College, where he lectured from 1981 to 1994, The Irish School of Ecumenics and the Milltown Institute.

Professor Jeanrond gained his master's degree from the University of Saarbrücken, and a PhD from Chicago Divinity School. He lectured in Theology at Trinity College Dublin between 1981 and 1994. Prior to joining University of Glasgow, he was Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of Lund in Sweden.

Pictured are (l-r): Dr Pádraic Conway, UCD Vice-President for University Relations; Dr Marc Caball, Director HII; Prof Werner Jeanrond, Chair of Divinity at University of Glasgow



## Lessons Learned — the United States and the Northern Ireland Peace Process

On Thursday, 1 May – the day after the Taoiseach Bertie Ahern's historic address to the US Congress – the UCD Clinton Institute co-hosted a *Forum on the Peace Process* in the United States Capitol Building in Washington.

The event was addressed by Dermot Ahern, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and brought together leading figures in Congress and the Irish-American community to discuss the historical contribution that significant actors in the United States made to the evolution of the Peace Process in Northern Ireland.

Speakers included David Byrne SC, former Attorney General of Ireland and EU Commissioner; Congressman Peter King; James Kenny, a former US ambassador to Ireland; Bruce Morrison, a former member of Congress and author of the Morrison Visa Program; Congressman Richard Neal, Chairman Friends of Ireland Congressional Caucus; Niall O'Dowd,

publisher of *Irish America* magazine and Immigration Activist; and Congressman James Walsh, author of the Walsh Visa Program.

The Forum focused on the roles of Congress, the White House and non-governmental groups and individuals and discussed the lessons that may be learned about the interactions of these agencies as a model for resolving conflicts in the wider world. This last theme was vigorously taken up by Dermot Ahern in a wide-ranging commentary on how lessons learned from the multifaceted mediation of the Peace Process can be put to good use in the activities of international conflict resolution.

The Forum proceedings were recorded and will be archived by the Clinton Institute for research purposes. This will be an important oral record of key actors' roles in the Peace Process and their perspectives ten years on. Further details are available on [www.ucdclinton.ie](http://www.ucdclinton.ie)

*Pictured at the forum were (L-R): Congressman Peter King; David Byrne SC; Congressman James Walsh*



## Conference considers Irish experience of social and economic change

The UCD College of Human Sciences hosted a conference entitled *Global Ireland—Empirical Research and Policy Implications* at Newman House on 30 April 2008 to showcase scholarship on Ireland undertaken by academics in the College of Human Sciences.

Academics from the UCD Schools of Sociology, Economics, and Politics & International Relations spoke on the themes of *Ireland as a Global Actor*, and *Globalisation and Irish Society*. Discussants for the event were: Dan Mulhall, Department of Foreign Affairs; Paul Gillespie, Irish Times; Brendan Halligan, Chair of the Institute of European Affairs and Dr Rory O'Donnell, Director of the National Economic and Social Council.

The keynote lecture, chaired by UCD President Dr Hugh Brady, came from Mr Dermot McCarthy, Secretary General, Department of

the Taoiseach. He spoke on the *Future Direction of the Irish Public Service*.

The UCD College of Human Sciences is committed to the study of Ireland, seeking to interpret and understand Ireland's past, present and unfolding future.

Since 2006, scholars in the college have published 36 volumes on Ireland. The perspectives of different disciplines, economic history, sociology, geography, psychology, education, women's studies and political science are creatively deployed to analyse and explore Ireland's cultural, spatial, social, economic and political landscape.

Running through all of the volumes, and the April conference, is the clear appreciation that developments within Ireland are rooted in wider global dynamics.

## UCD students take top prize at Accenture 'Leaders of Tomorrow' Awards

Two students from UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business took home the top prize at the inaugural Accenture Leaders of Tomorrow Awards held in Dublin in April. The team of Laura McGreal, from Castlebar, Co Mayo, and Annemarie McCormack, from Stillorgan, Co Dublin, both students of the Master of Business Studies in Strategic Management and Planning, took home the trophy and will now participate in the Accenture Global Leadership Experience—a tour of Accenture sites in the US, India and France.

The Accenture 'Leaders of Tomorrow Award', open to third-level graduates across the

country, seeks to recognise, identify and foster the next generation of talent that will help in shaping the public, private and social landscape of Ireland in the coming years.

