

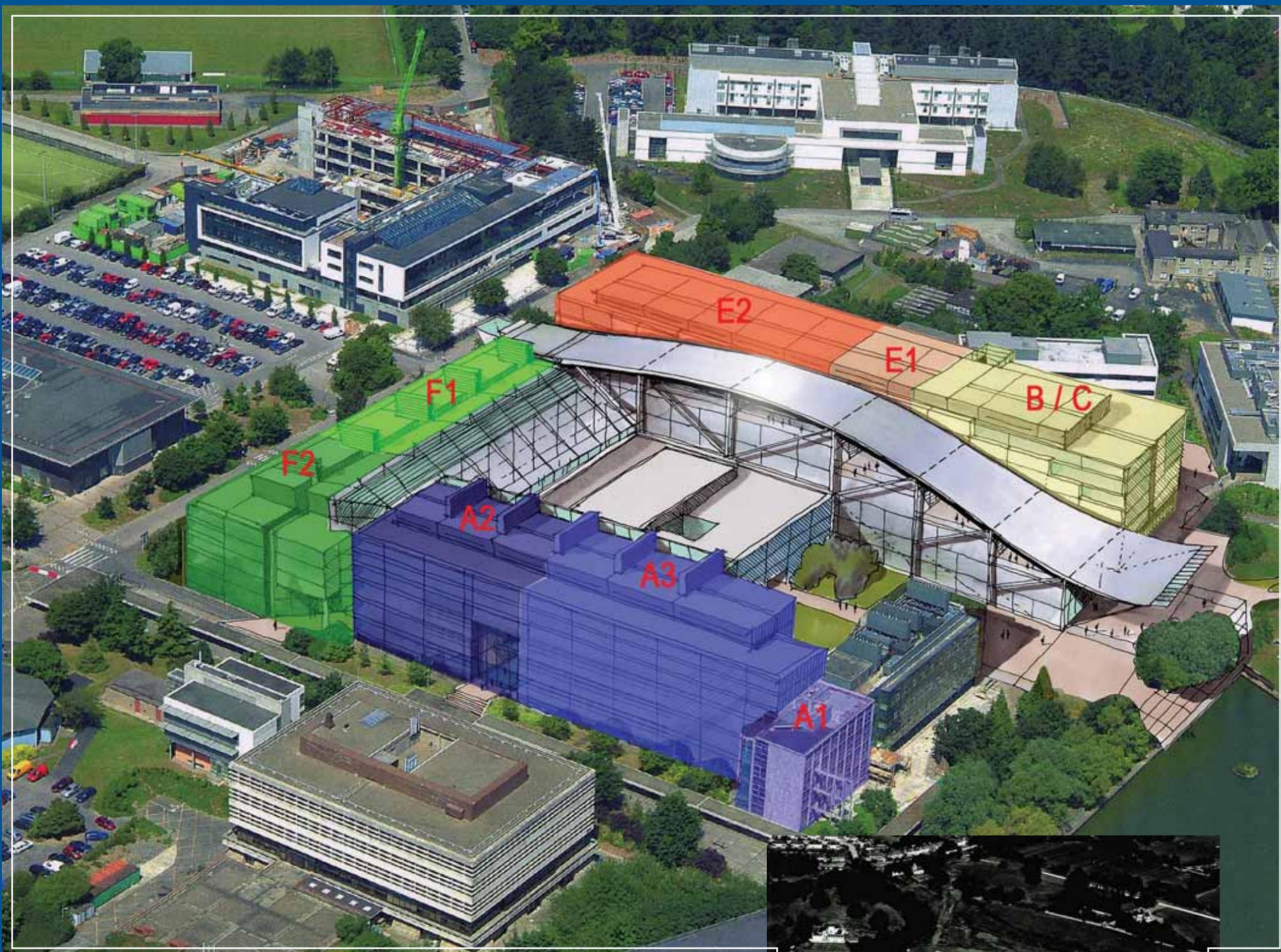


# gotoday

University College Dublin  
Celebrating the past, creating the future

OCTOBER 2007

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Loman Cusack Design

**Print:**

DC Kavanagh | eBrook

**Thanks to:**

Padraic Conway, JP Donnelly, Catherine Godson, Ann Lavan, Maurice Manning, Cliona de Bhaldraithe 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). We also welcome your suggestions for articles in future editions.*

*This publication is also available online at [www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday](http://www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday)*



Please Recycle

## We've said 'Farewell to the Terrace' and now we're saying 'Welcome to the Gateway'.

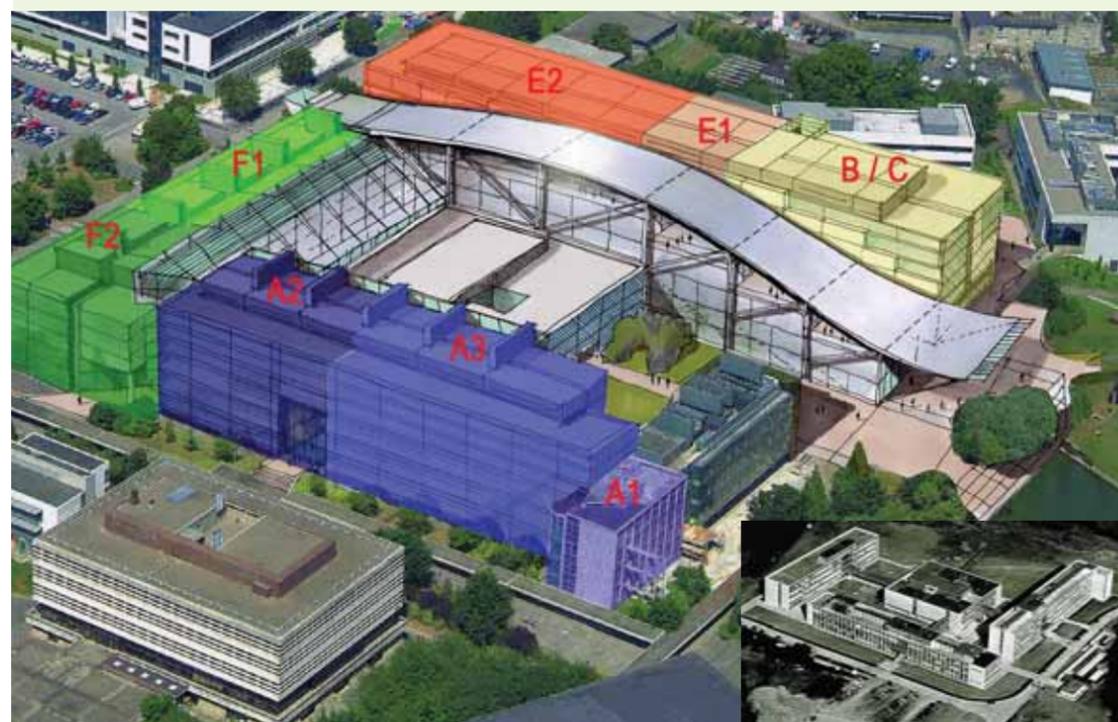
Last May thousands of alumni and guests enjoyed four days of events organised to commemorate the lives and careers of students and staff spent in Earlsfort Terrace over 124 years. We feature the highlights of the events on pages 20. And, for those who would like to read more, you will find further pieces on the web at [www.ucd.ie/farewelltotheterrace](http://www.ucd.ie/farewelltotheterrace) and in the commemorative book, *Farewell to the Terrace*, available from the campus bookshop.

We recently announced that Ingenhoven Architects of Dusseldorf have been selected as the preferred competitor on the prestigious Gateway project. They were selected from a list of 62 firms who took part in an international competition. The winning design will shortly go on display on campus and the next stage of the process is to liaise with potential partners who will help make Gateway a reality.

UCD today has been around now for almost three years and we recently undertook some qualitative market research with a range of administrative and academic staff on campus to get their views and opinions on its impact. We looked at aspects that staff like and having taken on board comments in relation to layout and content, we have made some changes to this issue which reflect the breadth of comments received. We hope you enjoy this edition and please let us know any feedback by emailing [communications@ucd.ie](mailto:communications@ucd.ie) with your comments.

**Eilís O'Brien**

Director of Communications



The colours and codes on this image represent the potential phasing for the overall Science Centre development. The inset photo shows the original Science Centre, which was the first building constructed by UCD on the Belfield site, in the early 1960s.

# Don't push nature too hard, it may not be able to bounce back.

The number and variety of many kinds of plants and animals have been declining in the Irish countryside for many decades. Dr Gordon Purvis and his colleagues at UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science have received funding to find out just how serious the problem is, writes Seán Duke.



**Biodiversity. Yet another environmental fad? Something that we don't have to pay much attention to? A bit like global warming, the ozone layer, and the loss of rainforests? Too vague to be of relevance to me.**

Does this thought process feel familiar?

If so, perhaps you should know that the loss of biodiversity, meaning the global loss of plant and animal species, could ultimately have very detrimental effects on human health and wellbeing.

Paying attention now? Good.

Alarmingly, many experts believe that we are now losing species so fast, there is a danger that we could be fast approaching a 'tipping point' where, even if we introduce last ditch measures, we may lose vital 'ecosystem services' on which the natural world and ourselves depend. That could mean, for example, that we end up with sterile soils where no crops will grow, crops that cannot be effectively pollinated, and pest problems that run out of control because of the failure of natural biological control. There are even worse scenarios, where the failure of natural ecosystems leads to our planet becoming almost unfit for human life. And these doomsday predictions do not take into account the incalculable loss of aesthetic quality in our lives, if we were to lose much of the natural world we are part of.

"There is certainly a risk if you push biological systems to extremes like that, you could actually put at risk human health and wellbeing," said Dr Purvis who is at the forefront of biodiversity research in Ireland.

## Background

Biodiversity is a relatively new issue in science, with its profile increasing markedly after the 1992 Rio Convention. Then all European states, and many other nations (with the notable exception of the USA) signed up to the principle that they should do what they can to protect the natural environment from the negative impact of human activities.

"The convention in 1992 put an official seal, or stamp on international concerns but more importantly, made a commitment to try and do something about it by integrating concern about biodiversity into every area of human activity - it became a formalised process. So, Europe produced a whole series of Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs), one of which is a BAP for agriculture, and the knock-on from that was that each individual country produced their own variant plans."

"The interesting thing about '92 was that it introduced the idea of a target date of 2010.

This has been a kind of albatross hanging around everyone's neck since. It seemed, from the politicians' point of view, a safe enough target, pushing the issue into the future. The reality is that it has crept up very quickly, and we still have an unresolved issue; now, I guess there will need to be some revision and extension of that target".

## Ireland

In Ireland, the issue of biodiversity necessarily revolves around agriculture, and what agriculture is doing, as Ireland remains a predominantly agricultural landscape. At European level post-Rio, policy-makers began to try and push agriculture in a more environmentally friendly direction. This was done through the introduction of agri-environmental schemes, which became a central plank in rural development policy.

## The need for information

One of the problems facing anyone who wishes to study changes in Irish biodiversity over time is that the records are poor. Researchers have only belatedly started to gather information on biodiversity. For example, a countryside bird survey has been established in Ireland that in recent years, and has started to gather critical information on bird diversity, showing apparent declines in some populations, but gains in others. Even more recently, a national Irish Biodiversity Records Centre has been established in Waterford to collate the increasing amount of biological data being collected.

It is not good enough to simply follow what has been done in the UK, or elsewhere, said Dr Purvis, as Ireland's geography, topography and the nature of its farming is different.

"The Irish landscape is quite different from much of the UK, being relatively similar to western parts of Britain like Wales, for instance, with a predominance of small, mainly grassland fields, but quite different from south-eastern England, which has a much more arable farming base," said Dr Purvis.

## Ag-Biota

Dr Purvis and his colleagues wanted to develop a national expertise in biodiversity research within the context of modern agriculture. That was the concept behind a project called Ag-Biota, funded in 2001 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The project was based in UCD and funded for five years, rather than the usual three, which indicated the amount of work involved and the capacity to be developed.

The work focused on the farmed landscape, rather than special semi-natural areas. The project represented a massive task in data collection and analysis and will be completed in November this year, after an extension was granted by the funding body.

"We identified four key indicator groups, birds, bees, aquatic invertebrates and parasitoid wasps, the latter pretty obscure insects, but biologically they are very interesting.

"Bio-indicators are species that reflect the health of biodiversity generally in an area. These are important, because it is far easier to monitor key bio-indicator groups, than every single species in an ecosystem, which would be hugely costly and time consuming. Birds and

bees are good bio-indicators as the public readily identifies with them, but bees, for instance have a very practical importance for pollination. Aquatic invertebrates are important because they reflect water quality, or the lack of it, while parasitoid wasps have complex relationships with practically all other insect groups and reflect overall insect diversity."

The next step for Dr Purvis and his colleagues was to understand the relationships between these biological indicator groups and farming practice. The kinds of questions that he wanted to answer included: What kind of impacts do changing farming practices have on biodiversity? How can farmers better manage their land to enhance biodiversity?

By finding the answers to these questions, practices that are very damaging can be curtailed, while those having positive effects can be encouraged. This approach promises to provide, for the first time in Ireland, a means for policy-makers to make informed decisions on how best to protect biodiversity, and balance that against the need to protect farming livelihoods.

## Agri-Baseline

The need to focus on creating scientific 'baselines' forms the basis of a second major biodiversity research project, Agri-Baseline, co-ordinated by Dr Purvis and funded by the Dept of Agriculture.

Agri-Baseline has a highly practical aim; it is applying the knowledge gained from Ag-Biota about how to measure biodiversity in farmland. To do this, 180 individual farms in three regions - Cork, Sligo and Offaly - were chosen for a major survey of land use practices, habitats and biodiversity.

## AE-Footprint

The next step was AE-Footprint, an EU-supported project to develop common methods for agri-environmental evaluation across Europe. Dr Purvis and his group, as the Irish representatives in the AE-Footprint project, along with researchers in Teagasc and the University of Limerick, are trying to work out how a common method for documenting the benefits of agri-environmental policy can be developed for use in very different countries, regions and localities.

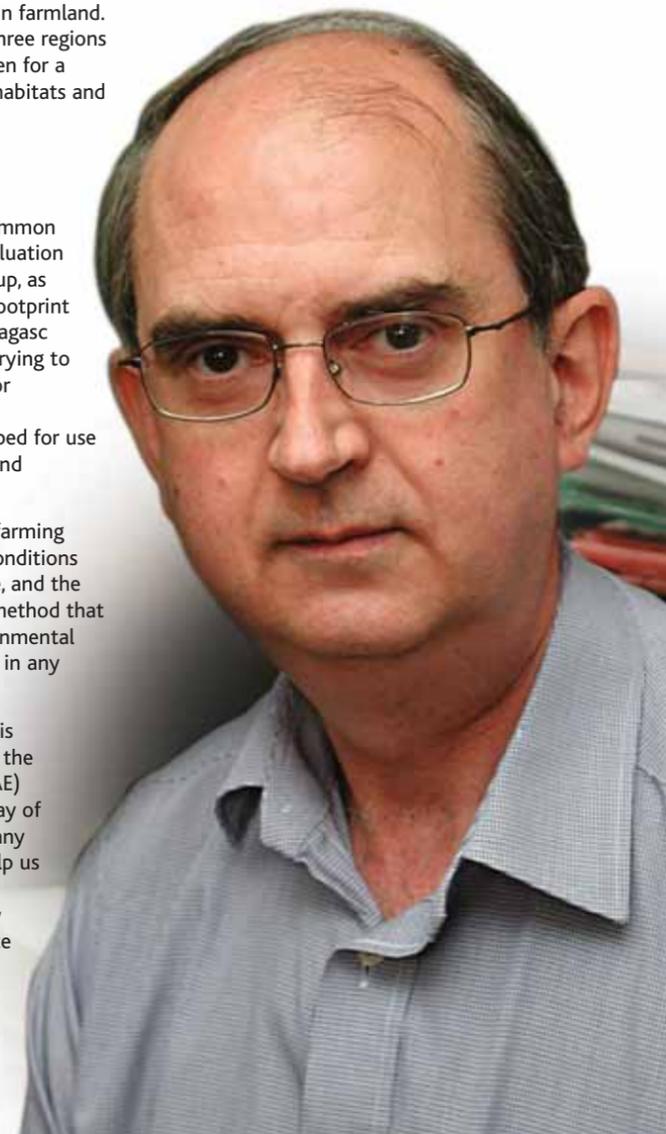
"You have this massive diversity of farming types, geographical and biological conditions and policy differences across Europe, and the challenge is to develop a common method that can assess the impact of agri-environmental schemes in any geographical region, in any agricultural context."

"That's a real challenge and what this project has actually done is develop the concept of an agri-environmental (AE) footprint index, which is simply a way of describing the agri-environment in any context. The result will hopefully help us document the benefits of agri-environmental policy and show how farming across Europe can contribute to achieving the targets set for protecting bio-diversity."

Sean Duke (BA 1987) is joint editor of *Science Spin*.

# Nature

Dr Gordon Purvis of UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science



# Appointment of two new Vice-Presidents

**Eamonn Ceannt** has been appointed to the newly created position of Vice-President for Capital and Commercial Development.

Eamonn's appointment coincides with the recent launch by the President of a series of major projects to develop the Belfield campus into a prestigious facility for UCD students and staff.

These projects include the Christoph Ingenhoven designed Gateway Project led by Prof Philip Bourke, UCD Science Centre led by Prof Michael Monaghan and the Student

Centre and Swimming Pool project led by Vice-President for Students, Dr Martin Butler.

Other projects include the Sutherland School of Law, the Belfield Innovation Park and the refurbishment of the Newman building.

Eamonn was Bursar of UCD from 1999 to May 2007. In this role, he oversaw the financial and legal affairs of the university together with responsibility for campus development and commercial activities. Given the significant increase in the capital programme, Eamonn is taking up his new position to focus exclusively on delivering this ambitious programme.

Eamonn is a UCD psychology graduate, has a master's degree in computer science from TCD and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. He has worked as a senior financial consultant with KPMG, as Head of Business Units with Coillte and managed a number of World Bank projects in Africa.



**Prof Mark Keane** has been appointed as Vice-President for Innovation and Corporate Partnerships.

Mark is a UCD psychology graduate and holds a PhD from TCD. He has been Chair of Computer Science at UCD since 1998, broken only by a secondment to Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) where he was Director of Information & Communications Technology and interim Director General (2004 - 2007). He was a key adviser to Government during the planning of the Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation.

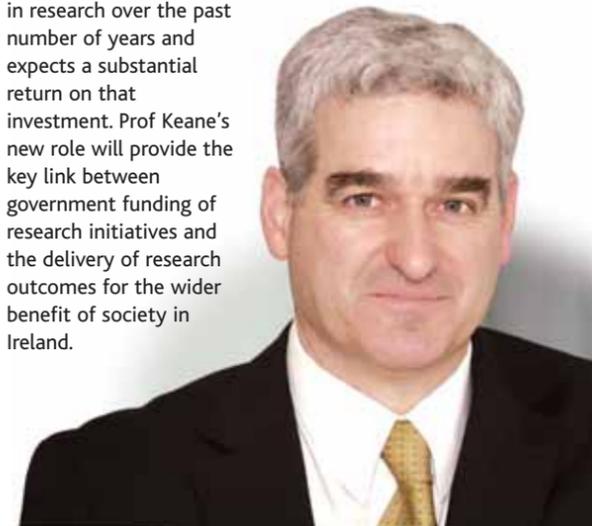
His new role expands on the existing Innovation role, to include the key objective of strengthening UCD's relationships with industry in Ireland through the delivery of research programmes and outcomes for mutual benefit.

Mark believes that universities are one of the few privileged places left where people can pursue research directions based on their own interests. But, that this privilege brings with it certain responsibilities. Part of that responsibility lies in recognising that their research plays a key role in the social and economic progress of this country. In the future, it is expected that the intellectual property for new enterprises in Ireland will be delivered by

third and fourth level students. UCD has a unique contribution to make in this domain.

One of the initial changes will be the introduction of taught courses for all PhD students, including courses on Innovation and Business. Mark will be responsible for integration of these courses into PhD programmes and have oversight on their alignment with other innovations initiatives in UCD.

The Government, through various initiatives such as SFI, has made a significant investment in research over the past number of years and expects a substantial return on that investment. Prof Keane's new role will provide the key link between government funding of research initiatives and the delivery of research outcomes for the wider benefit of society in Ireland.



## New perspectives on print cultures at UCD Humanities Institute

The Humanities Institute of Ireland hosted an innovative international symposium on the history of the book in the early modern period in June. The emergence of print in early modern Europe has long been recognised to have initiated a revolution in the communication of new ideas and beliefs in a manner similar to the impact of electronic media on contemporary cultures and social practices. This event took a comparative approach to the history of the book in early modern Ireland and France. Experts from Ireland, England and France discussed the dynamic interplay of print, oral and manuscript cultures in both countries with a view to enhancing knowledge of the history of the book in the general context of current

international scholarship in the area. The development of UCD's capacity in this field of cultural history complements the university's decision to designate Irish Studies as one of its key strategic areas of research focus. The symposium was organised by Dr Marc Caball, Director, UCD Humanities Institute and Dr Derval Conroy, UCD School of Languages and Literatures.

*Pictured (l-r): Dr Marc Caball; Prof Andrew Carpenter, Head of the School of English, Drama and Film; Dr Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail, School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore and Linguistics; Dr Jason Peacey, University College London and Dr Toby Barnard, Hertford College, Oxford.*



## Cheiron conference unites North American and European Human Scientists

Ireland's close ties to North America and Europe make it uniquely placed to act as a bridge between these two continents. This was evident from the first joint meeting of Cheiron (International Society for History of the Behavioral and Social Sciences) and ESHHS (European Society for the History of the Human Sciences) which was held at UCD in June. The local host was Dr Adrian Brock of the School of Psychology and he was assisted by his PhD students, Ciarán McMahon and Kieran McNally. Sponsorship was provided by the College of Human Sciences, the School of Psychology, Fáilte Ireland, the Radisson SAS St. Helens Hotel and AIB Bank.

One of the highlights of the conference was the invited address given by the famous philosopher and historian of science, Ian Hacking, titled, 'The Earliest Days of Autism'. Hacking is particularly distinguished, being among other things the first and only Anglophone to be awarded a professorial chair at the prestigious Collège de France in Paris. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Fellow of the British Academy and a Companion of the Order of Canada. The latter is the highest award that the Canadian government can bestow on a civilian.

*Pictured at the Belfield Bowl is Paul Ward, Senior Lecturer at UCD School of Law, who won two tickets to the 21 September Ireland-France World Cup rugby match when he opened a new AIB UCD affinity card. Also pictured are: Louise Kelly, Assistant Manager of AIB Belfield; Tony Walsh, AIB Credit Cards and Aine Gibbons, Vice-President for Alumni and Development. To apply for a UCD AIB affinity card, call in to the AIB branch at UCD or phone 01 269 4499.*



# UCD, Mater, St Vincent's sign agreement to create Dublin Academic Health Care

**UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science has signed an historic agreement with the Mater University Hospital and St Vincent's University Hospital to form Ireland's first academic medical centre, Dublin Academic Health Care (DAHC).**

The UCD team working with the Chairs, senior medical staff and CEOs from the two hospitals included the President, Dr Hugh Brady, Head of the School of Medicine and Medical Science, Prof Bill Powderly, the Registrar, Dr Philip Nolan and the Vice-President for Research, Prof Des Fitzgerald. The agreement was formalised in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the three institutions on 26 July 2007. Under this MOU each of the partner institutions has equal ownership of DAHC and the first board meeting took place on 10 September under the chairmanship of Mr Thomas Lynch.