The judging panel, chosen from the top ranks of the Irish private and public sectors and Accenture personnel, included Donal Forde, Managing Director, AIB; Julie O'Neill, Secretary General, Department of Transport; Paul O'Riordan, Managing Director, Oracle Ireland; Mark Ryan, Country Managing Director, Accenture Ireland; Marian Corcoran, Head of Management Consulting, Accenture Ireland and Ismail Amla, Head of Human Capital Strategy, Accenture Global.

*UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business students Annemarie McCormack (centre left) and Laura McGreal (centre right), who won top prize at the Accenture Leaders of Tomorrow Awards, pictured with Sean Murray, Director of Marketing, UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business, (Left) and Professor Tom Begley, Dean of Business (right)*



## Launch of the Irish Universities Study

The President of UCD and IUA, Dr Hugh Brady launched the Irish Universities Study in April. Using advanced internet survey techniques, the longitudinal study will capture key information from undergraduate and postgraduate students and postdoctoral researchers in our universities.

The areas covered include the education experience, economic expectations, personal development and health. The sector-wide survey is a major innovation providing the universities with the ability to formulate policy for students and researchers based on sound evidence.

The project will run for three years and is funded equally by the HEA Strategic Innovation Fund and the seven universities. Speaking about the study, Dr Hugh Brady said "This pioneering research programme will enable the universities to make strategic policy decisions and will inform the development of key resources including teaching and learning, quality assurance and students services, informed by student feedback".

One of the most prolific and well regarded labour economists of the last 30 years, Professor Ronald Ehrenberg of Cornell University, delivered the keynote address at the launch. Professor Ehrenberg stressed the

economic and social value of education, the need to nurture this belief in secondary school, and the critical need to avoid underinvestment in fourth level areas. He emphasized the importance of carrying out research to gather information of the type the Irish Universities Study (IUS) will capture.

The study is being carried out by the UCD Geary Institute on behalf of the Irish Universities Association.

*Dr Liam Delaney, UCD Geary Institute; Professor Ronald Ehrenberg, Cornell University; Professor Colm Harmon, Director, UCD Geary Institute at the launch of the Irish Universities Study*



# News from NovaUCD

## UCD company to produce 'one-stop' screening kit for newborn disorders

UCD spin-out company Enzolve Technologies is set to start production of its NeoScreenPak diagnostic kits for screening a variety of disorders that affect newborn infants. The initial test in the NeoScreenPak range will screen for the metabolic disorder phenylketonuria (PKU), and each kit will contain sufficient materials to allow up to 1,000 newborns to be tested.

Eventually the 'one-stop' test kits will test for seven of the 11 most commonly screened disorders that affect newborns. Using genetically engineered enzymes, enzyme-based specialty products and enzyme expertise, Enzolve's diagnostic screening kits are faster, more reliable, convenient and cost effective than tests that are currently commercially available.

Such advantages are proving to be particularly attractive in international markets, especially those where newborn screening programmes are as yet under-developed or under-funded.

Enzolve was co-founded by Professor Paul Engel and Dr Suren Aghajanian as a spin-out company from the UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science and has received substantial investment from Enterprise Ireland and private investors.

Based at NovaUCD, Enzolve Technologies was co-founded by Professor Paul C. Engel and Dr Suren Aghajanian as a spin-out company from UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science at the Conway Institute. The company which now employs 4 full-time staff occupies laboratory and office space at NovaUCD the Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre at UCD and has partnered with Europharma Concepts Ltd, based in Co. Offaly, to manufacture the screening kits.

*Dr Denise Cornally and  
Dr Anna Edvardsson,  
Development Scientists,  
Enzolve Technologies*



## NovaUCD Director appointed Chair of ProTon Europe

Dr Pat Frain, Director of NovaUCD, the Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre at UCD, has been elected Chair of ProTon Europe. ProTon Europe is the pan-European network of knowledge transfer offices, national knowledge transfer associations and companies affiliated to universities and other public research organisations. It has over 250 direct member institutions in 28 European countries employing some 2,000 knowledge-transfer professionals.

Dr Frain is the first person from Ireland to chair ProTon Europe, which was established

in 2002 to promote innovation by increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of knowledge transfer and university-industry collaboration across Europe. Through the representation of national associations at a European level ProTon Europe offers its members an opportunity to develop, inform and influence European policy relating to knowledge transfer.

ProTon Europe also supports the professional development of knowledge transfer offices across Europe through the exchange of best practice, staff exchanges, the delivery of appropriate training and networking.

## UCD invention disclosures increase by 35%

UCD researchers submitted 50 invention disclosures last year, according to the NovaUCD 2007 Annual Report which was published in May. This is an increase of 35% on the number submitted in 2006 and a 120% increase on the 2005 data.

In 2007, 26 patent applications including 9 priority patent applications, 9 PCT (patent co-operation treaty) applications and 8 national/regional patent applications were filed by UCD for intellectual property arising from research in life science, engineering and information and communication technology.

Eight licence agreements were also concluded with a range of indigenous and international companies and 4 new innovative spin-out companies were incorporated. A total of 130 companies and 190 individuals have now completed NovaUCD's Campus Company Development Programme which has run

annually since 1996 and former participants now collectively employ over 675 people.

NovaUCD is responsible for the implementation of UCD policies relating to the commercialisation of intellectual property arising from UCD's research programmes. It also provides entrepreneurs and knowledge-based start-up companies with incubation facilities and a comprehensive business support programme. NovaUCD is the main point of contact for companies seeking partners for collaborative research and advice on licensing and other commercial opportunities.

Twenty-four innovative new ventures, occupying 39 incubation units, or 95% of the available incubation space, are currently located in NovaUCD. Nine companies have already graduated from NovaUCD and moved on to new premises.

## Celtic Catalysts presented with NovaUCD 2008 Innovation Award

Celtic Catalysts, which has developed technology which enables global pharmaceutical companies manufacture drugs more cost effectively, particularly in anti-viral and anti-cancer therapeutic areas, has been presented with the NovaUCD 2008 Innovation Award.

The Award was presented to Celtic Catalysts in recognition of its successful commercialisation of chiral synthesis research which took place over many years in UCD's School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology.

Celtic Catalysts was co-founded in 2000 by Professor Declan Gilheany and Dr Brian Kelly. Its focus is on the area of chiral synthesis and it has developed a comprehensive intellectual property portfolio

*Dr Brian Kelly, CEO & co-founder, Celtic Catalysts, winner of the NovaUCD 2008 Innovation Award*

and carved out a uniquely strong niche for itself in the specialised area of 'P-chiral' technology. This technology can be used in the production of a range of drugs which are particularly prevalent in anti-viral and anti-cancer therapeutic areas.

Since 2004, Celtic Catalysts has secured €2 million in investment from 4th Level Ventures, Enterprise Ireland, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Business Expansion Scheme (BES). In addition it has secured two European Commission grants under the prestigious Marie Curie funding scheme. The company currently employs 17 people and is headquartered at NovaUCD.

In addition to product sales, Celtic Catalysts has already signed several research alliance agreements with a number of multinational pharmaceutical companies. These research alliance agreements enable Celtic Catalysts utilise their expertise and technology to solve problems being encountered by pharmaceutical and biotech companies in the manufacture of their drugs.

Celtic Catalysts is currently in fundraising mode and plans to expand its workforce to over 30 people, mostly at PhD level, within the next two years, occupy its own laboratory facilities to manufacture bulk quantities of its products in addition to securing alliances and supply agreements with all major Pharma and fine chemical companies.

# UCD Science Students raise €32,000 for children's charities

Over the past 21 years the UCD Science Day Committee has raised almost €1 million for children's cancer research and treatment at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin. This year, to raise money for the charities UCD science students organised a range of activities throughout the year including the Science Ball, a cycle to Galway, a challenge to the world hugging record, and a parachute jump.

The money raised by UCD science students this year amounted to €32,000, the majority of which (€27,000) was donated to the cancer unit in Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin, and the remainder (€5,000) was donated

to Barretstown Camp where children with cancer and their families take part in a unique programme recognised by the medical world as playing an important role in their recovery from serious illness.

"UCD Science Day has been a great success this year and it is always particularly rewarding," says 3rd Year Environmental Biology Student, Sarah Jane Gardner who is Chairperson of the UCD Science Day Committee. "Some of the committee members visited Our Lady's Children's Hospital to see the work being carried out there and the difference that charitable donations make."

UCD science students who raised €32,000 for children's charities



# UCD students claim five of the top prizes at the 2008 Student Media Awards

*The University Observer* won two awards, with Seán Mulvey (Third Law) claiming Colour Writer of the Year and the newspaper's Editor, Rob Lowney, claiming Features Writer of the Year – Education Focus. This new category is sponsored by the Higher Education Authority, and Lowney received the accolade for highlighting the work of UCD's Office of the Director of Access in widening participation in third-level.