"This initiative will build on longstanding ties between the founding institutions to create a world class hub of clinical care, teaching and research. It will facilitate rapid and effective transfer of research ideas into clinical practice," said Dr Brady. "DAHC will greatly enhance the capacity for leading bench-to-bedside medical research, and it will offer the very best environment to educate and train the health professionals and medical scientists of the future."

The new entity will pool the expertise and resources of the three organisations to improve integration of patient care, enhance medical training and advance collaboration between biomedical researchers and clinicians.

"This new venture will enhance medical education through all stages by combining the current responsibility of the medical school for undergraduate training with more co-ordinated training of doctors at graduate level," said Prof Powderly.

As the first of its kind in Ireland, DAHC will enable the co-ordinated deployment of resources and the development of shared services across the three institutions to improve access and quality of patient care in Ireland. The DAHC can expect to look after 290,000

outpatients and over 100,000 inpatients. It has over 300 consultants and over 1,400 beds available.

According to Thomas Lynch, Chairman, the DAHC will give patients access to a greater number of medical specialists and allow the hospitals to develop a range of additional subspecialties. "Through the DAHC we will be able to create greater strength in particular sub-specialties so that patients can be treated by consultants who deal with their specific complaint on a constant rather than an intermittent basis."

"International experience shows that where universities and hospitals combine and take a more holistic view of their core activities - patient treatment, education and research - they have the ability to make an enormous contribution to patient care," he concluded.

During its initial stages, DAHC will focus on medical education, research and the establishment of joint medical departments for each specialty, including the integration of medical (consultant and non-consultant hospital doctors) staffing across the Mater and St Vincent's.

The two hospitals are already linked to UCD with many of the consultants undertaking clinical research and medical student training in addition to their patient care. More recently, the university has established clinical research centres with both the Mater and St Vincent's hospitals to increase the volume of clinical research undertaken and to translate biomedical and clinical research into improved patient care. Current research includes inflammatory and infectious disease (e.g. arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, chronic lung disease, hepatitis, HIV), cardiovascular diseases (pulmonary hypertension, COPD, heart failure, atherosclerosis, cystic fibrosis), cancers (e.g. breast, prostate, bladder and colorectal), psychiatric disorders and neurodegeneration (Alzheimer's Disease, schizophrenia, stroke, etc), diabetes, obesity and metabolic disorders.

The number of academic healthcare centres across North America and Europe is increasing

as internationally recognised medical and teaching centres develop their own models of cross-hospital collaboration in conjunction with universities. This model will be unique in that it reflects the profile of needs in the Irish health care environment and the combined strengths of the three institutions.

The scale and co-ordination of activities afforded by the establishment of DAHC will contribute to the realisation of national policy objectives pertaining to health care delivery, medical education, and biotechnology research and development.

To head up the new entity, the three partner institutions have announced the appointment of Mr Thomas Lynch as chair. Mr. Lynch has an extensive background in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology field including the chairmanship of Amarin Corporation plc and Tripep AB (companies conducting research in the fields of neuroscience, cardiology and

immunology) as well as directorships in other medical research companies and Institutes. Mr Lynch has been a director of IDA Ireland since 2001 and is chairman of the Queen's University of Belfast Foundation.

Each of the partner institutions will have equal ownership of DAHC. Existing assets and liabilities of the institutions will remain with each of the founding institutions. Under the guidance of Mr Thomas Lynch, the DAHC will be run by a newly created board which will shortly appoint a Chief Academic Officer.

*John Morgan, Chair, Board of Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dr Hugh Brady, UCD President and Noel Whelan, Chair, Board of St Vincent's Healthcare Group at the signing of the MOU.*



## UCD awarded €30 million in PRTL Cycle 4

**The Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin TD, has awarded UCD €29.838 million in Cycle 4 of the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTL). This comprises €17,547 million capital infrastructure funding for the development of the UCD Science Centre and €12,291 million recurrent funding for projects in the humanities and sciences.**

Announcing the awards, the Minister said that the €605 million investment to date in research under the PRTL scheme has transformed the research landscape in Ireland over the past decade. The funding for allocation in this cycle was increased to €230 million, €39 million more than originally planned.

Welcoming the announcement, Dr Hugh Brady said that the university believes the investment will have direct impact on the next stage of Ireland's development. "This timely investment in 4th level and research infrastructure will ultimately contribute to Ireland's development as a vibrant knowledge society," said Dr Brady. "It is particularly gratifying to see very significant investments being made across the full range of UCD's disciplines from the arts and social sciences to biopharmaceutical science and nanomedicine."

Within the humanities, the Global Ireland Institute will concentrate on the study of Ireland and its diaspora. In a radically interdisciplinary programme, the Institute will explore the hypothesis that modern Ireland is more accurately defined as the 70 million global Irish family rather than the 5 million inhabitants of the island and that much of Ireland's current values, culture, peace and prosperity is due to the influence of this global community. The Irish Social Science Data Archive will also receive funding to further a national infrastructure in social science data collection and management.

Within the sciences four main collaborative programmes are to receive recurrent funding:

- Biopharmaceutical & Pharmacological Sciences programme builds on the €72m National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training which is being established by the IDA at Belfield. Together these landmark initiatives will concentrate on providing trained researchers for Ireland's emerging biopharmaceutical industry.
- Food Ireland supports one of Ireland's largest industries - agri-business through the development of a national food and health research programme in collaboration.
- National Nanoscience Programme is designed to impact on emerging nanotechnologies identified as key wealth generators in the future. The programme will create a national nanosciences platform to co-ordinate the activities of the collaborative institutions in key new interdisciplinary areas.
- Biomedical Science which will facilitate national consolidation and co-ordination of research and training activities in the biomedical sciences.

On the capital side, the funding will enable the re-development of UCD Science Centre. "This investment is a catalyst for the creation of a major transformation of science at UCD," said Prof Des Fitzgerald, Vice-President for Research. "One of the key priorities in our campus development plan is the complete upgrade of our science facilities to ensure that we are equipped to produce the science and engineering graduates that are so essential to Ireland's ongoing economic success. This funding allows us to proceed with the first phase of this development."

The UCD programmes include collaboration with twelve universities and institutes: UCC, Trinity College Dublin, DCU, NUI Maynooth, University of Limerick, RCSI, Queens University, Cork Institute of Technology, ESRI, Dublin Institute of Technology, IT Tallaght, NUI Galway.

# Spotlight on



*New Student Information Desk*

UCD Library has a proud tradition of being at the heart of the university for over a hundred years. This admirable tradition is founded on the Library's ability to evolve and adjust to meet the changing needs of UCD staff and students. In recent times this capacity to anticipate and adapt to the Library readers' needs has never been more apparent. In the last twelve months there have been many physical, virtual and service developments to ensure that it continues to empower UCD staff and students to maximise their potential.

In its two newest branch libraries (Health Sciences and Blackrock Campus) the Library is aiming to reshape spaces in dynamic and innovative ways that will enhance the teaching, learning and research experiences of staff and students. Sean Philips, University Librarian explains, "UCD Library is aiming both to shape and to facilitate the university's development as a leading research-intensive institution characterised by excellence in teaching and learning."

While the libraries are different in their character (one is a completely new building, the other a refurbished historic church), they share this common purpose. Readers are being connected to knowledge in new ways, and can now draw on vast resources of online information as well as traditional print. The new libraries have wireless network capability throughout, and all study spaces are

provided with power and data points. The new libraries enable people to study in different ways; while there are plenty of individual study spaces, clustered spaces and project rooms for collaborative study purposes, such as evidence-based learning and project work, are also provided. Purpose designed information skills rooms are available where trained Library staff demonstrate and train users in the best ways of identifying, selecting, and assessing the information they need from the wide range of available resources.

This renewed emphasis on information skills is another area in which the Library has made significant progress. UCD Library, supporting the university's goal of achieving excellence in teaching, learning and research, has established two teams dedicated to delivering information skills sessions and workshops to users. Last year's 13,000 attendees at sessions gained enormous benefit from the experience.

For 4th Level research students and academic staff, the Library offers practical, hands-on sessions covering a range of topics including locating research in their area, effective use of academic search engines (eg Google Scholar), advanced database search (eg Westlaw, Academic Search-Premier) and keeping up-to-date using RSS feeds.

For undergraduate students and taught postgraduates, the Library staff provides information skills sessions in a range of settings including 30 minute presentations on 'how to



*The Health Sciences Library*



*Smurfit School Library*

# UCD Library

locate resources'; one-off sessions - at the request of a member of academic staff; and sessions embedded into modules, where, working with Schools, they provide subject specific skills necessary to locate and use information in an effective and ethical manner.

"The information world is increasingly complex and the Library has a key role in providing our readers with the necessary skills and knowledge to find, evaluate and use information," says Ursula Byrne, Sub-Librarian for Humanities and Social Sciences.

While information skills are a constant feature of the Library's service portfolio, the start of the new academic year sees a particular emphasis placed on the needs of students who are new to UCD. The library's new student information desk is available for the first few weeks of the semester. "We wanted new students to have one point of contact for all they need to know about the Library," said Aoife O'Brien, co-ordinator of the James Joyce Library Induction Group. "The new student desk has been a big success and every year we expand it." This year students are being brought to the desk by the Orientation Guides after they have collected their student cards. No question is too simple or too complex for the staff, who are always happy to help.

A Scavenger Hunt, designed to introduce students to all levels of the Library, ran for three weeks and was part of the overall UCD

orientation programme. There were daily prizes of book tokens and a final prize draw for everyone who took part for a €100 voucher for The House of Fraser, all donated by 3M. "14% of the students who came to the desk last year were looking for information on the online services offered by the library," said O'Brien. "We expect this trend to continue for this year."

The increasing importance of online, web-based services is one that the Library has long recognised. UCD Library is at the forefront of 'Web 2.0' developments and staff regularly speak at conferences and seminars about their expertise and innovation in this area. Examples of this are the Library's presence in Second Life (the online virtual world), the use of instant messaging technology, the extensive use of blogs and the downloadable mp3 audio tour.

UCD Library was the first Irish library to have a Second Life branch and it has attracted national and international attention. Cathal McCauley, Sub-Librarian for Reader Services, explains: "Our Second Life project is an example of how the Library wants to reach out to our readers using the avenue that best suits them. The potential of the virtual world is limitless."

While other developments have not been so high profile, they also make a difference to students. "Our downloadable audio tour means that students can take a tour of the James Joyce Library at a time that suits them," says Josh Clarke, one of the Liaison Librarian team.

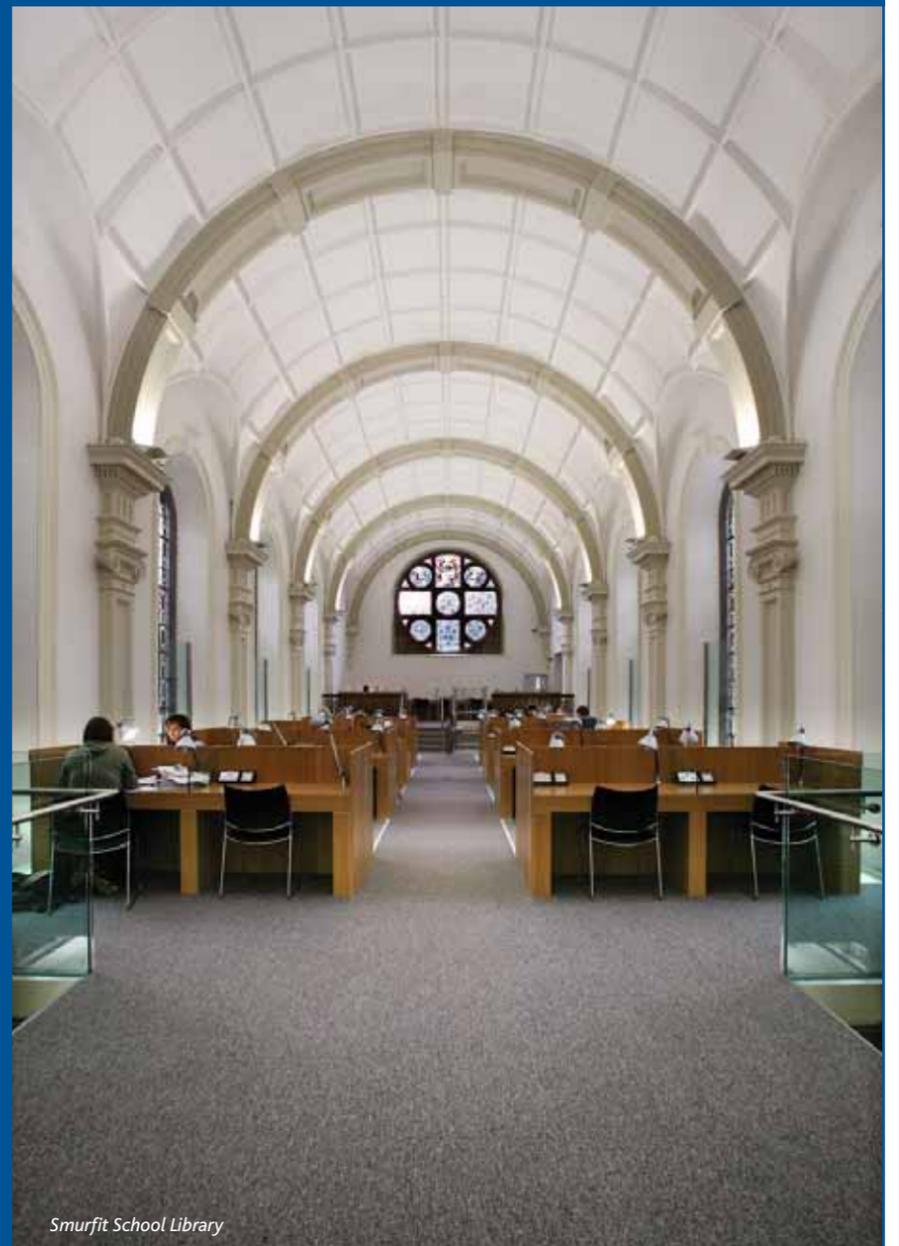
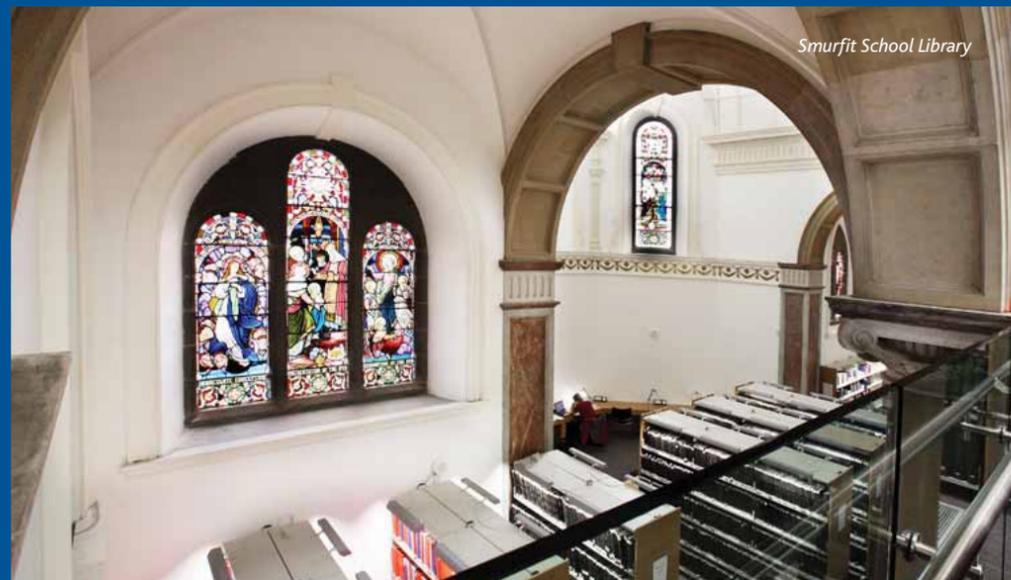
While providing a better service is the primary aim of these developments, another key objective is to support the broader goals of the university by working with colleagues from other areas. Library staff are working with a number of academic and administrative colleagues to explore the potential of Second Life, podcasts and blogs and this is something they would like to do more of. "For Web 2.0 technologies to reach their full potential, campus-wide use is important and the Library has the relevant expertise and experience to facilitate this," says McCauley.

A key project in this regard is the Irish Virtual Research Library and Archive (IVRLA), a HEA PRTL-funded project based in UCD Library. The project is a component of the research programme of the Humanities Institute of Ireland (UCD HII) and its aims are to support leading-edge research by enabling access to digitised content and to undertake direct research on digitisation and digital repositories. The IVRLA works with four primary UCD source repositories: UCD Archives, UCD Delargy Centre for Irish Folklore and the National Folklore Collection, the Irish Dialect Archive and UCD James Joyce Library Special Collections. The next issue of UCD today will have more information about this exciting project.

For more information about any of the above or the Library in general please see: [www.ucd.ie/library](http://www.ucd.ie/library) or contact any member of Library staff.

## UCD Library Facts and Figures

- During term time the James Joyce Library is open for 96.5 hours per week, the longest of any university library in Ireland
- About 600,000 items are borrowed every year – that's roughly 3 items every minute
- There are approximately 1.2 million books, periodical volumes and other items in the library stock
- If all the library shelving were laid end-to-end, it would stretch for about 40 kilometres, roughly the same as the distance from Belfield to Wicklow
- There are approximately 3,000 reading and study places throughout the UCD libraries



# HEA Strategic Innovation Fund

The Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) is a €300m five-year fund co-ordinated by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) to promote collaboration, support change and enhance quality in Irish higher education. Under SIF cycle 1, UCD and its partner institutions received funding for projects in the areas of transforming student learning, stimulating innovative teaching and widening participation. UCD's SIF projects are co-ordinated by the Registrar and a steering committee which reports to the University Teaching and Learning Board. In this and subsequent issues of UCD today, we will explore the innovative projects that UCD staff and students are involved in.

## Transforming Student Learning

**Enquiry and Problem-Based Learning (EPBL) has been utilised to varying levels by UCD staff, but now due to a funding award under the HEA Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF), UCD's Centre for Teaching and Learning is getting the opportunity to develop experience in a wider range of models, across various class sizes and levels, including 4th Level.**

According to Dr Geraldine O'Neill, joint Project Director with colleague Terry Barrett, "Learning from this experience we will be able to offer those interested in developing an EPBL module/programme a range of models and experiences to choose from. This funding to support curriculum design is particularly important as it is facilitating us to tackle areas where EPBL was traditionally viewed as more difficult, for example with large groups."

SIF funding is specifically enabling the Centre to provide educational development for staff to support curriculum design and implementation, help with e-learning and establishment of online resources, and to provide access to

relevant experts through skills workshops and discipline specific meetings.

The project involves lecturers across all five UCD Colleges, as well as national and international partners, such as the Centre for Excellence in Enquiry-Based Learning in the University of Manchester.

Dr O'Neill is very clear that EPBL offers many links between the university's teaching and learning agenda and its research objectives.

"Encouraging students to learn through a process of enquiry helps develop the prerequisites for research. We see in particular that students seek out library resources much earlier in their undergraduate career and develop skills in literature review and critical thinking. These are the fundamental building blocks of research.

Similarly, students develop group working, communication and time management skills at an early stage that stand to them throughout their academic and professional careers."

When asked for her top tips, Geraldine is unequivocal, allow plenty of time to design the module, typically start the academic year before you plan to give it and pick a module that is easy to change. This is important in building confidence in the process.

Dissemination is an important element of the project. Already a book proposal, co-ordinated by Terry Barrett, is being developed involving many of the external and internal staff who are developing new modules. The Centre hosted the Inaugural International Colloquium on University Teaching and Learning in June and presented a poster on strategies for organising group work in large classes at the All Ireland Society for Higher Education (AISHE) meeting in August.

"I believe that the use of EPBL across all levels will offer us a means to further exploit the flexibility of UCD's modular curriculum, by offering a mechanism to tailor learning to the needs of the individual. This project will give us valuable experience as to the most effective models for EPBL across a wide range of disciplines."

## What is Enquiry and Problem-Based Learning

EPBL is an encompassing term used to describe enquiry and problem driven approaches to learning. Through the use of triggers the lecturer established a task and supports the students as they pursue their own lines of enquiry, drawing on existing knowledge and identifying consequent learning needs. EPBL can include a wide spectrum of activity including field work, case studies, workshops, individual and group project work, research activity and use of e-learning resources.

## Introducing 500 First Year Students to English and EPBL

**Professor Danielle Clarke and her fellow module co-ordinators Drs Niamh Pattwell and Fionnuala Dillane wanted to improve their students' transition from second to third level, better develop their skills, and engage and energise them in their subject, but how was this best achieved with 500 students in the module?**

"I had always used some EPBL techniques in my classes but the impetus to utilise EPBL to transform our introductory English module was a SIF funded teaching workshop run by the Centre for Teaching and Learning", says Danielle Clarke. "Hearing and learning from others gave us the confidence and inspiration to begin developing our own large group module."

The new module had to deliver both pedagogical objectives and an academic networking objective, encouraging students to interact earlier with the School's teaching staff, and with each other.

"We were aware that our first year students were starting a third level module where we were using the same kinds of assessment

exercises as second level but demanding very different learning outcomes. In reality we were confusing them by continuing to use the same modes of teaching and assessment. This is where we hope to see the benefit of enquiry based learning by challenging and breaking down the students' expectations with something completely new, which is also creative in method, whilst reinforcing the core skills needed for our subject."

The new 10 credit module, to be taught from September 2008, will comprise three primary tasks; editing a literary magazine, adapting a scene from a Shakespearian play for a young audience, and identifying and classifying a manuscript.

"While the approach may seem quite new, the learning outcomes we are after will be very traditional. We are still trying to teach humanities students how knowledge is produced and validated but we are also adding life skills through group work. Managing group dynamics, allocating responsibilities and meeting deadlines are all essential skills for a developing student."

One of the major tasks faced by Danielle and her colleagues has been planning the logistics for the module. The 500 students will be broken into groups of 20-25 with each group comprising smaller working groups of five to eight students. These will have four hours contact time per week that has to be timetabled as a mix of group and support sessions.

"I firmly believe that the hard work in developing this module over an eighteen month period will pay off. Through the use of EPBL we will inspire our students and give them confidence to pursue their English studies to a higher level by building on a solid foundation of English language skills and wider life skills that will stand to them", concludes Danielle.