UCD's oldest student publication, the *College Tribune*, also won two awards on the night. Lorcan Archer (Third Arts) claimed Features

Writer of the Year – Arts & Pop Culture, and Philip Connolly (Second Arts) was awarded Features Writer of the Year – News & Politics.

In a first for UCD, the Students' Union won a Smedia for their *Student Survival Guide*. The Union's Communications Officer, Ciara Brennan, who produced the guide, accepted the award for Best Society Publication.

The Student Media Awards, sponsored by mobile phone company 3, were held in April in Dublin, and nearly 1,000 people attended. All third-level students in the Republic of Ireland

and Northern Ireland are eligible to enter, and each category is judged by a prominent person in Irish media.

In the eight-year history of the Smedias, *The University Observer* has received more recognition than any other student publication, receiving a total of 101 nominations and 29 awards.

For the coming academic year, the new Editors of the *College Tribune* have been named as Jennifer Bray and Simon Ward, and Danielle Moran has been appointed the new Editor of *The University Observer*.



The Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, Lord Philips, was a recent visitor to the UCD School of Law when he addressed a meeting of LawSoc. Speaking to a packed house, Lord Philips outlined his early career in the navy before going on to talk about his legal career with particular reference to his expertise in Maritime Law. Lord Philips is the latest in a long line of famous and distinguished guests to visit LawSoc. Pictured here before the talk are (l-r): Maria McHenry, LawSoc librarian; Gary Wynne, LawSoc treasurer; Lord Philips; Niall O'hUiginn, LawSoc auditor

Pictured at the UCD Business Alumni Crystal Ball are Katie O'Connell BBLs '03 & Paul Brady, BBLs '04. The event took place in May at the Four Seasons Hotel and was supported by Premier Group, Business & Finance, An Post, Tipperary Crystal and Clarion Hotels Ireland. It raised over €5,000 for the UCD New Era Fund



# 60 years on and still dipping those oars

The upcoming Beijing Olympics has particular significance for the UCD Boat Club. 2008 is the 60th anniversary of the London Games, in which the first Ireland international rowing crew competed. The VIII included 5 UCD Boat Club oarsmen, Paddy Dooley, Morgan McElligott, Joe Hanly, Barry McDonnell and Tom Dowdall. The cox, Denis Sugrue was also from UCD Boat Club. These 6 crew members had been members of the UCD Senior VIII's that won the Irish Senior Rowing VIII Championships of 1947 and 1948. One of the coaches and the team manager, DSF O'Leary were also members of UCD Boat Club and Old Collegians Boat Club.



*Irish rowing team in the 1948 Olympic Games in London*

The other oarsmen on the team were Robin Tamplin, Dublin University Boat Club, Paddy Harrold, Neptune RC and Danny Taylor, Queens University Belfast. The crew's participation in the Games was as noteworthy for events off the water as it was for being Ireland's first international crew to compete at the highest level in international rowing.

The London Games authorities initially refused to allow the crew compete as they were deemed to be from the thirty two counties of Ireland instead of the 'Republic' only. In an incident that became known as "The Thin Green Line" the crew refused to drop Danny Taylor and after sterling negotiations by the Olympic Council of Ireland, the crew was allowed to row as selected.

The four surviving UCD 1948 Olympians, Paddy Dooley, Morgan McElligott, Tom Dowdall and Denis Sugrue along with Robin Tamplin from Dublin University Boat Club VIII as well as family members of Joe Hanly, Barry McDonnell and Paddy Harrold from Neptune RC were guests of honour at a special boat-naming ceremony in Belfield. The *Olympian* took to the water the next day and, under the oars of the Senior VIII's, won the University Championships of Ireland followed by the Metropolitan Regatta. The University Championships win was the first overall win of the event since 1991.

While the 1948 crew made history, probably the most famous UCD crew dates from the 1970s when "The Animals" Martin Feeley, Pat Brady, Des Harrold (son of Paddy), Jaye Renehan., Jim Skelly, Denis O'Shaughnessy, Barry O'Connor, Tommy McDonough and cox Sandy Symmons and coach Tom Sullivan, stormed onto the international scene

by winning the Ladies Challenge Plate at Henley Royal Regatta in 1974. The Ladies Plate was the premier international University rowing competition in the world at the time. This achievement came in the season following UCD's greatest run of successes in the Irish Senior VIII Championships, the three-in-a-row wins from 1971 to 1973.

The 1974 crew's success was even more remarkable as 4 of the 8 made the final of the Britannia Cup for IV's at Henley at the same time. These crews were coached by Tom Sullivan, one of the greatest contributors to UCD rowing and represented Ireland at Home International throughout the early 1970's. Jaye and Martin went on to represent Ireland at the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.

UCD Boat Club's current Director of Rowing, Pat Gannon represented Ireland at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, finishing 7<sup>th</sup> in the Pair and another UCD Boat Club alumnus Martin McElroy coached the Great Britain VIII to a famous victory at the 2004 Games.

The Boat Club is again involved in Irish rowing at the 2008 Games through the Director of Rowing, John Holland who is the current coach to the Ireland lightweight coxless four who are aiming to qualify for Beijing.

*At the boat launch in June were: Barry O'Connor; HE David Reddaway; Morgan McElligott; Jaye Renehan; Paddy Dooley; Denis Sugrue*



# UCD students on 18 Senior County GAA teams

The ranks of eighteen senior county GAA teams include UCD students. Speaking about hurling and football within the university, UCD Director of GAA, David Billings said, "In addition to playing with UCD, many of our members maintain their links to their home or county clubs. For instance, some of the GAA Sports Scholars, such as Louth footballer Shane Lennon, or Wexford camogie captain Mary Leacy contribute hugely to their clubs both at home and at university."

The UCD students on Senior County GAA teams are:

## Men's Senior Football:

**Louth:** Shane Lennon, Colm Judge

**Leitrim:** David O'Connor

**Offaly:** Paul McConway

**Longford:** Paul Kelly

**Tipperary:** Niall Curran

**Kildare:** Declan Brennan

**Wexford:** Ciaran Lyng

**Laois:** John O'Loughlin

**Wicklow:** Padraig Higgins

**Carlow:** John Murphy

## Ladies' Senior Football:

**Dublin:** Cliona O'Connor

**Westmeath:** Fiona Claffey

**Cavan:** Ailish Cornyn

**Cork:** Rena Buckley

**Dublin:** Karen Kennedy

**Mayo:** Lisa Clafferty

## Men's Senior Hurling:

**Tipperary:** Diarmuid Fitzgerald, Tommy Fitzgerald

**Laois:** James Walsh

**Dublin:** Tomas Brady, Joey Boland, Ross O'Carroll

**Wexford:** P.J Nolan, Stephen Nolan

**Kilkenny:** Sean Cummins

**Offaly:** Brendan Murphy

## Ladies' Senior Camogie:

**Cork:** Rena Buckley

**Kilkenny:** Julieanne Woodcock

**Tipperary:** Mairead Luttrell

**Kildare:** Susan O'Carroll

**Wexford:** Mary Leacy

**Wexford:** Una Leacy

**Wexford:** Mags Darcy

**Galway:** Therese Manton

# Former UCD sports scholar, Peter Lawrie wins Spanish Open

**Peter Lawrie made a 25ft putt to match Ignacio Garrido's birdie three and win the Spanish Open in Seville. He now moves from 88th to 12th on the Order of Merit, and into the 19th spot in the European Ryder Cup race.**

With Lawrie's victory, Darren Clarke's Asian Open success, and Damien McGrane's China Open victory, there have been three Irish wins in a row in the European Tour.

Lawrie is a UCD graduate and a former recipient of a UCD sports scholarship. Other well known recipients of UCD sports scholarships include:

Brian O'Driscoll, Trevor Giles, Alan Brogan, Bryan Barry, Derval O'Rourke, James Nolan, and Ciara O'Brien.

UCD sports scholarships help students to advance their sporting careers while studying at university by providing them with coaching/training of the highest level, access to sports medicine facilities, tuition fees, maintenance, books, equipment, and travel to national and international competitions. Each scholarship is valued on an individual basis by the relevant sports club and lasts for a minimum of one year.



# Honorary degrees for “catalysts of change”

Each year on the anniversary of James Joyce’s Bloomsday, 16 June, UCD presents honorary degrees to people whose zeal and commitment to make a difference to society make them catalysts for change.

This year, the university honoured seven recipients across the fields of forestry, medicine, journalism, economics, social science, trade unionism and botany. Each has made an exceptional contribution to society and has had a significant impact in their spheres of influence.

Their commitment reflects the ethos of the university as it places a strong value, not just on academic achievement, but also on the creation of the holistic experience.