Prof Danielle Clarke

## Flashing Trainers - a New Approach to Teaching a Master's Programme

**When Marie Stanton and her colleagues in UCD's Diagnostic Imaging needed to redesign their MSc in Ultrasound, a professional block release programme for radiographers and midwives, they turned to the Centre for Teaching and Learning for help in implementing problem based learning techniques.**

"With the continued advancement of evidence based medicine, I felt that we should adopt the same evidence based practice in teaching. The real crux came when I, along with some colleagues, attended a course run by the Centre for Teaching and Learning through problem based learning. Being a student and experiencing the impact the approach had on my learning really convinced me that this was the way forward for our programme," says Marie Stanton.

Marie and her colleagues have taken a unique approach applying problem based learning techniques across their entire programme. They have come up with a range of triggers and clinical case histories to stimulate and guide the learning outcomes from each module. Many are innovative, such as the use of a child's flashing trainer to stimulate discussion and exploration around the fundamental principles of ultrasound (the trainers utilise the piezo-electric effect to produce the flashing light, the same underlying principal as in ultrasound scanners).

"We are going to use the flashing trainer in our induction programme. We give the students a bag with two trainers that have flashing lights in the heels. They discuss these in groups, brainstorming and identifying the learning issues they feel they need to master in order to

fully understand the principle. When I have tested this exercise before, the students have left energised and are still discussing it over coffee. You don't get that when you teach the piezo-electric effect through traditional lectures!"

According to Marie the benefits of using this teaching approach across the programme is that the students use a much wider range of information sources including the clinical experts they work with in the hospitals. These clinicians also play a pivotal role in helping develop real life clinical cases for the students to work on.

"We held two clinical problem writing days, where we invited our clinical colleagues to come and help write the problems the students would use. This was a major success. The clinicians really enjoyed it and those who were sceptical at the start are now totally convinced.

"We are confident that when our 24 master's students start in September 2007 they will enter a programme that will give them the required clinical scanning skills, analytical and evaluation capability, the ability to adapt and change with the health service and, equally importantly, a host of life skills. Being able

to work in a team, solve problems, show leadership skills, communicate effectively and demonstrate information literacy are crucial skills for a health care professional.

"We now have an approach that enables us to integrate our learning objectives into each module rather than having to teach them separately. It has been a real challenge to redevelop this programme but it has also proved to be stimulating and exciting."

*Marie Stanton with the children's trainers used to stimulate discussion around ultrasound.*



# 'Varieties of Irishness' IASIL 07 Triennial Conference at UCD

In July, UCD played host to the International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures Conference, which is held at an Irish university every three years. IASIL is the largest association in the field of Irish Studies; its goals are to develop the understanding of Irish literature at third and fourth level worldwide and to facilitate international contact between scholars researching in the field.

IASIL has particular associations with the UCD School of English, Drama and Film: as a number of academics were instrumental in the founding and development of the organisation and all IASIL members receive the twice-annual journal, the *Irish University Review*, which has been produced from within the School for almost four decades. IASIL 07 at UCD was organised by Professor Anthony Roche in association with the School and with the Global Irish Institute. It drew a record number of attendees, topping the 300 mark, and proved a truly international

hosting, with delegates from Ireland, the UK, the enlarged EU, the US, Canada, South America, Egypt, Korea, China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

IASIL 07 kicked off with welcoming addresses from Prof Roche and from Dr Pádraic Conway, Vice-President for University Relations. There then followed a vintage keynote address from Declan Kiberd, Professor of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama, who addressed in characteristically witty and wide-ranging fashion the extent to which Homer's *Odyssey* could be reread through Joyce's *Ulysses*. The three plenary lectures displayed the diversity of the conference theme. Professor Nicholas Grene of Trinity College, Dublin, spoke of the highs - and lows - of his year in 2006 as a judge in *The Irish Times* Theatre Awards. Professor Anne Fogarty of UCD looked at some of the most interesting of the current Irish novelists. Professor Cheryl Herr of the University of Iowa showed film clips to illustrate her talk on 'Stories for Boys: Encounters with Rock 'n' Roll'. There were three memorable readings by some of Ireland's most outstanding contemporary authors. John Banville read from a new novel; Richard Murphy read a wide selection of his poetry and an extract from his recent memoir, *The Kick*; and Paula Meehan introduced the audience to poems from her forthcoming collection. There was also a reading by four poets to celebrate 25 years of publishing by Salmon in the west of Ireland. The social side of the conference was not neglected, with two receptions (one at Dublin Castle), two book launches in the Campus Bookshop and a closing banquet on the Friday night in O'Reilly Hall.

The theme of IASIL 07, 'Varieties of Irishness', was intended to open up the area of investigation both to the worldwide diaspora and to new immigrants. There was a particular



Ken Heininge with Prof Kathy Heininge, George Fox University and Heather Bowlby, Cal State University Long Beach.

focus on women writers and gender issues and a welcome increase in the number of papers devoted to Irish language authors. Individual panels were presented on Yeats, Joyce, Beckett, John McGahern and Edna O'Brien and paper topics ranged from 'A Brazilian Approach to Staging Marie Jones' *Stones in his Pockets*' to 'Russian Influence on Northern Irish Poetry'. In all, 275 individual papers were delivered across the five days of the conference. Attendance at the individual panels was strong and the debates which began in the lecture halls continued long afterwards. In the words of organiser Tony Roche: "The conference developed its own momentum and by Wednesday everything just flowed. People stayed with the panels they were attending - eminent professors lined up to hear papers by postgrad students as well as the reverse, ideas were passionately engaged with, and a great deal of fun was had by all. It was a model of a working global politics which enriched all of us."

Past and present editors of the *Irish University Review* at the conference: Prof Maurice Harmon (1970 - 1986), Prof Christopher Murray (1987 - 1996), Prof Anne Fogarty (2003 - present) and Prof Anthony Roche (1998 - 2002).



## UCD Carnival Day

A record number of UCD staff, with their families and friends, attended this year's Carnival Day, held in the UCD Sports Centre and surrounds on 30 June.

Children were treated to a range of fun attractions and activities on the day.

They day was superbly organised by the 2007 Carnival Day committee.



# Addressing Ireland's Energy Needs

Representatives of the Dept of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources met Energy Needs Ireland, a new UCD undergraduate research group, in July to discuss Ireland's energy future. Minister Eamon Ryan TD, Secretary General Brendan Tuohy, and Departmental Research Co-ordinator Barry McSweeney also attended.

Mr Tuohy emphasised the need for long-term holistic thinking. He alluded to the necessity for a solution that would solve our current problems but would also not impact unduly on future generations. Barry McSweeney sought input on how best to forward his attempts to foster undergraduate interest in postgraduate research.

Minister Eamon Ryan TD heralded reducing consumption as the key pillar in future energy policy. If primary energy use continues to increase at the current rate, the likelihood of meeting these needs sustainably and economically will be an impossibility.

Energy Needs Ireland is a new UCD research group that has been set up as part of the Charles Parsons scholarship programme. It consists of eight undergraduate and two graduate students. The group has been set the challenging goal of formulating a sensible energy policy for the island of Ireland.

Check out <http://eni.ucd.ie> for up to date information.



## AIB bases €30 million Seed Capital Fund at UCD

Equally funded by AIB and Enterprise Ireland, the €30m Seed Capital Fund is the first established under Enterprise Ireland's €175 million Seed and Venture Capital Scheme 2007-2012. The average initial investment made by the fund will be €250,000. With a seven year economic life, the fund is expected to make 50 to 60 investments.

Welcoming the establishment of the AIB Seed Capital Fund Dr Pat Frain, Director, NovaUCD said, "One of the challenges facing UCD is to accelerate the establishment of new ventures to commercialise innovative ideas and intellectual property arising from its growing research programmes. Two key issues in this regard are access to management expertise and the availability of seed funding." He added, "This new fund is particularly welcomed since it will focus on early stage high-potential start-ups such as those spinning out from UCD research."

## Invention Disclosures up by over 50%

At the launch of its 2006 Annual Report, NovaUCD reported that UCD researchers submitted 37 invention disclosures in 2006, up by over 50% on the number submitted in the previous year.

In its report, NovaUCD also reported that 15 priority patent applications, three PCT applications and two national/regional patent applications were filed during 2006 for intellectual property in life sciences, engineering and information and communication technology. Eleven licence agreements were also concluded with a range of indigenous and international companies.

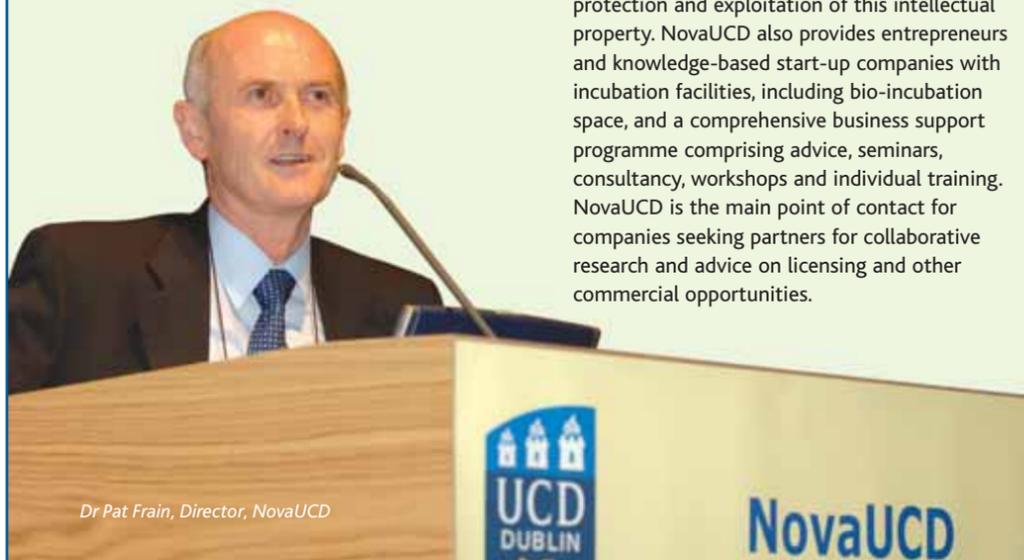
"The significant increase in invention disclosures is indicative of a growing awareness among UCD researchers of the need to protect and commercialise research-generated intellectual property for the benefit of the

economy and society," said Dr Pat Frain, Director, NovaUCD.

"Recent initiatives aimed at strengthening the support provided for technology transfer at NovaUCD, coupled with increasing research activity at the university, will help to further increase the level of commercial activity."

"This is good news for the Irish economy since it will result in more opportunities to generate new indigenous high-tech ventures and to attract overseas investment in R&D, factors which are essential for the development of our knowledge-based economy," he continued.

NovaUCD is responsible for the implementation of UCD policies relating to the commercialisation of intellectual property arising from UCD's research programmes and for the provision of advice on the identification, protection and exploitation of this intellectual property. NovaUCD also provides entrepreneurs and knowledge-based start-up companies with incubation facilities, including bio-incubation space, and a comprehensive business support programme comprising advice, seminars, consultancy, workshops and individual training. NovaUCD is the main point of contact for companies seeking partners for collaborative research and advice on licensing and other commercial opportunities.



Dr Pat Frain, Director, NovaUCD

## NovaUCD PR Excellence Award

NovaUCD and Simpson Financial and Technology PR were recognised for excellence in public relations at the recent 2007 PRCA (Ireland) PR Excellence Awards. NovaUCD and Simpson were shortlisted in the Corporate Communications - Business to Business category for the 'NovaUCD - Building a Knowledge Economy' public relations campaign.

Micéal Whelan, NovaUCD with Mary O'Brien, Account Director, Simpson FTFR



# food



## A new approach to healthy food

When you munch on a slice of pizza or sip a probiotic yogurt drink, you probably just register a pleasant taste and move on. But next time, spare a thought for the tremendous amount of research that goes into ensuring that what you eat is appealing, convenient and healthy. Claire O'Connell talks to Professor Dolores O'Riordan about her research.

**In UCD that research includes protecting probiotic bacteria, bumping up fibre levels in cheese snacks and even creating edible packaging to help keep food fresh. And at all times the key is making sure the consumer will enjoy these functional foods, according to Prof Dolores O'Riordan, associate professor of food science at the UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine. Prof O'Riordan's goal is to improve the quality, convenience and health benefits of food products, and she has been examining food ingredients since her days as a doctoral candidate at University College Cork.**

Her PhD in protein chemistry looked at ways of using pig's blood products in food production, and from there she went into more palatable-sounding work in industry, developing ingredients for chocolate manufacturers and improving the flavours of cheese products.

She joined UCD in 1995 and in hindsight says it was a timely move. "I was very fortunate," she recalls. "I hit the university just as the Department of Agriculture was investing quite a lot of money in food research. So within months of joining UCD I had two large grants to research areas that I was interested in and I got up and running quite quickly." That funding and research continues today, spanning several areas of novel food technologies and processes.

One is micro-encapsulation, or coating bioactive substances in food to protect them during processing. "If you have something like a delicate lemongrass, basil or parsley flavour, once you put it through processing you lose the very nice volatiles that you would get from a chopped herb. Heat damage and colour changes would be big problems, and from a nutritional point of view, some of the vitamins are heat labile too," she explains.

Prof O'Riordan's team is also micro-encapsulating probiotic or 'friendly' bacteria in a protective armour of proteins, carbohydrates and gums before they are put into yogurts, so they stand a better chance of reaching the gut in good shape. "Probiotic yogurts can only be of benefit if you can get the live bacteria into you. Probiotics may be live going into the bottle of yogurt but it's of little use if they sit on the shelf and die over time and then, on ingesting them, they don't survive into the right area of the intestine," she says.

Gut bacteria could also get a boost from another of her projects to produce a low-fat cheese snack with added prebiotic fibre that can help probiotic bacteria to grow. But bumping up the fibre can present challenges to taste, notes Prof O'Riordan. "As you might know from eating high fibre breakfast cereals, it's not exactly the most appetising texture or flavour, and ideally you want food to

be pleasing both aesthetically and from a sensory point of view." But so far the snack is developing nicely. "We have just patented an application for cheese where you can take a little disc, pop it in the microwave and it puffs up into something that resembles a prawn cracker. It's very high in protein, calcium and fibre yet low in fat," she says. "The big thing would be to combine health, convenience and taste together so that you are getting the whole lot in one."

To help ensure a tasty end result, the researchers use a suite of equipment to mimic what normally happens to food. "We try to predict how it will perform in the real environment so we test things like texture and mouth-feel, how something is going to deform, and mimicking the stresses like chopping and eating," says Prof O'Riordan, adding that UCD staff often volunteer to taste the works in progress.

To help keep food products tasty and safe for longer, Prof O'Riordan's team is currently looking at components in milk that could help kill off food spoilage organisms like Salmonella.

They are also testing whether anti-microbials derived from milk can help stop bacteria sticking to teeth, thus reducing dental caries. And ultimately these protective, microbe-thwarting agents could be put into a form of edible packaging being developed at UCD and UCC.

"One of the delivery mechanisms we are looking at is edible or biodegradable films," says Prof O'Riordan. "So we would put the bioactive into the film, and the final product would look like a piece of cling film. If you could put this on your food and the anti-microbial substance is in it, that you have a natural anti-microbial protecting the food product." Such focus on the user underpins all Prof O'Riordan's projects: "Having some years in industry, I like there to be an opportunity for industrial uptake or at least a practical application at the end of the day," she says.

But food and its consumption is a complex area of research and Prof O'Riordan describes herself as a cog in a wider scheme of collaborators. "What makes it work here is that there is a great team. People do genuinely get on very well within the food group at UCD. There's a great diversity; we have the engineers, the nutritionists, the chemists, the microbiologists. And that's what makes it so interesting, they can all tap in. There's a little production line going from the discovery of the bioactive in the food product to making something that can go through a full food process and come out for the consumer." And the consumer experience is paramount, insists Prof O'Riordan. "At the end of the day all of our research is going to be useless if the consumer doesn't benefit by consuming healthy food, and everyone has to pull together to deliver the end product."

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

## Health Drink

**The term 'drink to your health' could take on a more literal meaning, thanks to research being carried out in UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine.**

The multi-disciplinary team is extracting and testing herbal anti-inflammatory agents from feverfew, chamomile flowers, meadow sweet, willow bark and nettles and hopes to combine them in a drink that consumers will want to swallow.

The group is currently extracting phenolic compounds from harvests of the organic herbal crops, says Prof O'Riordan, and the ultimate aim is to develop a prototype functional drink targeted at sports enthusiasts and the over-50s to help promote joint health.



*Prof O'Riordan at work*

# Nanoscale function group joins UCD Conway Institute

Prof Suzi Jarvis and her nanoscale function group ([www.nanofunction.org](http://www.nanofunction.org)) have recently joined UCD Conway Institute from the Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices at TCD. The multidisciplinary team has a skills base that includes physics, electrical and mechanical engineering, materials science, mathematics, chemistry, biology and psychology.

Using atomic force microscope (AFM) techniques, Prof Jarvis and the team investigate the nanometre-scale functionality of organic and biological molecules. AFM uses a probe or

tip under controlled conditions to build a three-dimensional image of a sample. Frequency modulation AFM is an extension of the technique for extra sensitive measurements that is used extensively in ultra-high vacuum.

Prof Jarvis pioneered the implementation of this technique in liquid, which means that it can now be used for studying biological materials under physiological conditions. Her own group have used the technique to study model membranes and the membrane-fluid interface on a sub-molecular scale.

Prof Jarvis graduated from the University of Oxford with a BA in Physics and a Kodak sponsored DPhil in Materials. This was followed by postdoctoral fellowships in Japan at the Joint Research Center for Atom Technology, Tsukuba, before moving on to a staff position at the Nanotechnology Research Institute, also in Tsukuba. She became a Science Foundation Ireland principal investigator at TCD in July 2002.



## Professor Michael P Keane appointed Professor of Medicine

UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science is delighted to announce the recruitment of Prof Michael P Keane, MD as Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics in the UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science, based in St Vincent's University Hospital.

Prof Keane is currently associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care Medicine and Hospitalists at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles. Prof Keane is a graduate of UCD, and after initial medicine training at the Mater and Beaumont hospitals in Dublin, completed his Fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Michigan. Prof Keane's research centres on the pathogenic mechanisms of pulmonary fibrosis.

"I am delighted to welcome Professor Keane back to Ireland," said Prof Bill Powderly, Head of the UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science. "Michael is an accomplished clinician scientist and his research will complement our translational research programmes in pulmonary inflammatory disease and cystic fibrosis. In addition, his expertise in lung disease and critical care medicine will enhance patient care and medical education at St Vincent's University Hospital."

Prof Keane succeeds Prof Muiris FitzGerald, who recently retired as Professor of Medicine and Dean of the Medical School. "The UCD medical community would like to pay particular tribute to Professor FitzGerald," Prof Powderly told us. "His leadership in medical education in Ireland has paved the way for the growth and development of the UCD Medical School and Dublin Academic Health Care."

## NovaUCD 2007 Innovation Award presented to Prof Ciaran Regan

In recognition of his successes in the establishment of key strategic and collaborative links with industry and in the commercialisation of neuroscience research, Prof Ciaran Regan was presented with the NovaUCD 2007 Innovation Award at an event in early July.

Prof Regan, Professor of Neuropharmacology at UCD's School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science and co-ordinator of the Applied Neurotherapeutics Research Group, secured €10 million in funding from Wyeth Discovery and Science Foundation Ireland to establish the Applied Neurotherapeutics Research Group at UCD. The Group, which aims to identify novel neurotherapeutic targets, has already generated eight invention disclosures. This link was of critical importance in Wyeth's decision to establish a €13 million bio-therapeutic drug discovery research facility at UCD.

Prof Regan's research focuses on understanding mechanisms of brain plasticity and in exploiting these mechanisms as novel drug targets. A named inventor on six UCD patents, he also co-founded a successful UCD spin-out company Berand Neuropharmacology in 2004. Berand, which is developing novel therapeutics for the treatment of autism and obesity, currently employs four people and is located in NovaUCD with research facilities based in the UCD Conway Institute.

The NovaUCD Innovation Award was established in 2004 to highlight UCD's commitment to innovation. The award is presented annually to an individual in recognition of excellence in, contribution or commitment to innovation or in recognition of successes achieved in the commercialisation of UCD research.

*Prof Ciaran Regan, winner of the NovaUCD 2007 Innovation Award*



# immigration

## Immigration and Social Change in the Republic of Ireland

Kate Hickey (BA Int 2003) speaks to Dr Bryan Fanning about the role of academic research in facilitating the integration of immigrants to the New Ireland.



Dr Bryan Fanning, a Senior Lecturer in the UCD School of Applied Social Science, has recently edited a collection of essays on the historic transformation of immigrant Ireland. The collection, 'Immigration and Social Change in the Republic of Ireland', which is being very well received, draws on a great many themes, such as citizenship and constitutional change, the economic contribution of immigrants, asylum seekers, politics, immigrant communities, integration models and social policy.

All of these subjects are close to Dr Fanning's heart, having been involved in a great deal of research in these areas throughout his career. Having completed his doctorate at Birbeck College in London, he returned to Ireland after a decade. "I came back at a time when it was obvious that Ireland was changing very very quickly. It was immediately apparent that there was an unmet need to research how immigration was going to affect the Republic of Ireland." Having worked as a policy officer in the Borough of Haringey and in other parts of London, Dr Fanning was used to working in a policy environment which needed to address the diverse needs of a very cosmopolitan part of the world.

In March this year, he completed a study funded by the Migration and Citizenship Research Initiative along with Prof Jo Shaw of the University of Edinburgh and Jane-Ann O'Connell and Marie Williams from the Initiative. The study, entitled 'Irish Political Parties, Immigration and Integration in 2007', brought to light the need for the integration of immigrant communities into the party political process in Ireland.

"Political integration is crucial," Dr Fanning explained. "You can't have open dialogue unless all the relevant voices are in the room. There's a sense that political inclusion for immigrants is a basic requirement for change to happen in the future." In the past Dr Fanning was involved in similar studies which focused on the 2004 and 2007

elections. He explained the importance of this research. "This was done for a number of reasons. One was to find out how political parties were responding to immigrants as potential voters and supporters, but also to assess the level and quality of dialogue between immigrants and political parties."

He continued, "It's very much an active research model where you're sharing the output of the research with the political parties and encouraging them to formulate answers to the questions as they arise." While Dr Fanning believes that these studies have had a significant impact on how political parties think, there's still room for improvement. "For example, you don't see large scale immigrant inclusion in political parties but you do see shifts in thinking like, for example, the establishment of a new position of Minister of State for Immigration Affairs," he commented.

The 2009 elections will be especially interesting with regard to integration as immigrants will be able to vote. Looking back on past elections, such as 2004, it is hoped that there will be some change. 'In 2004 immigrants stood for local elections, two were elected, both Independent. Most the people who stood from immigrant communities were Independent, political parties did not or were not yet able to reach out to those communities.

"I think what we'll see in 2009 is quite a lot of interest from both immigrant communities and political parties in engaging in a new way," said Dr Fanning. "Hopefully the outcome of that will be greater representation of immigrants in local politics and at least the flagging to all political parties, that immigrants will be significant players in the conversation about what's taking place, and not merely people who are to be talked about."