**Olive Braiden** — Degree of Doctor of Laws: Olive Braiden has been a campaigner for legislative reforms in the areas of women’s rights for over 25 years. From her early days as a volunteer with the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre to her campaign to highlight the issue of sexual abuse across Europe, she has fought courageously to defend and protect traumatised victims and to change societal attitudes to these crimes of violence.

**Des Geraghty** — Degree of Doctor of Laws: Des Geraghty led Ireland’s largest trade union (SIPTU) during the period of greatest prosperity in the country’s history and his role as a negotiator within the social partnership helped change the Ireland from a relatively poor, peripheral country who exported its young to the Celtic Tiger whose economic growth outstripped all of its EU partners for a decade.

**Geraldine Kennedy** — Degree of Doctor of Laws: As editor of the Irish Times, Geraldine Kennedy has strived to maintain the ethos of journalism through informed, investigative reporting and deep, analytical research. She has always stood up for right and truth and her influence as a major opinion leader has enabled journalists to bring issues of major national importance to the fore, which ensure the status quo is challenged and, when needed, changed.

**Stephen O’Rahilly** — Degree of Doctor of Science: The key to breakthroughs in medical research is that step between the science and the treatment: what is more commonly known as translational research. In his work, Stephen O’Rahilly has sought to change the course of suffering for patients, particularly in his examination of the basic causes of Type 2 diabetes and obesity at a molecular level.

**Ji Baocheng** — Degree of Doctor of Laws: For over a decade Professor Ji Baocheng has been responsible for significant achievements in education reform, not just within his own university, (Renmin University of China) but in the wider Chinese context.

**Jürgen Huss** — Degree of Doctor of Science: Jürgen Huss has influenced silviculture throughout the world. His research and teaching have influenced foresters in Europe, Latin America, and in Ireland where he has played an important role in influencing the Irish Government towards the sustainable development of the forestry sector.

**Xu Zhihong** — Degree of Doctor of Laws: Xu Zhihong has dedicated his life to research into plant development and plant biotechnology. Throughout his distinguished career he has focused on the growth, development and genetic transformation of plants.

*Pictured at the event are two of the Degree recipients, Mr Des Geraghty and Ms Olive Braiden*



## President's dinner in honour of retired staff

UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady hosted the twelfth annual dinner in honour of retired UCD staff in O’Reilly Hall on 19 May. The guests on this occasion were staff who retired from the university in the academic year 2006-07, and included two former members of the Governing Authority, Professor Muiris X FitzGerald and Mrs Helen Gallagher.

Shown here at the event are (l-r): Alice Deegan; Professor Andrew Deegan, who recently retired from the UCD Quinn School of Business; Dr Richelle Crowley; Dr Ann Lavan, recently retired from UCD School of Applied Social Science.



## Joycean scholars look to the future

**An international panel of Joycean scholars gathered at the Global Irish Institute in April to discuss current methodologies and theoretical issues in the field of Joyce studies.**

Participants also debated the possibilities of exciting new avenues of research thanks to the enhanced resources of the internet and archival acquisitions in libraries in Dublin and Buffalo.

The colloquium was convened by the UCD James Joyce Research Centre under the stewardship of its Director, Professor Anne Fogarty from the UCD School of UCD School of English, Drama and Film.

Attendees at the research meeting included: Professor Michael Groden (University of Western Ontario), Professor Hans Walter Gabler (University of Munich), Professor Geert Lernout (University of Antwerp), Professor

Daniel Ferrer (ITEM-CERN, Paris), Dr Luca Crispi (UCD), Dr Sam Slote (Trinity College Dublin), Professor Brian Caraher (Queen’s University Belfast), Professor Paul Saint Amour (University of Pennsylvania), Professor Vicki Mahaffey (University of York), Dr Emer Nolan (NUI, Maynooth).

Funding from the Higher Education Authority also enabled scholarships for the leading graduate students in the field to attend the colloquium, and graduate representatives were in attendance from Oxford University, Queen’s University Belfast, Marquette University, University of Buffalo, York University, University of Nottingham, Royal Holloway, University of London, Notre Dame University, University of Turin, University dell’Aquila, University of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad, University of Otago, Trinity College Dublin, UCD, and the University of Virginia.



*Pictured at the James Joyce Research colloquium held at UCD in April 2008 are Joycean scholars from four continents*

# UCD staff and students raise money for China earthquake appeal

In the wake of the Chinese earthquake that claimed some 71,000 lives in May, UCD students and staff have raised €13,600 to support the Red Cross Society in China.



The appeal was organised by UCD Student Advisors and

other staff in conjunction with the university's 196-strong Chinese student community, with the support of the UCD Students Union.

The fundraising day held on 22 May saw 25 Chinese students and 6 Students' Union officers making campus collections on the roads adjacent to Belfield and Blackrock from 7.00 am. Other students and staff organised collections amongst colleagues.

Also collaborating with the appeal were the International Office, UCD Chinese Students and Scholars Association, and UCD Quinn School of Business. Donations can still be made to: China Earthquake Appeal (UCD), AIB UCD Campus Branch, Belfield. Account No: 22209019 Sort Code: 93-01-56

Photo caption: Pictured here with the first of two cheques sent to the Red Cross are, (l-r): Yi Bao, Assistant Director of UCD Confucius Institute; Hui Zhang, Head of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association; Carl Lusby, Student Advisor; Ciara Brennan, Deputy President of UCD Students' Union

# Tony Award success for play by UCD graduate

**The Seafarer, a play by UCD graduate, Conor McPherson received four nominations for 2008 Tony Awards, Broadway's top theatre honours. One of the nominations translated into a victory for the production, with Jim Norton securing the award for Best Performance by a Featured actor in a Play.**

The other nominations were for best play, best direction, and a second nomination in the Norton's wining category, for actor Conleth Hill.



The play, a dark and enthralling Christmas fable of despair and redemption, is about two brothers playing poker with the devil. "McPherson is considering the

impenetrable, scary mystery that is being alive and the blundering ways that poor humans deal with it," said Ben Brantley in his review of *The Seafarer* in *The New York Times* last December. "The *Seafarer* portrays the forms of amnesia and anesthesia that allow people to wake up with themselves. Not that you think in such lofty terms while you're listening to the liveliest, funniest dialogue yet written by McPherson."

"Conor was one of the best students we ever had," said Professor Tony Roche from the UCD School of English, Drama and Film. "While studying English and Philosophy, in which he graduated with a double first, he was also heavily involved in directing, writing and acting in DramSoc."

"Conor has always been determined to write and have his plays produced in his own way. These nominations are a vindication of a writer pursuing his or her own vision," said Professor Roche.

# King of Spain honours UCD historian

**His Excellency the Spanish Ambassador to Ireland, Don José de Carvajal on behalf of His Majesty, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, presented Dr Declan M Downey of the UCD School of History and Archives, with the insignia of Knighthood in the Order of Isabel la Católica on 22 May 2008.**

"This honour, with title of *Comendador*, is bestowed on Dr Downey in recognition of his academic research, publications, international profile and work concerning the historic ties between Ireland and Spain and his valuable contribution to the strengthening of relations between our two countries," said Ambassador Don José de Carvajal.