Things are already beginning to change. This year Councillor Rotimi Adebare became the first African to be elected to the position of Mayor, in Portlaoise. Dr. Fanning pointed out, "There was a reception for him in Leinster House. The Ceann Comhairle, John O'Donoghue TD, invited him and his wife there. That's a very symbolic gesture. Here you have a man who is, in a sense, a symbol of the New Ireland."

Looking ahead Dr Fanning sees a lot of questions on the horizon. How will the political parties reach out? Do immigrants see themselves getting involved? He commented, "We don't know all the answers to these questions. Hopefully the situation will be more open in 2009 but there will certainly be an interesting debate in the meantime and I will hopefully be researching aspects of that debate."

Each country must come to terms with its own changing social situation, for example the changes in Ireland following the large scale immigration which it has witnessed over the past five years, and it is through research and subsequent changes to social policy that integration will be facilitated. Dr Fanning observed, "In that sense integration of immigrant communities is not just about culture; whether or not people wear a burka or whether or not they're Muslim. It's about practical issues like education, health, schools, integration into society and how the government can facilitate this by developing social policies that are designed to meet the needs of all the different people in our society. In that sense, I think the UCD School of Applied Social Science and the research I'm involved with can play an important role in these developments as Ireland moves forward. It's a very exciting time."

In these ever-changing times, Dr Fanning reiterated the need for education in the

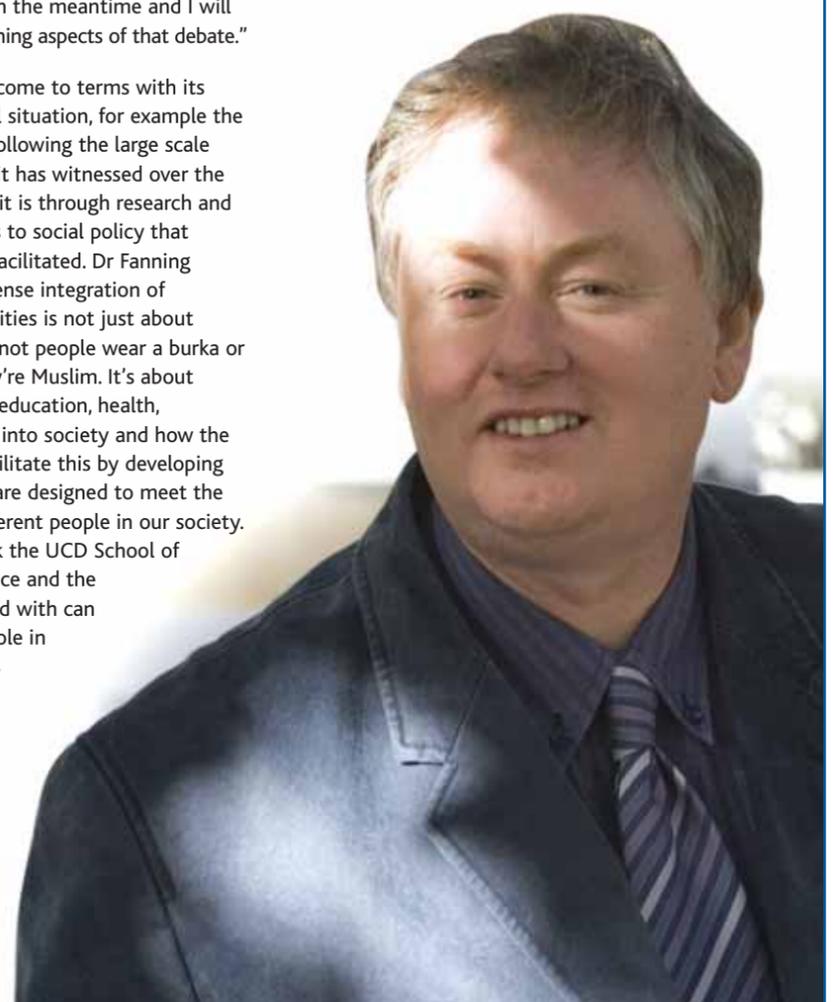
matter of social policy in shaping the New Ireland. "Here at UCD, we're educating the new generation of politicians, business people, managers - the key people who will be living in and managing the New Ireland. We're training a generation of people who will have responsibility for change and we need to teach them skills that the previous generation didn't have. We need to equip them for this New Ireland and we are uniquely placed to do that through research, policy analysis and through our teaching programmes at UCD."

Dr Fanning's research and publishing will progress as the New Ireland continues to emerge.

This October sees the launch of Dr Fanning's book, 'Evil, God, the Greater Good and Rights'. Another book 'Intellectual Politics and Nation-Building: Ireland 1912-1986' will be published early next year.

Kate Hickey is a freelance journalist working for *Be Creative Media*, *Independent Newspapers*, *the Irish Echo New York* and *NY Arts Magazine*.

Dr Bryan Fanning of UCD School of Applied Social Science



# UCD hosts 15th European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC)

The 15th European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC) took place in UCD in July. ESOC 2007 was the largest organic chemistry event ever to be held in Ireland, attracting over 600 national and international scientists to UCD.

"We are delighted that UCD has been chosen as host for this intensive feast of world-class science" said Dr Philip Nolan, Registrar of UCD, formally opening the symposium. He commended the efforts of Prof Pat Guiry, Director of the Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB), local organiser of the symposium.

The symposium featured nine plenary, nine invited lectures and 26 oral contributions by world-renowned researchers in the field of organic chemistry. Presentations during the five-day conference described the latest research in the design of biologically active molecules, the development of novel techniques for chemical reactions, and the creation of catalysts which will lead to more efficient and environmentally viable chemical processes.

An invited lecture was given by CSCB principal investigator Prof Paul Murphy, UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, who was the

recipient of a 2005 Astellas USA Foundation Award. Prof Murphy presented his results on the synthesis of bioactive molecules from carbohydrate sources and applications in the development of low toxicity drugs. In addition, two oral contributions were given by Professors Declan Gilheany and Stefan Oscarson, both from the UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology and the CSCB.

The Eli Lilly Distinguished Lecture was given by Prof Paul Knochel, Ludwig Maximilians-University of Munich, Germany. His lecture was entitled 'Functional Mg and Zn Reagents for the Synthesis of Highly Functionalised Aromatics and Heterocycles'. "The Eli Lilly Distinguished Lectureship was established in order to build on links between academia and industry and to promote science in Europe," said Dr Sinead Nolan, Eli Lilly.

Close to 400 posters showcased the delegates' research and John Grealis from the UCD School of Chemistry and Chemical Biology and the CSCB was one of eight poster prize winners. The programme of social events included a state reception at Dublin Castle and sightseeing tours. The 16th European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC 2009) will be held in Prague, Czech Republic on July 12-16, 2009.

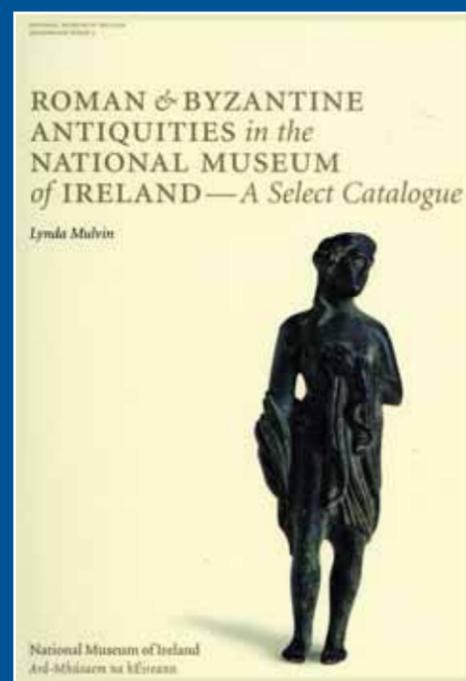


## Book Launch

Dr Lynda Mulvin, UCD School of Art History and Cultural Policy, recently launched her book - Roman and Byzantine Antiquities in the National Museum of Ireland - A Select Catalogue (Dublin: National Museum of Ireland, 2006). The National Museum of Ireland's rich and diverse collection of Roman and Byzantine antiquities was acquired mainly in the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This catalogue makes available for the first time a selection of some 300 of the finest pieces.

It includes sculpture, ceramics, coins, jewellery, textiles and architectural fragments as well as antiquities of bronze, glass and ivory.

Every object is illustrated and the catalogue also includes a commentary on the history and significance of the collection. Objects were acquired by donation and by purchase, and some came from excavations in Cyprus and Egypt that were sponsored by the Museum.



# UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science & UCD MGA - Alumni Gala Reunion



The reunion organising committee

The very first UCD School of Medicine/MGA Alumni Gala Reunion - celebrating the classes who graduated 60, 50, 40, 30, 25 and 20 years ago - was held in May. Organised by Prof William Powderly, Head of School, together with the Medical Graduates Association and class representatives from each of the celebrating years, medical graduates from all over the world - some of whom had not seen each other for 50 years - reunited to enjoy a most memorable weekend in Dublin. Commencing with a Gala Dinner on Friday 4 May - graduates from the celebrating classes of 1947, 1957, 1967, 1977, 1982, 1987 and 1997, together with their partners had the opportunity to reminisce on their days in UCD in style. Many graduates were surprised to find that a photo of themselves taken on entry to medical school graced the evening menu and much fun was had guessing the identity of other classmates. The Medical Graduates Association presented their Annual Distinguished Graduate Award to Dr Pauline O'Connell.

On Saturday morning 5 May, current students of the UCD School of Medicine took groups of the graduates on guided tours of the new Health Sciences Centre and of the Conway Institute. Graduates explored the new building, examined the new Anatomy museum and were impressed by the new School's facilities. Both the current students and graduates from the medical school's earlier days made comparisons between the former School at Earlsfort Terrace and the new facilities on the Belfield campus, enriching each others experiences with anecdotes and tales of old and new.

Following the tours, the North American MGA Annual Scientific meeting brought another dimension to the weekend as talks were given by UCD graduates from various disciplines. Dr Ruth O'Regan, President of the UCD North American Medical Graduates Association and Professor of Haematology/Oncology at Emory University, gave the keynote address on breast cancer. Professor Michael Lee, a graduate of 1982 and Professor of Radiology at the RCSI, spoke on 'Interventional Radiology in the 21st Century'. Prof Trevor McGill, a graduate of 1967 and Professor of Otolaryngology at Harvard Medical School, told some 'Surgical Stories' and was followed by UCD's Vice-President for

Research and graduate of 1977, Prof Desmond FitzGerald, who presented Images of Research. Dr Dom Colbert, graduate of 1957 and based in NUI Galway, detailed the extraordinary work in bringing medicine to developing countries in a talk entitled 'From Biafra to Bosnia'. Professor Declan Lyons, Professor of Geriatrics at Limerick Regional Hospital, closed the session with a presentation on ageing - which he termed 'A Vascular Phenomenon'.

The event was a remarkable success and will be repeated in future years. It is planned to celebrate the graduates of the medical classes of 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1998 with a similar weekend of events on Friday 2 and Saturday 3 May 2008. Further details are available at

[www.ucd.ie/medicine/alumni/galareunion2008.htm](http://www.ucd.ie/medicine/alumni/galareunion2008.htm)

or from Deirdre Brophy at the UCD School of Medicine & Medical Science ([deirdre.c.brophy@ucd.ie](mailto:deirdre.c.brophy@ucd.ie)), phone 01 716 6648.



Dr Ted Murphy and Dr Pauline O'Connell

# Medical Conferings & Annual Medical Gala Dinner 2007

**Congratulations to the Final Medical Class of 2007 who graduated with the Degrees of MB BCh BAO in June, following which - at the Annual Medical Gala Dinner - a number of awards were presented to the top students and teachers.**

The School was delighted to confer on Sr Dr Maura Lynch and Dr Anne Merriman its highest award, Honorary Fellowship of the School, in recognition of their lifetimes work of extraordinary selfless dedication to bettering the lot of their fellow humans, particularly those who are deprived, ignored, excluded or who have no voice.

**Sr Dr Maura Lynch**, born in Cork, became a member of the Medical Missionaries of Mary in 1956 and entered the UCD Medical School in 1958, receiving an honours degree in 1965. Just three years after she graduated, she was assigned to Chiulo Mission Hospital in Angola in South West Africa where, for the next 17 years, she shared the entire work of the 200 bed hospital with just one other medical Sister. 20 years after graduation, driven by the suffering and need of others, Sr Lynch returned to Ireland and completed two highly intense years of surgical training. In 1987 she took up duty as Consultant Surgeon/Obstetrician

Gynaecologist in Kitova Mission Hospital, Uganda. Her particular achievement in the subsequent 20 years that she has spent in Uganda has been pioneering the Obstetric Fistula Repair Programme. Sr Lynch was responsible for conducting over a thousand vesico-vaginal fistula repairs between 1993 and 2007 - an astonishing record that, one can confidently say will never be bettered. The transformation of African women's lives achieved as a result of her expertise is incalculable. Her tireless fundraising resulted in the building of a unique Obstetric Fistula Unit in Kitovu Hospital which was officially opened in April 2005 and received special recognition by the Ministry of Health in Uganda.

**Dr Anne Merriman** is internationally recognised as one of the leading Hospice Movement pioneers in the world, and the undisputed leader of the Hospice Movement in Africa. Dr Merriman, born in Liverpool, entered UCD Medical School in 1957 and graduated in 1963. She completed her training in Geriatric Medicine and became Head of the Dept of Geriatric Medicine, while nursing her incapacitated mother. She was invited to be the first Medical Director of the Nairobi Hospice in Kenya, which opened in 1990. It was while there that she realised the terrible suffering of



*Group Award Winners: Back row (l-r) - Prof Cormac Taylor, Mr David Murphy, Dr John Seery, Middle row (l-r) - Dr Niamh McGrath, Dr Catherine Gibbons, Dr Helen Mohan, Dr Stuart Bund, Dr Koon Meng Chan, Front row (l-r) - Dr Mary Higgins, Sr Dr Maura Lynch, Prof William Powderly and Dr Anne Merriman*

terminally ill patients in a country where oncology treatment was available only for the privileged few. Dame Cecily Saunders, the legendary foundress of the International Hospice Movement, asked her to publish her views on palliative care in Africa. As a result, Dr Merriman received numerous invitations from a variety of African countries requesting her to assist in setting up palliative care services along the lines of the model that her

team had successfully pioneered in Kenya. This 'Merriman Model' was the inspiration that was to drive the development of affordable and locally accessible services for the African subcontinent in the ensuing decade. The driving motivation behind all of this for Anne Merriman is her passionate commitment to bringing affordable and culturally appropriate palliative care to all of Africa.

## Asian euro not advisable, says Nobel economist

**Although they are not in a position to create an 'Asian euro', China, Japan and other Asian countries should fix their currencies to each other and the US dollar, according to Nobel Prize winning economist Professor Robert Mundell.**

Speaking at the inaugural conference of the UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland on 18 August, Professor Mundell, who is often referred to as the 'father of the euro', said that China should not revalue its currency for risk of negating its recent economic strides.

He explained that the rise of the Chinese economy since the 1990s was a 'competitive shock' to the global economy. "This has led to an increasing resistance in the West to trade with China, and the adoption of some protectionist tendencies such as the quota on Chinese textiles," he said.

*Prof Robert Mundell shares his expertise with the next generation.*

According to Mundell, the main factors responsible for the success of the Chinese economy were the availability of a large, able workforce; an enthusiasm for new technology; a stable exchange rate; high savings and a desire to progress and learn.

But the Chinese economy faces some major challenges, warns Mundell. In the short term, the most pressing is macroeconomic management, including exchange rate policy. In the intermediate term, pollution, environmental damage, rural poverty and massive migration to urban centres will have to be managed. And in the longer term, it will face a demographic/aging crisis that is the counterpart of its population control measures.

'Rising China in the Age of Globalisation,' the International Conference hosted by the UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland examined the latest economic, cultural, social and political developments in China. With over 130 high level delegates from more than 13 countries in attendance, the conference was the largest gathering in Ireland of parties interested in the current Chinese economic developments.

"I would like to especially thank and congratulate the Organising and Scientific Committee for the excellent work they undertook to establish this very significant and important event," said An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD, in a letter to the conference organiser.

The conference was officially opened by the Minister for Integration, Conor Lenihan TD. Speakers at the conference included the Chinese Ambassador, Mr Zhang Xinseng; Professor Yao Jingyuan, Chief Economist of National Bureau of Statistics of China; Professor Gregory C. Chow, author of 'The Chinese Economy' and adviser to the Chinese Prime Minister and the State Commission for restructuring the country's economic system; Professor Canrong Jin, Deputy Dean of School of International Studies, Renmin University, China; Dr Philip Nolan, Deputy President and Vice-President for Academic Affairs, UCD; and Dr Liming Wang, Director, UCD Confucius Institute for Ireland.



## Art on the DART

**The winners of the UCD Conway Institute's AccesScience '07 poster competition were in Pearce Street DART station recently to see the launch of this year's Science Track, a joint initiative between UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular & Biomedical Research and Iarnrod Eireann.**

Winners of this competition to visually represent 21st century science will see their artwork displayed in DART stations and on trains as part of the initiative. With three categories; primary school, secondary school and adult, the standard in this year's event was extremely high. The tough task of picking the winners fell to a judging panel chaired by Olympic medallist, John Treacy, and also included RTE weather presenter, Nuala Carey; singer/ songwriter Juliet Turner and Nick Kelly, former lead singer with The Fat Lady Sings.

Dylan Kavanagh, a 5th class pupil in De La Salle, Ballyfermot took first place in the primary school category with his poster 'Science is Cool'. Isabel Kelly, a pupil at the Teresian School in Donnybrook won the secondary school category with her poster 'Colour life with Science.' Kate Hedigan, a postgraduate student in UCD Conway Institute took first place in the adult category with her work entitled 'Looking Deeper: 21st Century Science.'

Commuters can see the winning posters for themselves over the coming weeks on DART trains and at stations as well as some Arrow commuter trains. These poster sites allow access to an audience of over 100,000 commuters per day and are an ideal opportunity to highlight scientific issues to a diverse audience and encourage a positive attitude to scientific research.



*Pictured with DART train driver and their Science Track posters are Dylan Kavanagh (front) with runners-up Conor Burns and Eimear Kelly.*

# Appointment of Programme Deans

The President recently announced the appointment of Programme Deans, who will work with colleagues across the university to enhance the planning, development and delivery of our undergraduate programmes.

They will be responsible for the academic governance and effective delivery of programmes, and the quality of the holistic education experience for students.

The Deans will form a critical governance and management link between Schools, Undergraduate Programmes and Graduate Schools, so that students can avail of a unique set of increasingly flexible learning pathways at UCD.

These appointments will ensure that we make the most of the opportunities arising within the modular curriculum, UCD Horizons and foster our national and international reputation for a high quality student experience.

## Dr Joe Brady Dean of Arts

Dr Joe Brady has been a member of the academic staff of UCD School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy since 1988. He is an urban geographer with wide-ranging interests. These are currently focused on the theory and application of utopian city planning and on the study of the growth and development of Dublin.

His interest in Dublin has led him, in collaboration with his former colleague Annegret Simms, to publish a series of books entitled *The Making of Dublin City*. The intention is to study the development of the city from the earliest times to the present day from a geographical perspective.

A member of the Geographical Society of Ireland since 1975, he has been a committee member since 1978, serving in a variety of posts. He is currently editor of the peer-reviewed and internationally recognised journal, *Irish Geography*, the only journal to focus exclusively on the geography of Ireland.



Dr Brady is also deeply involved in the activities of the university. He is a member of the Academic Council and serves on the Governing Authority and a wide variety of other bodies and committees. He is a member of the Scientific Council of Urban Institute Ireland, an interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research institute recently established in the university.

Dr Brady told UCD today: "Teaching is an important part of my academic profile and my intention is to develop the resources available to students via the web. Currently these are concentrated on my first and third year urban geography courses but this will be expanded in due course."

## Professor Cecily Kelleher Chair of the Public Health, Physiotherapy and Population Science Programme Board

Professor Cecily Kelleher qualified in medicine in UCD in 1980. She trained in both internal medicine and public health medicine and was senior research scientist with the Medical Research Council Epidemiology and Medical Care Unit in the United Kingdom and Foundation chair in Health Promotion at NUI Galway before being appointed to the chair in Public Health Medicine and Epidemiology in 2003. She now heads UCD's School of Public Health and Population Science, the first such school in Ireland. Prof Kelleher is an active researcher in the areas of cardiovascular epidemiology, life-course health inequalities and public health nutrition.

She has been director of the National Nutrition Surveillance Centre since 1991 and was principal investigator of the Health Research Board funded Unit for Health Status and Health



Gain 1999-2007. She has been involved in numerous adult education, undergraduate and postgraduate university course development initiatives, including Ireland's first master's programme in Health Promotion. Most recently in UCD she headed up the inter-disciplinary group that developed a new thematic PhD programme, PERMIT, Promoting Epidemiological and Research Methodologies in Irish Training. She has chaired a number of examination and course boards previously and is also chair to the statutory body for Women's Health, which advises the Minister for Health and Children and the Medical Bureau of Road Safety.

Prof Kelleher told UCD today: "The establishment of this board reflects the growing strengths of UCD in the disciplines associated with Population and Performance Sciences, building on a tradition of training in Physiotherapy and Public Health that is internationally recognised."

## Dr Michelle Butler Dean of Nursing (Midwifery and Health Systems)

Dr Michelle Butler takes up the appointment of Programme Dean and Head of the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems from Prof Gerard Fealy who was Programme Dean from 1 April to 30 September 2007. Michelle qualified as a Registered General Nurse and a Registered Midwife before pursuing a BSc in Health Sciences and an MSc in Health Studies at Coventry University, which she completed in 1993. In 2001 she obtained a PhD from the University of Nottingham with a study of competence and professional learning in midwifery. Before joining UCD in 2001, she gained considerable experience in evaluation and management research. Her particular research expertise is in evaluation research, case study and qualitative methods. She lectures on advanced research methods and health policy and planning.

At UCD, Dr Butler played an important role in the establishment of the BSc (honours)



programme in midwifery and the development of clinical assessment in midwifery. She has also played an important role in the development of the School's research agenda and has been involved in several studies of national importance for nursing and midwifery.

Dr Butler sees this appointment as a very significant development for nursing and midwifery at UCD and in Ireland more generally, in that it affirms the place of nursing and midwifery as independent academic disciplines within higher education in Ireland. She told UCD today: "The institution of a Dean of Nursing provides a strong framework for enhancing the quality of academic programmes offered, and also affirms UCD's ongoing commitment to the development of nursing, midwifery and health systems at the university, as part of its wider remit to provide leadership in education and research in health care in Ireland and internationally."

## Professor Grace Mulcahy Dean of Veterinary Medicine

Prof Grace Mulcahy graduated with a degree in veterinary medicine (MVB) from UCD in 1982. She subsequently obtained a PhD from UCD in ruminant immunology.