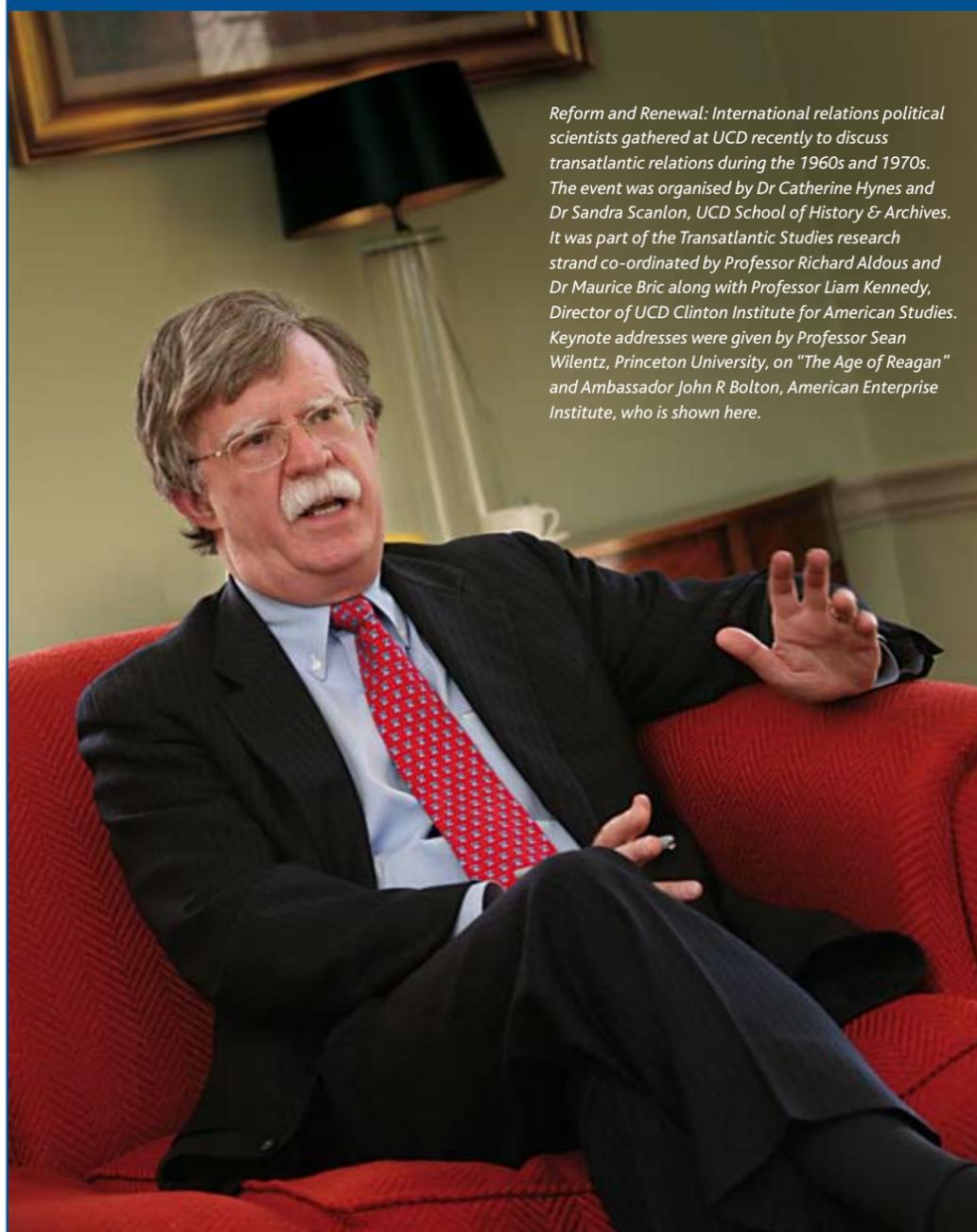
Dr Downey's academic research incorporates various aspects of the unique historic relationship that developed between Ireland and the old Habsburg Monarchy of Spain, Austria and the Low Countries. In particular, his research has highlighted the successful integration of Irish émigrés in these states and the privileges that they enjoyed as a consequence of the Treaty of Dingle that was signed by James, the eleventh Earl of Desmond and Don Gonzalo Fernández, envoy of the Holy Roman Emperor and King of Spain, Charles V & I on 28 April 1529.

Recent projects for Dr Downey include: the co-direction, with Professor Ciarán Brady of Trinity College Dublin, a major

international collaborative research project: 'Wild Geese Regiments Database Project – Irish officers and soldiers in the Spanish Service c.1560-1810; and an international and inter-institutional research project to create an initial catalogue of the Archives of the Chancellery in Valladolid which contain a major resource for European, Latin American and Southeast Asian economic, cultural and social history.



Pictured at the Spanish Embassy are (l-r): Dr Declan M Downey; His Excellency the Spanish Ambassador to Ireland, Don José de Carvajal



Reform and Renewal: International relations political scientists gathered at UCD recently to discuss transatlantic relations during the 1960s and 1970s. The event was organised by Dr Catherine Hynes and Dr Sandra Scanlon, UCD School of History & Archives. It was part of the Transatlantic Studies research strand co-ordinated by Professor Richard Aldous and Dr Maurice Bric along with Professor Liam Kennedy, Director of UCD Clinton Institute for American Studies. Keynote addresses were given by Professor Sean Wilentz, Princeton University, on "The Age of Reagan" and Ambassador John R Bolton, American Enterprise Institute, who is shown here.

About *UCD today* — *UCD today* is the campus magazine of University College Dublin. It profiles and celebrates the tremendous variety of activities on the UCD campus. It provides information on issues that affect staff, students and stakeholders and is a forum to showcase the work of UCD people throughout the university.

Published five times annually by the UCD Communications Office, *UCD today* also includes major feature interviews by well known Irish journalists.

*UCD today* keeps the UCD community up-to-date with campus, people, news and activities and showcases UCD's excellence in teaching, learning and research.