Prof Mulcahy spent some time in veterinary practice before returning to undertake her PhD. She spent five years as a veterinary research officer at the Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright Laboratory, where she worked on host-responses to foot and mouth disease virus for five years. She returned to UCD to take up an appointment as lecturer in Veterinary Parasitology in 1991, and has since built up a research group working on host-parasite responses to helminths and protozoa.

She was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1996 and appointed to the Chair in Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology in 2004. She was awarded the Centenary Medal of the British Veterinary Association in 1991 for work on foot and mouth disease and has over 70 peer-reviewed publications. She was appointed



as a Foundation Diplomate of the European Veterinary Parasitology College in 2005, in recognition of teaching and research in Veterinary Parasitology

Prof Mulcahy told UCD today: "Veterinary medicine forms a unique bridge between the basic biological sciences, medicine, and agriculture. UCD provides the only university course in veterinary medicine on the island of Ireland, and we are proud of the contribution our graduates make in a whole host of careers including private veterinary practice, government service, biomedical research and industry. I am looking forward to the challenge of continuing to develop veterinary medicine at UCD and achieving the standards of excellence required to ensure our students receive a world-class education."

## Mr Jim Murphy Dean of Architecture

Jim Murphy graduated from UCD with a BArch in 1967 and attained his MArch from IIT Chicago in 1970. He joined the academic staff of UCD in 1972, having spent a number of years in private practice, and is currently a lecturer in the School of Architecture, Landscape and Civil Engineering.

Mr Murphy is programme co-ordinator of the BSc (Architectural Science) course at UCD and has been involved in the setting up and development of the BSc (Architectural Science) and BArch courses at CESUGA, La Coruna, Spain. This has involved developing and monitoring an architectural course to meet the UCD standards for architectural education while also complying with Spanish Government regulations in this area. The first BSc (Architectural Science) graduates there will be conferred in November of this year.

## Professor Mark Rogers Dean of Science

Prof Rogers graduated from TCD with an honours degree in Genetics in 1983 and was awarded a PhD in Genetics from the University of Glasgow in 1986. With a Fellowship from EMBO and subsequently, the John Douglas French Foundation for Alzheimer's Research, Prof Rogers undertook research in the Laboratory of Nobel Laureate Prof Stanley Prusiner in prion diseases before returning to Ireland in 1991 to take up a lectureship in UCD.

Prof Rogers has maintained his research interests in prion diseases, co-ordinating several European projects in this area. He has published many research papers that are cited in prestigious journals.

In 1993, Prof Rogers became a founding board member of Pharmapro Ltd, a joint venture established between UCD and the UK firm Proteus Molecular Design Ltd, now called Protherics plc to research the development of a commercial diagnostic tests and vaccines for economically important animal diseases including bovine TB and BSE. Research carried

## Professor Bill Powderly Dean of Medicine

Prof Bill Powderly is Head of the School of Medicine and Medical Science at UCD. He received his MB, BCh, BAO from UCD in 1979 and his MD in 1987. He is Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics at UCD and the Mater University Hospital. Until July 2004, he was Professor of Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri where he was chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases.

Prof Powderly has been actively involved in HIV-related clinical research for the last twenty years and while in the USA held many leadership roles in the US Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Group, including vice-chair of the Group and chair of its Scientific Steering Committee. He was a member of numerous advisory groups for the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA. He was also the first Chairman of the HIV Medicine Association in the USA.



His research interests include architectural design, housing and architectural practice.

Mr Murphy told UCD today: "Architecture and Landscape Architecture have a unique contribution to make to teaching and learning in UCD through the encouragement of creativity and design in the teaching methodology of the design studio. I hope to raise the profile of these two disciplines within the university and externally with the professions and the public."



out in UCD as part of this venture by Prof Rogers led to the licensing of immunodiagnostic technologies that have been employed in BSE diagnosis and resulted in over €2 million in royalties accruing to the university.

Prof Rogers told UCD today: "I view the role of Dean of Science as presenting an exciting and important opportunity to ensure that the science degree in UCD remains recognised nationally and internationally for the quality of the graduates it delivers into further education and to the economy. Interest in science as a subject at second level is declining. This places great pressure on us in the university sector to recruit and produce skilled science graduates that will be required in the future if we are to achieve and sustain a knowledge-based economy."



His own research originally focused on infections, especially fungal infections, in patients with AIDS and cancer. More recently, he and his group have concentrated on the emerging toxicities of treatment of HIV, especially the metabolic complications seen in patients receiving effective therapy, including the development of diabetes, lipid abnormalities, and bone disease.

He is a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

## Dr Bairbre Redmond Dean of Social Science

Dr Redmond is a graduate of UCD's Bachelor of Social Science degree and went on to train and practice as a social worker in the area of intellectual disability. She has a particular research interest in the impact on parents of having a child with a disability. She was Director of Social Work Training in UCD from 2001-2003.

Dr Redmond was one of the inaugural winners of the President's Teaching Award in 1997 and she has been involved in a number of high-level teaching and learning initiatives across the university. Her current research interests are in the areas of reflective teaching methodologies and in the impact of teaching approaches on the practice of health and social service professionals. She is currently carrying out a HSE-funded longitudinal study into the factors impacting on social work job satisfaction and job retention. Dr Redmond is also one of the directors of the new UCD Fellowships in Teaching and Academic Development.

Since 2005, Dr Redmond has been Vice-Principal for Teaching and Learning in the College of Human Sciences, where she has worked closely with schools on the development and

## Professor Jim Phelan Dean of Agricultural Science

Prof Phelan graduated from UCD with an honours and master's degree in Agricultural Science. He completed his research PhD in UCD in 1987. He joined the academic staff of UCD and lectured in Rural Development there from 1982 and was appointed Head of Department of Agribusiness, Extension and Rural Development from 1995 until 2003, when he was appointed Associate Prof there.

Prof Phelan has a wide experience of collaborative working with other universities and worked as a short-term extension specialist to EU-supported projects in Russia, Hungary, Poland and the Ukraine. He is past president of a number of national agricultural associations and a member of the Ireland Aid Task Force on

## Dr David Timoney Dean of Engineering

Dr Timoney graduated from UCD with BE and MEngSc degrees and completed his PhD there in 1985. He was appointed Associate Dean (Communications, Development and Alumni Relations), Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, 2004-2005 and Head of Teaching and Learning, School of Electrical, Electronic and Mechanical Engineering, 2005-2007.

Following a four-year period working on internal combustion engine research at Ricardo Consulting Engineers plc in the UK, Dr Timoney joined the UCD academic staff in 1981.

His research interests are in combustion and pollutant formation in internal combustion engines, alternative fuels, energy use in transportation, and heat transfer in refrigeration systems. He established the UCD Energy Conversion Research Centre and has acted as its director since 1987.

Dr Timoney is a Fellow of The Institution of Engineers of Ireland and a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, USA.



implementation of modularisation and semesterisation in both the BSocSc and the BA. She is currently leading a re-design of the BSocSc to emphasise its study and career opportunities to prospective students. Marketing for this programme is already underway and the re-designed Social Science programme will start in September 2008.

"I am honoured to take up the role as Dean of Social Science and to expand the learning opportunities of the degree by drawing on a range of complementary disciplines in the College of Human Sciences. The Social Science degree is also very well placed to develop new progression routes and new part-time study plans to respond to the changing demographics of Ireland's student population".



Agriculture and the National Anti-Poverty Strategy Group.

Prof Phelan told UCD today: "The Dean is the focal point for ensuring that the student experience is of the highest quality and provides the academic interface between students, schools, the industry and the university central administration. He or she is the public face of the academic programmes."



Dr Timoney told UCD today: "Engineering education in Ireland is about to change significantly. The 4-stage BE degree programme has a long and distinguished record but Engineers Ireland have recently decided that future Chartered Engineers will need to complete a five-year accredited master's level degree. This leaves us with some urgent and important decisions as to how to adapt and how to resource the additional programme time.

We are relatively well prepared, having already launched two different 3-stage BSc programmes and planned a wide range of specialised 2-stage Master of Engineering (ME) programmes. Through these, we will be able to provide a first class professional engineering education to the many excellent students who gain admission to our programmes."



Children playing at the new orphanage playground in Delhi with UCD student Maurice Deasy.

## 80 students and staff Volunteer Overseas

UCD Volunteers Overseas was established to offer students the opportunity to engage in voluntary work targeted at community projects in the developing world. Now in its fifth year, it has grown from one project in Delhi in 2003 to three projects in India, Haiti and Nicaragua this year. Eighty UCD students and staff volunteered this summer. They financed their own travel expenses and secured significant funding towards the projects they worked on. The remainder of the funding was achieved through sponsorship, donations and a variety of fundraising events.

Central to the work of the charity is the belief that students benefit greatly by volunteering their time and energy in these projects. The

challenge for students and local people is to learn a mutual respect and understanding of each other's cultural identities maintaining the hope that we can alleviate some of the causes of disadvantage.

On 24 June, 20 students and two UCD staff members set off for Nicaragua in Central America on the first volunteer trip to this country. The destination was Santa Isobel, a small village outside the market town of Somoto in the Northern Province of Madriz very close to the border with Honduras. Nicaragua is one of the poorest countries on the planet with 80% of its 5m population earning approximately \$60 per month.

Fr Tony Coote who led the group had paid two previous visits to Nicaragua and in discussions



The staff and student group in Nicaragua.

with various parties established that the people of Santa Isobel and surrounding villages would benefit greatly from the provision of a medical centre. Having received reassurances from the provincial health service that they would provide the relevant medical personnel, it just remained for the UCD volunteers to 'get stuck in'!

Fr Coote told UCD today: "We worked with a local contractor and his team. The villagers were amazed at how hard our team worked, always looking out for jobs to complete and anticipating the needs of the more experienced workers. Some students became very adept at block laying, their efforts having been vetted by our young Irish builder Steven who volunteered his time to the project and proved key to its successful conclusion. Even Don Tecero, the contractor, was very sceptical initially that this project could be completed in 30 days but he too became infected by the energy of the students and pushed his men to their limits in helping us achieve our goal. Our final days from dawn 'til dark were filled with tiling, grouting, painting and cleaning so that when 24 July

dawned the place was ready for the official opening. Only a few small tasks remained which have since been completed."

The charity also funded the provision of a new well and the refurbishment of the local church which the students undertook along with the building of the medical centre. These students may not have been academically challenged while volunteering in Nicaragua but they achieved A grades for hard work, co-operation, commitment and communication; very valuable skills that will complement their academic achievements.

In Haiti a country that has been isolated from most of the world for years UCDVO returned to the town of Gros Morne where a group of 30 renovated a local school, worked on a water distribution project, built a road and ran a sports camp for 300 young children. In Delhi along with the projects that the charity has supported over the last five years students designed and built a playground at an orphanage.

## Nobel Laureate in 'Green Chemistry' receives UCD Ulysses Medal

US Nobel Laureate Professor Robert H. Grubbs, whose work has led to more efficient and more environmentally friendly chemical synthesis methods, has been presented with the UCD Ulysses Medal. Professor Grubbs visited UCD to attend the 15th European Symposium on Organic Chemistry (ESOC 2007) in July.

In 2005, alongside Richard R. Schrock and Yves Chauvin, Professor Grubbs was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of a synthetic method known as metathesis - the swapping of atoms between molecules to create new substances.

The process has become one of the most important reactions in organic chemistry. It is used in the creation of new drugs to fight diseases such as cancer and AIDS, and also in the development of new fuels. His work is

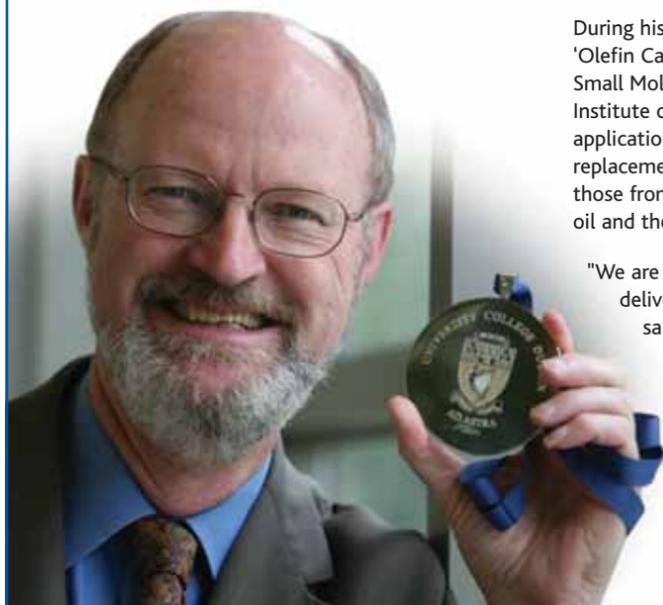
recognised as a great step forward for 'green chemistry,' reducing potentially hazardous waste through smarter productions.

The UCD Ulysses Medal is the highest academic accolade that University College Dublin can bestow. Previous recipients include founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum, Professor Klaus Schwab; Nobel economist, Professor James J Heckman; Nobel laureate, Dr Philip Sharp; Irish Author, Edna O'Brien; and US Philosopher, Professor Hilary Putnam.

"It is a great honour to present the sixth UCD Ulysses Medal to Professor Bob Grubbs," said Professor Des Fitzgerald, Vice-President for Research at UCD. "His work has had a major impact on synthetic chemistry and has enormous potential applications in medicine and the polymer industry."

During his Ulysses Medal lecture entitled 'Olefin Catalysis for the Synthesis of Large and Small Molecules', Professor Grubbs, California Institute of Technology, outlined current applications of his catalysts including the replacement of petroleum based chemicals with those from renewable resources including seed oil and the use of his methodology in medicine.

"We are hugely privileged to have Prof Grubbs deliver a paper at the ESOC in Dublin," said Prof Pat Guiry, Director of the Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB). "His seminal contributions and those of his group have shaped the way that modern chemistry is carried out."



## Visitors from USF

In mid-June, the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems played host to a group of fifteen undergraduate nursing students from the University of San Francisco (USF). The students were accompanied by faculty member Professor Mary Lou De Natale, a researcher in aged care and a senior care commissioner for Santa Clara County, CA. The visitors attended a week-long programme of lectures, seminars and site visits. The lectures and seminars focussed on the development of health and professional training policy and practice in Ireland, the current challenges in health service provision, and the nursing, midwifery and health systems research that is currently being conducted at the School.

The group undertook site visits to St Vincent's University Hospital, Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Our Lady's Hospice, and the National Maternity Hospital. The group also travelled to St Angela's College Sligo, where they completed a week of clinical placement at Sligo General Hospital.



Dr Gerard Fealy (centre front) and Isabel Hidalgo (back row, far right) from the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems, pictured with their guests from USF.

## Appointment for UCD Academic

Dr Crystal Fulton, UCD School of Information & Library Studies, has been appointed Chair of SIGUSE, the Special Interest Group on Information Needs, Seeking and Use, for 2008-2009. SIGUSE is a chapter of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), <http://iats-coe1.missouri.edu/~siguse/index.php>.

SIGUSE promotes research in human information-related behaviour and information services and meets annually at the autumn ASIS&T conference. The theme for this year's Research Symposium at ASIS&T is Mobility and Social Networks in Information Behaviour.

Dr Fulton's research explores information behaviour in everyday life settings, including the workplace, and she has been invited to share her work at various EU conferences. Her research into the information worlds of people engaged in serious leisure (eg amateur genealogy, lace-making) explores the information worlds developed through leisure participation and the connections between a chosen hobby, community development, information literacy, and social inclusion.

The current Chair of SIGUSE is Dr Heidi Julien, University of Alberta, Canada, and the incoming Chair for 2007-2008 is Dr Olof Sundin, Lund University, Sweden.

# joyce



*Pictured at the Joyce Summer School held at UCD in July are (l-r): Prof Sean Latham, Dr Luca Crispi, Prof Anne Fogarty, Dr Fritz Senn, Dr Sam Slote, Dr Christine O'Neill and Dr Dirk van Hulle.*

## UCD – the number one centre for Joycean studies in the world

**Joyce in English? Hard. Very hard. Joyce in Japanese! Now there's a thought. Conall Ó Móráin talks to Professor Anne Fogarty about Joyce and the rise of Joycean studies.**

**I was sitting in Anne Fogarty's room in the Arts Block talking to her about her appointment last autumn as UCD Professor of Joyce Studies and I was scanning the thousand or so books that surround her, when I noticed four small volumes with exotic scripting on the spine. "Joyce in Japanese", she told me, "He's really huge right around the world. In fact we have two Joyce scholars with us at the moment, one Chinese, one Japanese, both of them English Literature Professors and I'm off to a Joyce conference in Beijing towards the end of the year."**

Most of us know that James Joyce, UCD graduate (class of 1902), is a worldwide literary phenomenon but it's only while chatting with Professor Fogarty that you get an idea of how highly regarded he is. There are centres of Joycean study across the United States, in the UK, Zurich and Antwerp. You can find Joyce reading circles anywhere from New York to Tokyo and as mentioned, 66 years after his death with his books still selling exceptionally well worldwide, they're having conferences about him in China. He is a source of fascination for anyone who loves literature and according to Fogarty; in English language fiction she rates Joyce, quite simply, as number one in the world.

Joyce is quoted as having said, "The only demand I make of my reader is that he (sic) should devote his whole life to reading my works." And many do. Anne Fogarty, who got her PhD from UCC, has spent fifteen years lecturing in UCD and she does as Joyce asked - discussing, studying, analysing and talking with infectious enthusiasm about his works, almost every day of her life. "I was at a seminar recently where we were discussing the relevance and the origin of the date of Bloomsday, 16 June 1904. It may not have been, as many assume, the actual date that he (Joyce) met his lover and wife-to-be, Nora Barnacle. In fact, that is a convenient myth put forward by a publisher to explain it. What we know is that Joyce and Nora met in or around that day. Did you know that Joyce actually missed his (real) first date with Nora? There's a lively international discussion at the moment about how Jewish Leopold Bloom actually was. It's one of the great things about Joyce. Someone always has a new angle on him. There are quite a number of manuscripts for say Ulysses and there are constant arguments as to what the definitive version is."

So, yes, you could spend your whole life reading and arguing about Joyce.

It's rare in academic circles that a Chair is named after the subject of study (normally a generous benefactor gets that honour) so it's fitting for James Joyce's legendary status that UCD chose to name it after the man who is the subject of academic analysis and doctoral dissertation. And of course analysis is the essence of the UCD endowed Chair of Joyce Studies. Professor Fogarty says, "You have got to keep reading and re-reading Joyce. Anyone who says that he or she fully understands Joyce is missing the point. Joyce is so complicated, there's layer upon layer in his writings - all deliberately contrived by him in a way to show off but also, undoubtedly, to entertain and fascinate. He set out to make his works deliberately challenging. He's full of contradictions. For example he was condemned for being anti (Catholic) church but his works are full of liturgical references and he was a regular attendee at church services."

Vegetarian Dr Fogarty is no fan of Leopold Bloom's traditional breakfast of offal and mutton kidneys but equally she has no time for the Joycean snobs who, not content that his works are difficult enough to study, try to put another obstacle in the way by looking down their noses at the annual Bloomsday celebrations. She loves Bloomsday as it keeps her hero in the public eye and she says that one of the hidden benefits of her Professorship is that she is invited to Bloomsday celebrations around the world - and of course she is delighted to represent the college and the nation at what is becoming a literary St. Patrick's Day.

For those of you who, like myself, struggled our way to an average BA but believed we would be late bloomers like Einstein, who allegedly didn't shine in school, well we can now also cite Joyce. According to Professor Fogarty, "He probably wouldn't have survived in today's UCD! Believe it or not he failed English, of all things, in second year. I joke of course, as the man was an absolute genius and in a way I think he was bored and probably wasn't intellectually challenged. At this time, as an undergraduate, he was giving talks to the L&H on Ibsen and James Clarence Mangan and devouring French and Italian literature in the original. However, luckily he did graduate with a BA in English, French and Italian literature as it would have been a bit embarrassing if the college was (in)famous for having kicked out the world's greatest writer in English."

The Chair of Joyce Studies was established to meet the worldwide interest in the College's, and arguably the world's, most famous literary

figure who, literally broke the mould of English literature. According to Dr Fogarty, "Students from all over the world can and do come to study the man here in his native Dublin. We have about a hundred students with us at the moment from the United States with another hundred or so from the Erasmus exchange programme with European countries."

There's been a long history of courses on Joyce in UCD. In the 1980's Gus Martin led the way when he established the Joyce Summer Schools that are still thriving. Later Declan Kiberd and Séamus Deane continued with their scholarship and teaching and of course the university got a huge boost when Constantine Curran, friend and biographer of Joyce, handed his huge collection of Joycean papers to the College in the 1980's. Now, the establishment of the Chair means co-ordinating the many courses available to undergraduates, expanding the number of those courses (where there's an ever increasing interest), the development of research projects through doctoral research. Professor Fogarty said, "Joyce's work finally comes out of

copyright in 2012 (copyright is held by grandson Stephen Joyce at present) and there are some really big events planned for then. The ending of copyright, which has been too closely guarded in my view, will allow the world full access, at last, to the final bits of the jigsaw, letters and manuscripts, that will give us a much fuller picture of the man and his work. My own plan for 2012 is, by then, to have made UCD the number one centre for Joycean studies in the world. By the way, if there are any Joyce lovers out there with a million euro to spare I can find a very good and worthwhile research home for your money!"

Once, when asked why *Finnegans Wake* was written in a very difficult style, Joyce replied: "To keep the critics busy for three hundred years." On that basis the Chair of Joyce Studies will be busy for the next two hundred and thirty two years!

*Conall Ó Móráin (BA 1979) is a broadcaster with Today FM's Sunday Business Show.*

*Prof Anne Fogarty and Dr Fritz Senn enjoying a break from the Summer School.*





Reminiscing at the Living History Exhibition

# UCD bids Farewell to the Terrace

**In May, UCD marked its departure from its buildings in Earlsfort Terrace with a series of celebrations that saw some 5,000 graduates and friends of UCD passing through the doors for a final farewell.**

The events, which took place 17 - 20 May, were the fruits of a concerted effort that involved the talents of colleagues from all around the university, and the generous support of many UCD alumni and friends. Valuable guidance came from academic experts from numerous UCD Schools. Professional support was on hand from the teams in Buildings & Services, Archives, Library and from a great number of administrative staff across the university. Indeed the celebrations were only made possible by the enthusiasm and hard work of a huge number of people.

All throughout the events, a spirit of enthusiasm prevailed. Messages of support came from all over the world, and graduates sent letters of reminiscences and good wishes from as far away as Buenos Aires and Borneo! The Terrace Graduates fund, which was launched following the events to fund the restoration of the Kevin Barry window, has also met with great success.

The events began with a Concert of Music and Literature at the National Concert Hall on 17 May, at which Maeve Binchy was presented with the UCD Foundation Day Medal. The evening included readings from James Joyce, Flann O'Brien, Maeve Binchy and Kate O'Brien, by Joseph O'Connor, Thomas Kilroy, Marie Heaney and Frank McGuinness. The audience also enjoyed a special musical performance by John O'Connor and a rousing closing rendition of Gaudeamus Igitur, arranged by Choral Scholar artistic director, Desmond Earley.

The following evening, several hundred retired staff who worked at Earlsfort Terrace over the years attended a special celebration. Later the same evening, the L&H hosted a debate where current student members pitted themselves against former members, such as Prof Finbarr McAuley, Ruairi Quinn and Charles Lysaght, on the motion that 'Youth is wasted on the young'.

On the Saturday, almost 3,000 alumni who studied at the Terrace, and their families and friends, attended an afternoon of music, exhibitions, tours and talks at Earlsfort Terrace, Newman House and the Iveagh Gardens.

To complete the series of events, a commemorative liturgy was celebrated by Fr John McNerney at University Church, Stephen's Green on Sunday 20 May.

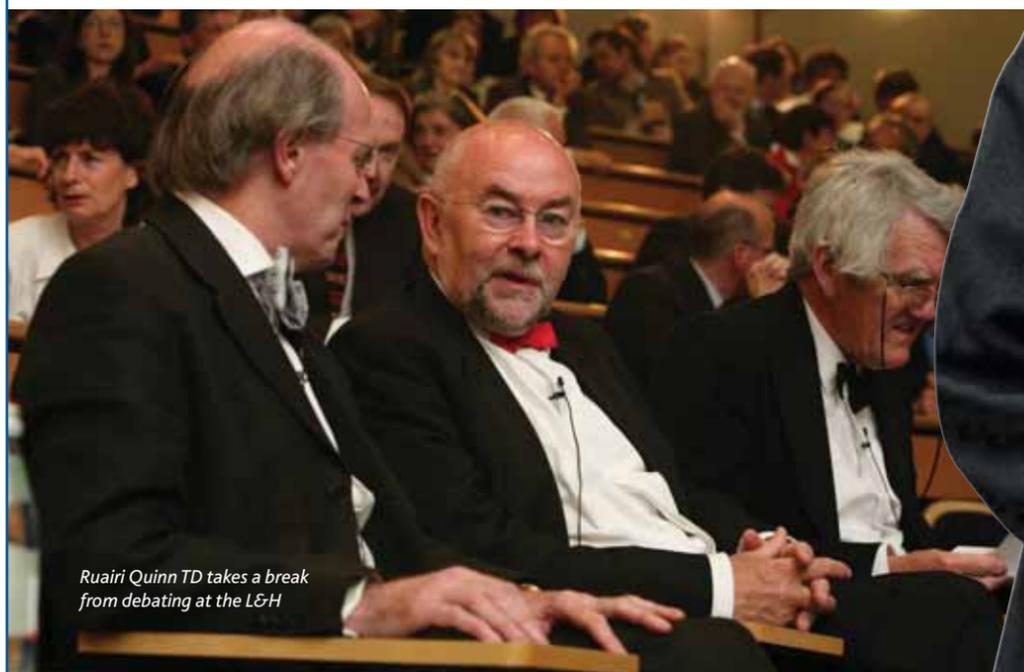
UCD's buildings at Earlsfort Terrace will soon transfer to the Office of Public Works for major redevelopment as a multi-purpose venue. The remaining Medicine and Engineering students and staff are now taking up their new facilities on the Belfield campus.

The 'Living History' exhibition, which documents Irish and UCD history, is currently on temporary display in the foyer of the Newman Building and will afterwards move to a permanent home on the Belfield campus.

A commemorative book, 'Farewell to the Terrace', was published with

essays on the history and architecture, student life, sporting achievements and personal reminiscences of UCD's 124 years in Earlsfort Terrace. Copies are available from UCD Communications, Tierney Building, UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4, price €48 (incl p & p).

More information about the events, the exhibition, the commemorative book and the Irish Times supplement that was published in to mark the event, are accessible at [www.ucd.ie/farewelltotheterrace](http://www.ucd.ie/farewelltotheterrace)



Ruairi Quinn TD takes a break from debating at the L&H



Maeve Binchy with her husband, Gordon Snell after receiving the UCD Foundation Day medal.

# National policy debate on the future of Irish broadband

Prof Paddy Nixon, Professor of Distributed Systems, UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics chaired a recent policy-focused debate on Irish broadband which took place in Dublin. The outcome of the debate, 'Ireland's Broadband Future: Policy for the Next Generation', will inform Forfás' ongoing review of Ireland's long term broadband needs and implementation requirements. Forfás is Ireland's national policy and advisory board for enterprise, trade, science, technology and innovation. It operates under the auspices of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

The debate which was officially opened by the Minister for Communications Marine and Natural Resources, Noel Dempsey TD and Martin Cronin, CEO, Forfás, was attended by national policymakers from the communications industry and enterprise.

At the event a number of international speakers outlined developments in Next Generation Networks (NGNs) and the policy approaches

taken in other countries. Speakers included KPN's John Quist who spoke about NGN deployment in the Netherlands and Jaroslav Ponder, Policy Analyst and manager of projects at the Strategy and Policy Unit at the International Telecommunications Union (SPU/ITU). Prof Peter Cochrane, Telecommunications Futurist discussed Future Broadband Trends and Implications. Dr Eoin Gahan of Forfás looked at policy options for the next generation.

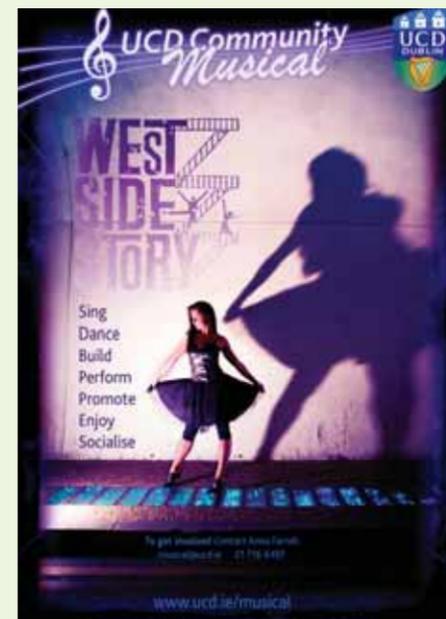
"Other countries are moving ahead," said Minister Dempsey. "We have to act smarter and faster if we are to have a state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure in place in this country to continue on the path of economic and social prosperity."

"The output of the debate will be used to drive the next stage of government policy on this area," said Prof Nixon. The National Advisory Forum on Telecommunications announced by the Minister earlier this year will examine the outcome of the debate. This forum is due to report on best next steps by the end of 2007.

# Staff and students to perform West Side Story at UCD

In an innovative project to increase camaraderie and co-operation between UCD students and staff, a team of volunteers from around the campus have come together to stage the inaugural UCD Community Musical. The show, West Side Story, will be performed in O'Reilly Hall on Valentine's Week 2008.

The show will be directed by Aoife Brady, and Student Adviser Anna Farrell is the producer. Speaking about the musical, Anna said, "West Side Story is a big show that offers lots of opportunities to get involved - singing, dancing, set-building or even selling tickets. It is a beautiful love story, with sophisticated music, great dance scenes and with some thought-provoking themes about social problems. It's a fitting choice for a project that aims to facilitate community building here at UCD. Already, we've been really pleased with the support we've had from individual students and staff, and also organisations like the Student's Union, DramSoc, Photosoc, Filmsoc and even the Trampoline Club!"



The production team is comprised of students and staff from around UCD, under the leadership of Martin Butler, Vice-President for Students. For further information and updates on ways of getting involved, visit [www.ucd.ie/musical](http://www.ucd.ie/musical)

# Viking Warship arrives in Dublin after almost 1,000 years

In 1962, archaeologists excavated five Viking ships from the bottom of the Roskilde Fjord in Denmark outside the village of Skuldelev. Since then, the team at the Viking Ships Museum in Roskilde have been working on recording, preserving and analysing the remains of these five vessels, enabling the museums boat builders to reconstruct exact replicas of each of the ships.

The largest of the five wrecks, known as Skuldelev 2, was the last of the ships to be reconstructed. When the timbers were analysed, it was found

that Skuldelev 2 had been an ocean-going warship that had been built in Viking Dublin around the year 1042. Archaeologists believe that the original Skuldelev 2 may have played a part in the diplomatic crisis following the Battle of Hastings in 1066 when the Danes lost supremacy in England. The battle marked the end of the Viking Age.

On 1 July 2007, 965 years after the original ship was built, a crew of 65 set sail from Roskilde in Denmark to Northern Scotland, the half-way point on a voyage of 1,000 nautical miles from Denmark to Dublin. On the Isle of Skye, the ship was joined by crewmember Triona Nicholl, a PhD student in the School of Archaeology here at UCD.

Triona has been in training for the voyage for the last two years. No-one has manned a ship like this for more than 900 years. "This is the largest experimental archaeological event ever witnessed," says Triona. "Most of the crew members are volunteers. They have been selected by the Viking Ship Museum in Denmark on the basis of seamanship, commitment, physical condition and special competencies."

Measuring 30m in length, the vessel is the largest reconstructed Viking Warship in the world. Built for speed and for carrying as many people as possible over the open sea and waters with strong currents, the Skuldelev 2 represents the absolute pinnacle of Viking shipbuilding technology.



The original Viking Warship was constructed using mighty oak trees from Ireland's ancient forests in the Dublin/Wicklow Mountains. The Skuldelev 2 was reconstructed over the course of four years using the same materials and techniques that were used to build the original.

The complete reconstruction was unveiled on 4 September 2004 by Her Royal Highness Queen Margrethe who christened the ship 'Havhingsten fra Glendalough' (the Sea Stallion from Glendalough).

The voyage took seven weeks in total, taking in numerous landfalls around the Norwegian and Scottish coasts. Despite some heavy seas, particularly in the Irish Sea area and the North Channel, the ship performed excellently and both the ship and crew arrived safe and well at Port Oriel in Co Louth in mid-August before making their way down the Irish coast for the official welcoming ceremony in Dublin. A week of activities and events took place at Custom

House Dock and the National Museum of Ireland to celebrate the safe arrival. The reconstructed Viking Warship is on public view at the National Museum of Ireland at Collins Barracks where it will over-winter before sailing back to Denmark in 2008. An exhibition tracking the voyage is currently taking place at the Barracks to coincide with the ship's visit.



# New Research Portal provides centralised online service for researchers to update their full professional profile

As part of UCD's investment in its technical infrastructure and research services, a new Research Portal, developed specifically for UCD researchers as part of the Research Management System (RMS), is greatly simplifying the task of keeping research profiles current. As profiles are updated across the university, via the Research Portal, they will become available on the School websites as well as the UCD Research website.

Ideal for the preparation of grant proposals, the user-friendly system allows researchers to maintain a professional looking, up-to-date web profile quickly and easily. Researchers and academics can view, maintain and publish profile information to the web at their own convenience, with full control over the information they want to appear. Sections include research interests, publications, collaborations, teaching interests and professional associations.

The School of Biology and Environmental Science was involved in the pilot phase of the research portal, and for Prof Mark Rogers the

ability for individual staff to keep their own research information up to date and link it to the School website was the key motivation to become involved as early as possible. "As part of a large School, collating and maintaining an up-to-date web page for all staff was a significant challenge that has been greatly simplified using the RMS. In particular the ability to download all the research publications from the ISI Web of Knowledge site straight into the portal takes all the formatting hassles out of starting and updating a publications list. An additional benefit has been the ability to produce almost instantly the information required for internal reporting and President's reports."

Another early adopter was the School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine and researcher Dr Dolores O'Riordan found the RMS particularly valuable in preparing a recent successful PRTL14 application. "We were required to prepare detailed research metrics for UCD staff dating back to 2001, in a very tight timeline. Using RMS we were able to download and present the material very quickly



and efficiently." Dr O'Riordan also finds RMS ideal for preparing promotional literature. "International companies have been delighted with the opportunity to view the profile of our researchers in advance of meeting with us. It allows them to target the research area and researchers of greatest interest when they visit UCD, leading to more fruitful exchanges."

The Research Portal is currently live in five Schools with plans to go live in all schools by the end of October 2007.

More information on Research Profiles can be found at: [www.ucd.ie/research/](http://www.ucd.ie/research/) or by contacting the Research Profiles team at 7164040 or [rmssupport@ucd.ie](mailto:rmssupport@ucd.ie)

## Prestigious Appointment for UCD Academic

Dr Eleanor O'Higgins, UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business, was recently appointed to the newly formed Press Council of Ireland. The new council, in tandem with the soon-to-be-established Office of the Press Ombudsman, will provide an independent regulatory body for Ireland's print media. It comprises 13 people, an independent chairman, Prof Thomas Mitchell, former Provost of TCD, and six other independent members, all of whom were chosen through a process of public recruitment and six other members who have a media background and were appointed following nomination by the industry.

Dr O'Higgins specialises in teaching, research and publications in corporate governance, strategic management, business ethics and corporate social responsibility. She is the author of numerous papers in academic and professional journals, newspaper articles, book chapters and case studies. She is on the editorial boards of a number of international management journals and chairs the Ethics Education Committee of the US Academy of Management.

## Cén fáth rang Gaeilge ? Some of Bord na Gaeilge UCD Irish language learners share their thoughts and experiences.

Is deacair lá fada oibre a chur isteach, ceapaire a chaitheamh ar do chosaibh agus déanamh ansin ar rang oíche. Bíodh sin mar atá, chláraigh breis is 500 duine le ranganna teanga Bord na Gaeilge anuraidh agus bhí siad an-mhaith chun freastail orthu. Cad a mheallann na daoine seo, idir mhic léinn agus fhoireann, chun tuilleadh ama fós a chaitheamh ar láthair ár n-oibre? Cén fáth rang Gaeilge, oíche Gheimhridh?

Seo thíos roinnt freagraí ó bhéal na bhfoghlaimeoirí féin.

Is ionann eolas ar theanga agus eolas ar thír dar leis **An Ollamh Simon More, Scoil na Talmhaíochta, Eolaíocht an Chothaithe agus an Leigheas Tréidliachta:**

I took the beginners' Irish language class soon after arriving in Ireland. Being from Australia, it has been really important for me to understand the nuances of working in a surprisingly different culture. The beginners' Irish language classes were one of a range of opportunities that I have seized to better understand why Ireland is the way it is, through its language, culture, history and geography. On a practical level, these classes gave me a foundation to understanding the meaning of Irish place names and the basis for the correct (and at times, baffling!) pronunciation of Irish names etc.

Seasann na ranganna Gaeilge leis **An Ollamh Michael Hennerty, Scoil na Bitheolaíochta agus na nEolaíochta Comhshaoil**, agus é i mbun taighde:

I have been researching the background to the historical Irish apple collection at UCD and I was interested in looking at sources in Irish in the National Library. Since I hadn't studied Irish since first year in UCC, which was a long time ago, I decided to attend the Bord na Gaeilge courses to update my skills. I was allowed to work at my own pace and found it easy to make up ground quickly.

Tá gné idirnáisiúnta, ilchultúrtha ag baint le cúrsaí an Bhoird, de réir **Michael McCann, mac léinn dochtúireachta, Scoil na hInnealtóireachta Ceimicí agus Bithphróisis:**

I had to decide between Irish language and an extra science subject for my GCSEs at the age of 15. As a chemical engineering PhD student at UCD, I am glad of the decision I made then, but have always missed not being able to speak the native language of our Island. When I arrived at UCD last year, I decided therefore to take part in a Bord na Gaeilge staff Irish class. The memories of my 'cad e mar ata tú' schooldays came flooding back when I sat beside folk from Ireland, Australia, Germany, India and Wales, to mention but a few, as we learned to converse 'as Gaeilge'. It is a fantastic experience and during class we often talked about sport, history, music and politics.

Is maith le **Catherine Convery, An Oifig Idirnáisiúnta** go mbíonn imeachtaí cultúrtha ina gcuid lárnach de shaol na bhfoghlaimeoirí:

When I started work in UCD, I was delighted to find out about the classes. An added bonus was the fact that I got to know people from all over UCD who have an interest in Irish too. The other activities, like lunchtime talks and weekends in the Kerry Gaeltacht, are great opportunities.

Daoine spéisiúla a bhíonn gafa le cúrsaí Gaeilge na hOllscoile, faoi mar a deir **Denise Fox, Mac léinn dochtúireachta, Scoil na nEolaíochtaí Bithmhóilínigh agus an Bithleigheis:**

Having first found a love for Irish during summers spent in the Galway Gaeltacht as a teenager I was delighted to find the opportunity to take up the language again. The classes are very relaxed and informal and the group is made up from a great mix of people from all branches of university life, from students to researchers and from lecturers to administrators, who share a common grá for the language. There is a great social side to the Irish language courses - including lunchtime talks, trad sessions and the annual cultural course in Co Armagh.

Ba mhór ag **Zelie Asava, Scoláire Dochtúireachta SLLF, Scoil an Bhéarla, na Dramaíochta agus na Scannanaíochta**, an chuideachta chéanna:

I'm half Irish and wanted to understand my mother tongue, culture and so on, and to be able to pass it on if I ever have my own family. I was born here but grew up in London so I missed out on a lot. The classes provide me with the opportunity to meet people from all walks of UCD life. As a PhD student I have found this to be a great asset as a PhD could otherwise be quite a solitary endeavour.

Is dream iad lucht na ranganna a bhíonn cíocrach chun an teanga a thabhairt leo, faoi mar a deir **Dr Cliona Golden, Scoil na nEolaíochtaí Matamaitice:**

Fluency in Irish would allow me to tap into that side of our culture which is most fully accessible through Irish. Living abroad had the effect of making me all the more determined to improve my Irish when I returned to Ireland. I was therefore thrilled, to see classes on offer on campus.

Tá pobal suntasach Gaeilgeoirí le fáil i **Scoil Ghnó UCD, An Dr Séamas Kelly** ina measc:

I've been attending Bord na Gaeilge events for the past 3-4 years and have enjoyed them tremendously. These have provided a great opportunity to improve my Irish and to meet a lot of interesting people around the university who share an interest in the language. The annual residential course in Dún Chaoin, Co Kerry has been a particular highlight, has always been great fun and has given me the opportunity to learn a lot more about the culture of the area and my own family connections with it. They attract a really nice and sympathetic bunch of people from all corners of the university and the language fundamentalists are notable by their absence!

Is líonmhaire an 'sympathetic bunch' sin ná lucht na ranganna amháin. **Aisling Nic Craith**, mar shampla, **mac léinn fo-chéime, Scoil na Talmhaíochta, Eolaíocht an Chothaithe agus an Leigheas Tréidliachta**, bhí sí ar Scéim Chónaithe Bhord na Gaeilge anuraidh agus tá an Ghaeilge á cur chun cinn aici i gconaí:

Ghlac mé páirt i Scéim Chónaithe Bhord na Gaeilge an bhliain seo caite. Gan dabht, bhí an-chraic againn i rith na bliana. Úsáidim mo chuid Ghaeilge go minic, mar shampla, beidh mé ag cur turas den champas ar fáil trí mhéan na Gaeilge le linn Seachtain Fáilte UCD.

Fáilte is fiche roimh dhaoine nua i gconaí!

# UCD School of Languages, Literatures and Film hosts International Goldoni Conference



Delegates at the International Carlo Goldoni Conference

In July UCD was host to the International Carlo Goldoni Conference celebrating the centenary of the birth of the great Italian dramatist. Prof Deirdre O'Grady, Head of Italian Studies and a specialist in Italian Drama and Comparative Studies, brought together speakers from Italy, France, Holland, Switzerland, Britain and Ireland. These represented leading European Institutes of Learning, such as the Universities of Venice, Rome, Milan, Pescara, Paris IV (Sorbonne), Groningen, Lausanne, Leeds, Strathclyde and UCD.

Alberto Savoia. Also in attendance were Dr Bruno Busetti, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute, Dr Rosangela Barone, a former Director, Professor Cormac Ó Cuilleain, Trinity College and Prof Christopher Murray of UCD Drama Studies.

The conference was closed by Prof Jean Michel Picard, Head of the School of Languages and Literatures. Delegates were then the guests of the Italian Ambassador at his historic residence, Lucan House.

Universally regarded as the father of Italian comedy and the most influential eighteenth century playwright, Goldoni (1707-1793) wrote more than 150 comedies in Italian, Venetian and in two instances French. In addition he provided 150 texts for music for such composers as Paisiello, Galuppi, Piccini, Cimarosa and Hayden. Known as the 'Italian Molière', he derived his prime inspiration from the 'Commedia dell'Arte', the improvised Italian theatre of the Masks.

The conference was inaugurated by his Excellency the Italian Ambassador, Dr Lucio



Delegates at the International Carlo Goldoni Conference

# Eight Fellows appointed

The inaugural year of the UCD Fellowships in Teaching & Academic Development has been launched with the appointment of eight Fellows.

The project, which is the result of a successful bid to the HEA Strategic Initiative Fund, also includes a strategic link with the University of Limerick through which the UCD Fellows will link with similar scholars in teaching and learning through a series of inter-institutional colloquia and a major conference. The Fellowship Scheme formally commenced at the end of May with a workshop to plan project activities. They will work on the development of new practices in two strategic teaching and learning topics: *The First Year Experience and Student Engagement*. The teams are currently working on project papers and the first colloquium with the University of Limerick will take place in December 2007. The Fellows will

use the forthcoming UCD intranet facility to showcase their continuing work, to engage other interested academics in their projects and to open new teaching and learning communication paths across the university.

UCD Registrar, Dr Philip Nolan said "I believe that the work of the Fellows will deliver more than simple improvements in these areas, and will result in the development of completely new perspectives. I am very excited by this initiative. It is a reflection of the importance that the university places on creativity in this area and a great way of recognising and rewarding the excellence of the academic staff here at UCD."

The Fellowship project is led by Elizabeth Noonan (Director of Academic Policy) and Dr Bairbre Redmond (Vice-Principal Teaching & Learning, College of Human Sciences).

Pictured are the first round appointees: back row (l-r): Henry McLoughlin (School of Computer Science & Informatics), Dr Amanda Gibney (School of Architecture, Landscape & Civil Engineering), Dr Niamh Moore (School of Geography, Planning & Environmental Policy) and Dr Feargal Murphy (School of Irish, Celtic Studies, Irish Folklore & Linguistics). Front row (l-r): Dr Eilis Hennessy (School of Psychology), Maria-Rosario "Charo" Hernandez (School of Languages, Literatures & Film), Dr Patricia Kieran (School of Chemical & Bioprocess Engineering) and Dr Sara O Sullivan (School of Sociology).



# Double Coup for UCD's Diploma in Veterinary Nursing programme

UCD's Diploma in Veterinary Nursing programme is in the spotlight having recently received accreditation from ACOVENE (European Accreditation Committee for Veterinary Nurse Education) and from the Veterinary Council of Ireland.

This significant coup for all staff and students associated with the successful three-year diploma programme reinforces UCD's position as the premier provider of Veterinary Nursing education in Ireland; being the only Irish programme to receive ACOVENE accreditation and one of only seven European Schools of Veterinary Nursing to receive the award. All were visited by panels appointed by the pilot ACOVENE Board using accreditation criteria developed in association with the

American Veterinary Medical Association and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The long-term aims of the Foundation are to extend accreditation to veterinary nursing programmes in all European countries and to encourage the development of training courses in countries where these are currently weak or absent.

The programme also received accreditation from the Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI), being the first veterinary nursing programme in Ireland to receive such status. The VCI is the Statutory Body for the registration and regulation of veterinary nurses under the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. The principal function of the Council is to regulate and manage the practice of veterinary medicine and veterinary nursing in the State in the public

interest. The significance of accreditation by the VCI for staff and students at UCD is demonstrated by the opportunity for all Diploma of Veterinary Nursing graduates, both past and present, to register as Veterinary Nurses with the VCI once the register opens in 2008.

UCD's Director of Veterinary Nursing, Ms Andrea Dwane is delighted with recent achievements and is confident that the continued development of ACOVENE will provide encouragement and further opportunities for all stakeholders connected with the veterinary nursing profession "ACOVENE and VCI accreditation will help foster confidence of veterinary employers in the professional education and skills' training of



UCD's Director of Veterinary Nursing, Ms Andrea Dwane (right) receiving accreditation for UCD's Diploma in Veterinary Nursing from President of the Veterinary Council of Ireland, Ms Meta Osbourne.

veterinary nurses. Furthermore, European projects such as ACOVENE will provide students registered to our programme at UCD with greater opportunities to study abroad in schools hosting similarly accredited programmes."

# UCD and TCD sign historic MOU with Queen's

Building on a collaborative accord between the two Dublin institutions, UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady and TCD Provost, Dr John Hegarty, each signed bilateral collaborative agreements with QUB President and Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Gregson at a special reception hosted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Dermot Ahern TD, in April. The agreements will promote and consolidate co-operation in education and research between the three universities.

"By strengthening cross-border collaboration in research and education in this way, we can help put the island at the forefront of the global knowledge economy and deliver real benefits to citizens both North and South," said the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Dermot Ahern TD, welcoming the unique collaborative partnership agreements.

In this strategic partnership, three of the leading research institutions on the island of Ireland have identified a number of areas in which they have complementary strengths and together they intend to develop these areas to ensure maximum intellectual, educational and economic benefits of the three universities in an all-Ireland and international context.

"The pooling of intellect across the universities presents us with a genuine opportunity to attain critical mass in areas where we can demonstrate centres of excellence in the international arena," said Dr Hugh Brady. "What we, UCD, TCD and QUB, are announcing today is an historic alliance of this island's top universities," he continued. "It transcends geographic and cultural barriers to create world-class programmes in scholarship, research and training."

## Clinton Institute for American Studies Summer School

The week of 15-21 July saw the first annual Clinton Institute for American Studies Summer School held in the new Clinton Institute at Belfield House. The Summer School was attended by 45 participants from 29 different educational institutions and nine different countries. Following a stimulating opening reading by poet Paul Muldoon, participants spent the week listening to plenary lectures by the School's faculty and attending one of four week-long thematic workshops in which they discussed pre-set readings and shared their own work in progress.

Themed workshops were held on the subjects of 'Trans-Atlantic Studies: A Critical Comparativist Analysis' Prof. Donald E Pease (Dartmouth College); 'Fear & Security: American Culture since the Cold War' Prof Elaine Tyler May (University of Minnesota); 'Literature of Migration & Ethnicity' Prof Werner Sollors (Harvard University); and 'Image Wars: Media & US Foreign Policy', Prof Liam Kennedy (Clinton Institute, UCD).

Plenary lectures were given by scholars in American Studies from institutes around the world, with faculty coming from the United

States, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Ireland. Plenary topics included papers on the westerns of John Ford, modern forms of justice and crime television, a cultural history of post-war Germany, and contemporary US foreign policy.

The Summer School also took advantage of the IASIL conference being held at UCD during the same week by hosting a roundtable on 'Irish Studies and American Studies' that was well attended by attendees at both events.

The week's events concluded on Saturday with a one-day symposium on Transnational American Studies that was attended by Summer School participants and faculty who were joined by others working in the field. The event included a stimulating keynote address by Summer School faculty member Donald E. Pease (Dartmouth College).

The week's scholarly activities were broken up by a very enjoyable musical event in Dublin on Wednesday night that was attended by almost all of the participants and faculty. This event set the tone for the final evening BBQ and gave participants from other countries a real taste of Irish culture and hospitality.

Back row (l-r): Prof Donald Pease (Dartmouth College), Dr Hamilton Carroll (University of Leeds) and Prof Liam Kennedy (UCD). Front row (l-r) Prof Janet Davis (University of Texas), Prof John Carlos Rowe (University of Southern California) and Prof Donatella Izzo (University of Naples, "L'Orientale").



## Great Loss for Irish Folklore



UCD Delargy Centre for Irish Folklore and the National Folklore Collection will mourn the recent passing of Tom Munnelly (1944-2007) who passed away on 30 August 2007, following a long illness. Tom first became associated with UCD more than thirty years ago when he was employed as a collector. Subsequently, he became Archivist/Collector, a position he held until his recent sad demise. He relocated to county Clare in 1978, which remained to a large extent, the centre of much of his collecting activities.

He was an iconic figure in folk music and folk song circles in Ireland and in the English-speaking world generally and an acknowledged expert on the Irish tradition of folk song in the English language. It is important to note, however, that while many of his writings deal with this topic, the scope of his work was wider than song. He gathered material of the highest quality in a variety of media in many parts of the country, all of which now forms an important part of the National Folklore Collection. Like many archive and field staff members of the former Irish Folklore Commission and Department of Irish Folklore, he had a distinguished publication record, in which his special knowledge of the workings of the living tradition was supplemented and enriched by the insight that close acquaintance with the existing body of archived material provided.

His writings brought great credit to the subject and earned the respect of scholars at home and abroad. Similarly, he showed enormous energy and skill in promoting interest in and understanding of the nature of folklore through popular publications, broadcasting and lectures to local societies and the like.

He made an intermittent but very important contribution to the teaching programme by sharing his expertise as well as introducing students to active collecting situations in the field and participating in associated follow-up activities such as transcription and indexing of the materials collected. He constantly offered advice and information to all comers and promoted the good name of the institution through his contacts with other bodies and organisations, by lecturing to local societies and liaising with musicians, singers and broadcasters at home and abroad.

In recognition of his lifetime's achievement, the degree of Doctor of Literature (*honoris causa*) was conferred upon him by the National University of Ireland, Galway on 19 June 2007. A month or so earlier, a *Festschrift*, entitled *Dear Far-Voiced Veteran. Essays in honour of Tom Munnelly*, was presented to him at a ceremony held in his adopted county of Clare.

Tom Munnelly as a long-standing employee of the university, did his institution and the nation a unique service. His contribution to the Irish folklore record was quite outstanding, easily ranking him alongside the most distinguished of the labourers in this field in Ireland.

May he rest in peace.

Ar an 30 Lúnasa 2007 a d'imigh Tom Munnelly (1944-2007) uainn ar shlí na fírinne. Cruthaíodh an ceangal idir é féin agus An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath níos mó ná 30 bliain ó shin nuair a fostaíodh ina bhailitheoir amhrán ar an chéad dul síos é agus ina Chartlannaí/Bailitheoir ina dhiaidh sin, post a bhí aige faoi Lárionad an Duileargaigh do Bhéaloideas na hÉireann agus Cnuasach Bhéaloideas Éireann go dtí go bhfuair sé bás de bharr tinnis a bhí á chrá le píosa maith roimhe sin. D'aistrigh sé siar go contae an Chláir sa bhliain 1978 agus ba ansin a chruinnigh sé lear mór den bhailiúchán mhór a thiomsaigh sé agus é i mbun a chuid dualgas don Ollscoil.

Is amhlaidh gur breathnaíodh air mar phearsa speisialta agus mar shaineolaí aitheanta ar thraidisiún na hamhránaíochta i mBéarla na hÉireann go háirithe dóibh siúd a bhfuil dáimh acu le hamhráin Bhéarla an phobail agus leis an cheol pobail in Éirinn, agus fríd domhan an Bhéarla go ginearálta. Bíodh a fhios go mbaineann cuid mhaith dár scríobh sé leis an réimse sin, is cuid suntais é gur leithne ná sin na hábhair ar chuir sé spéis iontu. Chruinnigh sé ábhar béaloídis den scoth san iomad meán agus den uile chineál ar fud na tíre agus tá sé sin uilig anois ina chuid thábhachtach de Chnuasach Bhéaloideas Éireann. Mar a tharla i gcás chuid mhaith eile de lucht foirne Choimisiún Béaloideas Éireann agus de Roinn Bhéaloideas Éireann roimhe, tharraing a chuid foilseacháin clú agus cáil air i ngeall ar a shaineolas ar an traidisiún beo, saineolas a doimhníodh agus a saibhríodh de bharr an chur amach a bhí aige ar na bailiúcháin a tiomsaíodh roimhe sin.

Bhí meas air agus ba mhór an chlá a thuill sé i gcéin agus i gcóngar don ábhar léinn a roghnaigh sé. Ar an gcuma chéanna chothaigh sé go hoilte agus go fuinniúil ina chuid foilseachán agus sna léachtaí agus sna cláracha raidió agus teilifíse a mbíodh sé páirteach iontu spéis an phobail i gcoitinne sa bhéaloideas.

D'fhág sé go leor de mhic léinn an bhéaloídis faoi chomaoin chabhartha nuair a bhíodh sé ag plé leo idir amanna agus ag míniú dóibh an chaoi le bheith ag déileáil le faisnéiseoirí sa ghort agus ag léiriú ina dhiaidh sin na modhanna cuí chun tras-scríobh agus innéacsú a dhéanamh ar an ábhar béaloídis a bhailíodh sé uathu. Bhíodh sé go síoraí ag cur comhairle agus ag soláthar eolais do dhaoine agus ag cur ainm na hinstiúide chun cinn sa phlé a bhí aige le heagraíochtaí eile, sa tseirbhís a thug sé do chumainn áitiúla ina chuid cainteanna agus sa chaidreamh a bhí aige le ceoltóirí, le hámhránaithe agus le craoltóirí sa bhaile agus in imigéin.

Mar aitheantas dá shaothar saoil, bhronn Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh céim oinigh DLitt air ar an 19 Meitheamh 2007 agus, mí nó mar sin níos luaithe ná sin, foilsíodh an fhéilscríbhinn, *Dear Far-Voiced Veteran. Essays in honour of Tom Munnelly* agus bronnadh air í i Rinn na Spáinneach i gcontae a dhíne, agus

Fostaí seanbhunaithe den ollscoil ab ea Tom Munnelly a thug seirbhís shainiúil di sin agus don náisiún araon. Is féidir é a áireamh de bharr na hoibre a rinne sé ar bhailitheoirí móra an bhéaloídis in Éirinn.

Suaimhneas síoraí dá anam.

## Retired Staff Dinner

Sixty-four UCD staff who retired in Session 2005-06 were honoured recently at a dinner hosted by the President, Dr Hugh Brady, in UCD O'Reilly Hall. Paying tribute to their role in the development of the university, Dr Brady said the annual dinner to mark the contribution of retired staff had established itself as one of the most enjoyable functions in the calendar of social events staged on the Belfield campus.

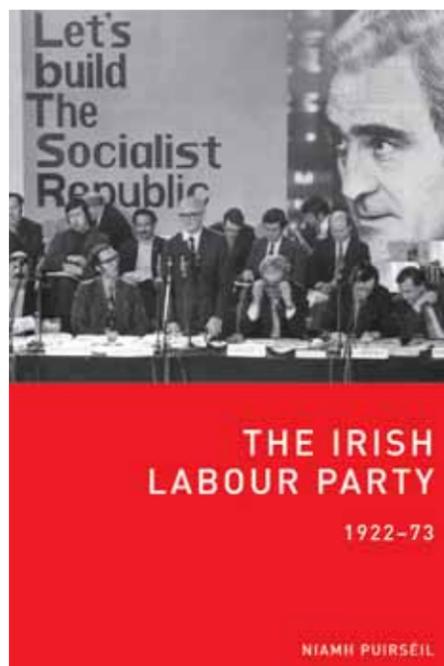
*Dr Noel Fitzpatrick, Mrs Mary Fitzpatrick, Ms Marion Creely, Prof Fergus D'Arcy, Mrs Ann D'Arcy and Mr Eamon Drea, Vice-President for Staff.*



## Launch of The Irish Labour Party, 1922-73

The recent general election and the resignation of Labour leader Pat Rabbitte has focused attention on why the Irish Labour Party has never prospered in this country. Labour has never achieved electoral success to match that of her sister parties outside Ireland, but the party's influence has always far exceeded its size, holding office in seven administrations and playing kingmaker in several others.

The publication by UCD Press of *The Irish Labour Party, 1922-73* by Niamh Puirseil, a lecturer in the School of History and Archives, is a timely examination of a party that never reached its potential for a variety of reasons. Drawing on the papers of politicians and activists from Labour and other parties, the book offers a fresh and insightful look at a party riven by factions throughout its existence and opposed by potent outside forces, from the Catholic



Church, to the Irish communist movement, to Fianna Fáil.

Launching the publication at the Royal Irish Academy, Professor Brian Farrell welcomed the study as the best book on an Irish political party to date, making a significant contribution, not simply to our understanding of Labour, but of independent Ireland.

## CHER Conference at UCD

In September, UCD hosted the twentieth annual conference of the Consortium of Higher Education Researchers (CHER); the first time the conference has come to Ireland. CHER is the primary organisation for researchers active in the field of higher education research in Europe and links all the major research centres and leading scholars in the field from around the world. While it is primarily a European organisation, its membership is drawn from more than 30 countries, a quarter of whom now come from outside Europe. The conference theme, 'The Research Mission of the University', has a particular relevance for UCD and other Irish universities at this juncture.

The conference was organised by Prof Patrick Clancy, UCD School of Sociology, who is a founder member of CHER and currently a member of its Board of Governors. The conference always generates keen interest among policy-makers, in addition to attracting leading international scholars in the field. The Chief Scientific Adviser to the Irish Government, Prof Patrick Cunningham, gave the plenary talk on 'Guardians of Knowledge, Drivers of Change - Universities Serving Society', while representatives of the Higher Education Authority, the Irish Universities Association and the Irish Research Council for the Humanities & Social Sciences were among the delegates.

The Secretariat of CHER is currently based at the University of Kassel, Germany, where Prof Barbara Kehm, its Executive Secretary, directs the International Centre for Higher Education Research. Prof Alberto Amaral, from the University of Porto, Portugal is the Chairman of CHER.

The value of the research mission of the university in sustaining Ireland's 'Celtic Tiger' economy emerged as one of the recurring themes of the conference. In his plenary talk, Prof Cunningham argued that the value of academic research is determined first by peer review through publication in recognised journals, describing this as 'the quality control stage'. He said, "It can then be seen to have practical value based on the number of patents issued and the flow of capital into business to develop products and services. This brings direct benefits to society in terms of increased employment, better health services or improved quality of life. It also underpins our competitiveness as a nation."

International evidence indicates that a law of diminishing returns eventually applies to investment in university technology transfer offices; the vehicles for transferring research to the knowledge economy. Addressing the topic of 'Technology Transfer Offices and the Commercialization of Innovation in the United States', Roger L. Geiger (Distinguished Prof of Education at Pennsylvania State University and author of *Knowledge and Money: Research Universities and the Paradox of the Marketplace*) argued that, despite continuing increases in investment in technology transfer offices, the commercialisation of innovations in the USA, including invention disclosures, licensing agreements and licensing income, has reached a plateau since the late 1990s. The limiting factor is, of course, the amount of inventions in patent-rich sectors of universities.

The EU clearly lags a long way behind the USA in terms of the commercialisation of university research. Frans van Vught (Honorary Prof of Comparative Higher Education Policy Studies at the University of Twente and member of the Group of Societal Policy Analysis of the European Commission), argued that his work in the European Commission has highlighted the need for substantial investment in technology transfer offices in universities across the member states for many years to come, before any such plateau can be reached in the EU. He called for increased investment in technology transfer offices, to allow the economies and societies of EU member states to benefit from the cutting-edge research being undertaken in European universities.

With the benefit of NovaUCD, one of the leading innovation and technology transfer centres in Ireland, UCD is well placed to be at the forefront of developments in the commercialisation of technology, as UCD progresses towards realising its vision of becoming one of the leading research-intensive universities in Europe.

*Brigid McManus, Secretary General, Department of Education and Science; Prof Ulrich Teichler and Prof Patrick Clancy.*



## Visit of Leading Canadian Archivist



*Terry Cook with UCD Archivist Kate Manning*

Leading Canadian archivist and archival scholar, Prof Terry Cook (University of Manitoba), led an advanced CPD workshop on archival appraisal to archivists from Ireland and the UK at UCD in May. Participants came from national archives (UK and Ireland), universities, local authority archives/county record offices, corporate archives and the private sector. The workshop was organised by UCD Archives and sponsored by the Society of Archivists, Ireland ([www.archives.org.uk/thesociety/regions/ireland.html](http://www.archives.org.uk/thesociety/regions/ireland.html)) and The Heritage Council ([www.heritagecouncil.ie/](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/)).

It has been argued that appraisal is the critical function of the archivist - determining which records will be kept and which will be destroyed. Prof Cook devised the influential

macro-appraisal theory and strategy to carry out this function in the National Archives of Canada (now Library and Archives Canada), and has written widely on the subject. This was his second visit to Ireland, he led a workshop on the preservation of electronic records as archives in 2003, also organised by UCD Archives and the Society of Archivists, Ireland.

The appraisal workshop discussed the problems and importance of appraisal; schools of thinking about appraisal value and failures of past approaches to appraisal. It explored the Canadian approach of macro-appraisal, and its operational framework; issues, values and methods in the selection of case-level records; concepts, methods, new directions in personal and private-sector records appraisal; co-operative appraisal; identifying the criteria

for selecting archival records within computer-based record-keeping systems; the appraisal of 'special' media (photographs, cartography and architectural/engineering plans, film, sound, television etc) and ethical appraisal (what are the archivist's responsibilities in appraisal?).

Prof Cook teaches in the Archival Studies graduate programme at the University of Manitoba, Canada. He has conducted workshops and seminars on appraisal, electronic records and archival ethics across Canada and internationally. He has written more than eighty publications on a wide range of archival subjects and has served as editor of *Archivaria*, the scholarly journal of the Association of Canadian Archivists.

# ChangingWorlds wins Innovation Award

ChangingWorlds, the leading provider of personalisation and intelligent content discovery solutions to the mobile industry, recently won a 'Deployed Application Award' from the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) at its annual conference.

The conference is now in its nineteenth year and its awards ceremony recognises successful practical and commercial applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies in industry. ChangingWorlds' Stephen Oman, together with founders Prof Barry Smyth of the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics and Paul Cotter prepared the winning paper entitled 'Enabling Intelligent Content Discovery on the Mobile Internet', which describes how the ClixSmart personalisation technology has been deployed by mobile operators worldwide to deliver very

significant benefits leading to increased portal usage and revenue growth.

Prof Smyth, a member of the AAAI and a worldwide recognised expert in the area of AI, presented the winning paper at the conference. He is also a member of the editorial board of AAAI's Artificial Intelligence magazine.

Much of ChangingWorlds early research has grown out of the UCD School of Computer Science and Informatics. The nerve centre of ChangingWorlds ongoing research and development is still located in NovaUCD.

William Cheetham, the IAAI Conference Chair said "Prof Barry Smyth is one of the most highly respected and recognised experts worldwide in the field of Artificial Intelligence and the success ChangingWorlds has achieved in the application of AI in commercial deployments is to be applauded."



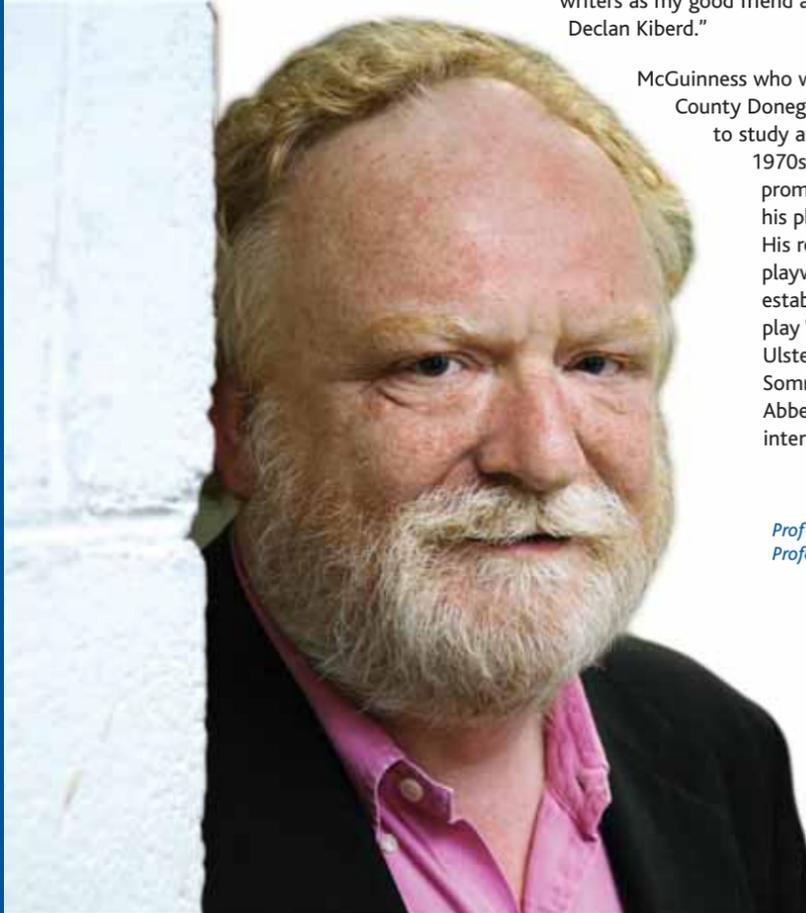
# McGuinness named Professor of Creative Writing

Donegal playwright, Frank McGuinness has been named Professor of Creative Writing. The title which recognises his achievements in drama and literature will remain with him for as long as he is writer in residence at UCD.

"I am extremely honoured with the award of Professor of Creative Writing" said McGuinness. "This is one of the very few times in my life when I find myself short for words."

"It is a great privilege to work in the UCD School of English, Drama and Film among such revered Irish writers as my good friend and colleague Professor Declan Kiberd."

McGuinness who was born in Buncrana, County Donegal, received a scholarship to study at UCD in the early 1970s. He first came to prominence in 1982 with his play 'The Factory Girls.' His reputation as a master playwright was firmly established in 1985 when his play 'Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme' was staged at the Abbey Theatre and then internationally.



Prof Frank McGuinness, Professor of Creative Writing

# Highest honour for three UCD academics

In recognition of their outstanding academic achievements, three UCD academics have been awarded membership of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA). This is the highest honour that can be attained by scholars and scientists working in Ireland.

Associate Prof Jennifer Todd, UCD School of Politics & International Relations and IRCHSS Senior Research Fellow; Prof Desmond Higgins, Prof of Bioinformatics, UCD Conway Institute, the most cited computer scientist in the world; and Prof Ciaran Regan, UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science, Prof of Neuropharmacology and Co-ordinator of the Applied Neurotherapeutics Research Group, are among 24 new members recently enrolled into the RIA.

The newest members to the RIA come from a broad range of academic disciplines including: string theory, marine science, political science, human rights law, divinity, bioinformatics, classics, neuropharmacology, Spanish, Celtic studies and the history of art. The RIA currently has 385 members from throughout Ireland.

"Throughout its history, the Academy has recognised the scholarship and public contributions of the leading thinkers in Ireland," said Prof James Slevin, President of the Royal Irish Academy. "I am confident that these new members will continue that tradition of developing Ireland's intellectual culture, which is so vital to our continued success in today's knowledge society."



From l-r: Prof Desmond Higgins, Prof James Slevin, President of the Royal Irish Academy, Associate Prof Jennifer Todd and Prof Ciaran Regan.

# Report on Juvenile Detention highlights Mental Health Issues



A new research report, launched in May, shows young people in detention schools in Ireland experience very high rates of psychiatric disorders, engage in serious criminality and have significant deficits in emotional intelligence and in cognitive ability. The report, *Emotional Intelligence, Mental Health and Juvenile Delinquency*, was prepared by Dr Jennifer Margaret Hayes and Dr Gary O'Reilly of the UCD School of Psychology.

Dr Hayes and Dr O'Reilly are the first researchers in the world to examine whether young people in detention for criminality have deficits in emotional intelligence and meet diagnostic criteria for at least one psychiatric disorder.

Dr O'Reilly said: "Young people in detention possess a reduced capacity to accurately perceive emotions in themselves and in others; a reduced ability to use emotions to prioritise thinking and a reduced ability to regulate their emotions. The research also demonstrated that young people in detention experience significant cognitive deficits; 21% of the young people assessed had full-scale IQ scores in the

intellectual disability range."

Dr. Hayes said that the difficulties highlighted in the report are not addressed through current service provision for these young people.

"The vast majority fail to receive any treatment for psychiatric problems whatsoever. The report highlights the importance of addressing these difficulties. In addition to reducing the debilitating effects that mental health problems have on a child's functioning and development, treatment will lead to a significant reduction in offending behaviour and criminality and therefore, has significant cost benefits for society, the legal system and the Irish State."

Dr Hayes and Dr O'Reilly set out a number of key recommendations including: specifying the role that detention has to play; highlighting opportunities for intervention; development of multi-disciplinary assessment and intervention teams; development of risk assessment procedures; the use of evidence-based and cost effective assessment and treatment programmes; and ongoing research.

# Student Laptop Programme at UCD



UCD was the first Irish third level institution to adopt the Student Laptop Programme, launched at UCD in August by Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin TD. The programme is a collaboration between Intel, Dell, HP, Microsoft, AIB and Vodafone to support the increased use of laptops by third level students.

Seamus Shaw, IT Chief Service Officer, UCD IT Services told UCD today: "At present, around 20% of our students own their own laptop, with this new initiative we expect that to increase to 75% over the next three years. It's a very affordable option for students with up to €800 off retail prices. With the core of the Belfield campus, including on campus accommodation, now supporting 100% wireless internet access, students can access information at any time."

He added: "The suppliers have kindly pledged to donate a number of laptops to the UCD Student Welfare Fund, which is responsible for

assisting students who find themselves in financial difficulty. This donation will be based on the level of sales."

The UCD Student Laptop Offer includes exclusive access to a UCD Microsoft student suite, the laptop is pre-configured to work on the UCD network and is loaded with the required anti-virus and anti-spyware software. IT Services is currently working on making this offer available to staff also.

The laptop initiative is just one of a comprehensive suite of services offered to students and staff by UCD IT Services. From the start of academic year 2007-2008, IT Services is offering an improved range of services including increased file and email storage giving both staff and new students 2GB of storage, comprehensive helpdesk support with extended hours, and a new IT centre in Newstead.

Existing and newly enhanced services include 1100 PCs in 42 computer labs around campus and the extensive stand up and surf facilities (SUAS) to access course materials, search library catalogues, give presentations and access email or the internet. The increase in student computer users was clear at last year's IT induction courses with a 98% take-up. These courses run at regular intervals throughout the year. First-year undergraduate and graduate students receive a free 1GB disk key when they attend the 30-minute induction courses. Please visit [www.ucd.ie/itservices](http://www.ucd.ie/itservices) to check the full range of services.

# 'Upheavals of Memory' Conference

The 'Upheavals of Memory: Defining, Imagining, Creating, Contesting' conference took place in the UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland in April, attended by postgraduate students from many countries, including Poland, Turkey, France, the Netherlands and Cyprus.

The event was highly interdisciplinary, making up part of the UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland's research into 'Identity, Meaning and Memory in the 21st Century', a project that has been evolving constantly since its inception in 2002.

The conference was addressed by two distinguished keynote speakers: Mr Pat Cooke of the School of Art History and Cultural Policy, UCD and Professor Peter J. Burgard of Harvard University. Professor Burgard presented a probing re-examination of Caravaggio's painting

'The Incredulity of St. Thomas'. Mr Cooke, a former chairman of the Irish Museums' Council, presented an inquiry into the workings of memory on the site of Kilmainham Gaol, drawing on the insights he had gained while curating an exhibition in the Gaol.

The conference showed the multiple applications of the contemporary memory discourse across the whole spectrum of humanities subjects. The topics of the papers stretched from the changing meaning of monuments in post-Communist Poland, the significance of memory within the work of John Millington Synge and Hugo Hamilton, to the use of light monuments as a visual approach to memory. The Upheavals of Memory conference stimulated passionate debate and has contributed to an ongoing critical engagement amongst postgraduate students on the subject of memory.

# Planning Modern Ireland: Irish Planning and the Role of UCD

A new book chronicling the growth and evolution of the modern mandatory planning system in Ireland and the role played by UCD planning graduates in securing planning as a key instrument of public policy at local and national level has been published by the School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy.

As Ireland continues to plan and professionally manage the future development of the island, readers of Planning Modern Ireland by Michael J Bannon and Bernadette Bradley will be able to review past successes and failures of Irish planning - from the euphoria of the Lemass era, through two difficult decades with lack of resources and political indifference, to the successful enactment of the Planning and Development Act in 2000 and the formulation of the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020.

"One of the great strengths of this extensively-researched book is the skilful way in which it blends on the one hand personal accounts of the staff and students who shaped both UCD and Irish planning over 40 years, and on the other hand how planning education and research developed against the backdrop of dramatic changes in Irish society and the economy since the 1960s," says John Martin,

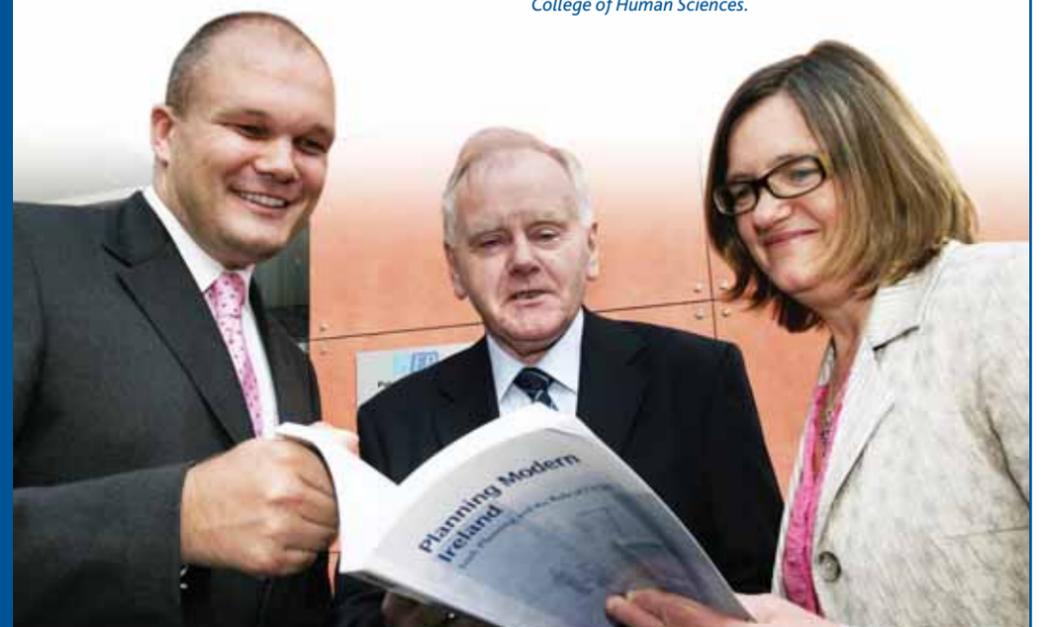
Principal Planning Advisor, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Through reflections and achievements from some of UCD's 800 planning graduates, Planning Modern Ireland offers a unique insight into the Irish planning system and the changing nature of planning education, with its growing emphasis on research as the basis for evidence-based policy.

"The academic year 2006/07 represents a proud milestone for UCD, as it celebrates forty years as the premier Irish centre of excellence in teaching and research of regional and urban planning," says Professor Peter Clinch, Professor of Regional & Urban Planning, UCD School of Geography, Planning & Environmental Policy. "As Ireland experiences a period of unprecedented change, this book will help us to learn from past successes and failures as we continue to plan modern Ireland."

Copies of the order form are available on the School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy website: [www.ucd.ie/gpep](http://www.ucd.ie/gpep)

*Pictured at the launch are from left: J. Peter Clinch, Professor of Regional and Urban Planning; Michael J. Bannon, Emeritus Professor of Regional and Urban Planning, UCD and Brigid Laffan, Principal of the College of Human Sciences.*



# Helping Beijing focus on Food Safety for the 2008 Olympic Games

No stone is being left unturned to avail of the opportunity to showcase China during next year's Olympic Games, which will be held in Beijing. The area of food safety is of key importance as confidence in the Chinese food export business has been damaged in the international marketplace.

The need to ensure food safety and prevent a bioterrorism attack on the supply chain has afforded the opportunity for UCD School of Public Health and Population Sciences and the UCD Centre of Food Safety to participate in developing a food safety risk management regimen. Prof Patrick Wall says it's wonderful to be involved where a 'wish list can become a reality'!

Every food business has to be licensed and have a food safety management system appropriate to the activities that they are carrying out or they will not be allowed to trade.

Resources at the Beijing Food Authority, in terms of staff, information technology and laboratory capability, have not been spared. There is real-time monitoring of the entire supply chain with details of the activities of all

processors, distributors, retailers and caterers online. In addition to food safety, the Beijing authorities are vigilant in case of a bioterrorism attack on the food chain during the Games and there are cameras in all the food businesses which are monitored locally, regionally and also centrally in the command centre. There is an army of inspectors who take samples and make observations along the supply chain. All monitoring is captured online. A food business has to be on this system for over 18 months and has to have demonstrated compliance in order to supply food during the Games. The authorities can query the database for records on the whereabouts of individual consignments of food, on specific businesses, type of businesses, category of food (of which there are 360), or Olympic venues etc.

The most sophisticated techniques will be used by the analytical chemists testing athletes for performance-enhancing drugs such as clenbuterol and anabolic steroids. Guilty athletes might claim the drug found in their samples came from something they ate but there is strict monitoring on farms and food is being tested for over 30 agents on the Olympic banned drugs list.



Prof Patrick Wall with Mr Wang Qishan, Mayor of Beijing and chairman of the organizing committee for the Beijing Olympic Games.

# Discovering a world of science at UCD

The UCD Science outreach initiative aims to show primary and secondary school students the relevance of science in everyday life and to encourage them to study science and explore the career options for scientists.

In addition to events for students, UCD also welcomes science teachers into research laboratories each summer as part of the SFI Secondary Teachers Assistant Researchers (STARs) programme. The goal is to help teachers renew their interest in science as researchers and bring their new knowledge back to the classroom.

The busy summer kicked off on 29 May when UCD hosted a Magic Show for 700 pupils from 23 primary schools across Dublin. The explosive, action-packed show involved 40 science experiments from investigating fuels of the future, to experimenting with the pull of gravity and exploring static electricity.

"This was our first experience of the Magic Science show," said Orlaith Veale, a primary school teacher from Scoil Náisiúnta An Dea-Aoire, Churchtown, who attended the event with her students. "It's great to see educational material presented in such an entertaining and enjoyable way."

Over at Croke Park from 5-6 June, UCD Science and the CSCB hosted an interactive pod for students attending the Discovery Primary Science awards of science excellence. Students and their teachers queued at the UCD stand to

examine a 170 million year old ammonite fossil and discover the magic of magnetism.

During June, 148 secondary school students from over 20 schools visited the UCD campus for the New ERA Uni4U and fifth year summer schools. The science activities gave them a chance to explore the challenges for astronauts living on board the International Space Station with Dr Orla Donoghue from the Science Programme Office and examine how maths is used in nature in a workshop provided by Dr Maria Meehan from the UCD School of Mathematical Sciences.

By the middle of August most of the science teachers had completed their research work and before they got ready to return to school, the UCD Conway Institute organised a series of practical workshops on how to bring their research experience back to the classroom.

"To bring the UCD research alive to my students, I am preparing two scientific posters on astronomy and gamma radiation," explains science teacher Dr Stephen Gammell. "This is my second summer working in the UCD School of Physics. It really keeps me interested in science and its applications outside of the curriculum."

Information on upcoming UCD Science events including Transition Year work experience and a Science Festival can be found at [www.ucd.ie/science/events.html](http://www.ucd.ie/science/events.html)

Science teachers Laura Barry, Seosamh O'Braonain and Aoife McCarthy with their model of DNA at the UCD Conway Institute.



# Bright Sparks

A group of PhD students and a technical officer from UCD's School of Biology and Environmental Science have recently been announced as the winners of the Marine Institute's 'Bright Sparks Award'. Jennifer Coughlan, Edward Farrell, Javier Atalah, Julien Chopelet, Jayne Fitch and Ilaria Coscia are part of the Marine Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution research group (MarBEE, [www.ucd.ie/zoology/marbee](http://www.ucd.ie/zoology/marbee)). They have been given a unique opportunity to plan, prepare and implement a research survey of their own design aboard the Marine Institute Research Vessel *Celtic Voyager* ([www.marine.ie](http://www.marine.ie)).

The team sailed from Dublin on 29 August and finished their voyage in Rosslare on 2 September. During this time they surveyed the wide range of animals that live on or near the

seabed around the underwater sandbanks situated off the east coast of Ireland. These banks lie approximately 5-11 km offshore and are recognised as unique habitats under the European Union Habitats Directive. They are rich in invertebrate life, providing feeding grounds for all sorts of fish and supporting a number of important fisheries. They also help to shelter the inshore waters forming a natural nursery area for many ray and shark species.

There is also commercial interest in the sandbanks as they are seen to be ideal locations for offshore wind-farms. Seven wind turbines are currently in operation on the Arklow Bank. There are plans to increase this number to 200 in the near future. The research team will investigate the potential effects of these wind-farms on the ecosystems associated with the sand banks.



# UCD Smurfit School student's paper wins major award



Yansong Hu, a PhD student at UCD Smurfit School, and his supervisor Dr Damien McLoughlin have recently won the highly prestigious M. Wayne DeLozier best conference paper at the Academy of Marketing Science Conference in Florida. The paper 'Global Diffusion of a Radical Innovation in Life Science Research: A Longitudinal Study on Adopter Networks' is based on the doctoral research of Yansong. Adding to this achievement is that the award was for the best overall conference paper and did not relate to papers drawn just from doctoral research. The excellence of Yansong's research received further acknowledgement when he received an honourable mention in the annual dissertation competition at the recent American Marketing Association conference in Washington D.C.

Innovation diffusion is of great interest to marketers, as innovation fuels the growth of new brands, creates new markets and transforms small outsiders into market leaders. Although prior work on innovation diffusion is valuable, there are two main limitations. First, the bulk of research has focused extensively on identifying macro patterns of growth across countries and over time, micro-view of diffusion is rare. Second, most previous research has focused only on successful products. Based on empirical evidence from the life science sector, this study gives a micro-view of research toolkit diffusions, compares successful and unsuccessful products, and examines how toolkits diffuse over time across different research sub-areas. The study shows that (1) both economy of scale and scope are two inseparable components in new product diffusion, (2) social networks of adopters of successful diffusions present features of small worlds and (3) knowledge brokers are among critical actors of the social system driving innovation diffusion in nascent industrial fields. These findings are supported by large-scale secondary longitudinal data from multiple sources, including data extracted from over twenty thousand scientific papers and patents.

Yansong is one of a group of three doctoral students working with Dr McLoughlin on the issue of market making in the life science and biotech sectors. Collectively, they are members of a wider group of researchers drawn from other leading business schools including Lancaster University, Copenhagen Business School, Stockholm School of Economics and Rotterdam School of Management.

# Links with China

UCD College of Business and Law took a major step towards improved links with China when a group from the School spent a week visiting China. Led by the Deputy Principal of the College, Professor Frank Roche, they were accompanied by Vice President for University Relations, Dr Padraic Conway.

The purpose of the trip was to establish strong links with Chinese universities both as a source of students wishing to study in Ireland and as a destination for UCD students visiting China as part their study programme.

Starting in Beijing, the group first visited Renmin University which already has close links with the Confucius Institute. They also visited the Beijing Technology and Business University.

However, the key target was the city of Wuhan, capital of China's Hubei province, which was founded 3500 years ago. Situated at the junction of the Hanjiang and Yangtze rivers, it is a city of nearly eight million people - one of the six biggest in China - and has been designated as a main educational centre by the Chinese government.

Left to right: Professor Frank Roche, Liu Goggin, Professor Andy Deegan, Professor Aidan Kelly, Professor Joe McMahon, Dr Padraic Conway, Wang Li Ming.



There are over 600,000 students in Wuhan with new universities being built all the time. The group visited Wuhan University, the principal university of the region, along with several others. Discussions were also held with Wuhan University's School of Business and Law.

It is proposed that undergraduate students complete a one-year foundation course in Wuhan before coming to Ireland to do a BComm at the Quinn School. Already 17 offers have been made to start the programme in 2008.

Postgraduate students will have direct entry to the MSc programme at the Smurfit School with the first students expected next year. Later it is expected students will be able to compete a two-year programme which would see them receive degrees from both universities.

Commenting, Professor Frank Roche said "The major aim of the trip was to develop a strategy for the College of Business and Law vis a vis China. This should revolve around good relationships with a small number of key universities and we have made an excellent start with Wuhan university. However, to successfully implement the strategy we will need our own people representing us in China."

Also in the delegation were Professor Aidan Kelly and Professor Andy Deegan of the Business School; Professor Joe McMahon of the Law School; as well as Wang Li Ming of the Confucius Institute and Liu Goggin, graduate programme co-ordinator, China. Liu is a native of Wuhan.

# Henry Mintzberg visits UCD Smurfit School

One of the world's best-known management scholars, Professor Henry Mintzberg, Cleghorn Professor of Management Studies at McGill University Montreal recently visited UCD Smurfit School. Professor Mintzberg addressed an invited audience of Irish health care professionals on the theme "Managing the Myths of Health Care". The talk was organised as part of UCD Smurfit School's promotion of its newly launched Health Care MBA programme.

According to Professor Mintzberg, it is a long-standing myth that the problems of health care institutions can be somehow fixed by bringing in the 'great leader' who makes bold statements and takes dramatic actions. The health sector is lacking in a dynamic approach because it is so top heavy. Effective leaders drive change within the health care sector by stepping down from 'on top' of organisations and implementing strategies with others often considered separate from their formulation. Such engaging management is needed to drive change in the health care sector.

He suggested that increasing demand for competition within the health sector would not exist if the existing system learned the art of co-operation. Going on to describe the Irish mixture of private and public health care as 'corrupt', Professor Mintzberg said doctors should have to choose between working in the public or private systems but not both.

"It is plain corrupt to have people doing both jobs; one on a salary from the state and another on private fees," he was quoted as saying.

Henry Mintzberg has devoted his life largely to research and writing in the area of strategy formation and new approaches to management education. The management guru is widely published and is the author or co-author of

fourteen books. He is recognised in the Web of Science list of 'the world's most cited and influential researchers' with approximately 3,000 citations.

The invited audience included the Secretary General of the Department of Health and Children as well as leaders in the industry and political leaders.

Professor Mintzberg with, left Dr Gerardine Doyle, Director of the Health Care MBA programme and Professor Tom Begley, Dean of the UCD Schools of Business



# UCD researchers search Sahara for dinosaurs

A team of UCD and Moroccan palaeontologists, led by Dr Gareth Dyke from the School of Biology and Environmental Science, spent much of April searching for dinosaurs in the Sahara. This is one of the first time international fossil-finding and geological expeditions to the Cretaceous (ca. 90 million-year-old) rocks in this part of Morocco, the so-called Kem Kem beds. Many of the fossils the team collected are now back in Dublin, and some of them will form the subject of a graduate research project. The team recovered some of the first fossil evidence for birds and small meat-eating theropod dinosaurs from the Moroccan Cretaceous and plan to return in November for further exploration.



# Pioneering Figure in Engineering and Disability Research

UCD learned with deep regret of the death of Professor Emeritus Vincent Dodd on 15 August 2007. Professor Dodd served three terms as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture (1992-2001). Both in this role and as a member of university councils, committees and task forces, he was dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research and administration.

Awarded the title Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite Agricole by the government of France in 1989 for his contribution to agricultural engineering

research, Professor Dodd published his findings in international journals over three decades. Following his formal retirement from UCD in 2002, he remained an active contributor to the university's Environmental Engineering Group.

At national level Professor Dodd was appointed Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee of the National Disability Authority in April 2002.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his wife, Ruth, and to their children Vincent, Andrew, David and Philip.

# National Economic and Social Council Appointment

Prof Peter Clinch, UCD School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy, is one of three independent experts recently appointed by the Taoiseach to the National Economic and Social Council. The function of the Council is to analyse and report to the Taoiseach on strategic issues relating to the efficient development of the economy and the achievement of social justice, and the development of a strategic framework for the conduct of relations and negotiation of agreements between the government and the social partners. The Council may consider such matters either on its own initiative or at the request of the Government. The Council includes the leaders of the social partners and six Secretaries General.

# Master of Industrial Engineering reunion

A reunion of MIE graduates took place in June. At the function David Hearn BE, Managing Partner, Deloitte Consultants, presented the Deloitte medal and bursary to Michael Peters BE, MIE for first place in the graduating class 2007. Keynote talks were given by Paul McCambridge, Managing Director, Xilinx Ltd, and Prof Gerry Byrne, Dean of Engineering.

The MIE (Master of Industrial Engineering) programme is in its 40th year having been set up in the Department of Mechanical Engineering in 1967. It is a two-year, part-time course and participants come from a wide variety of backgrounds within Irish industry. Over the years many graduates have moved into leading positions within Irish companies.



Michael Peters receives the Deloitte medal from David Hearn, Managing Partner, Deloitte Consulting

# Nobel prize-winning physicist visits UCD

The co-recipient of the 2006 Nobel Prize in Physics, Dr John Mather (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center), visited UCD in June to deliver the statutory lecture of the School of Cosmic Physics, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, entitled 'Finding our Origins with the James Webb Space Telescope'.

At a wine reception before the lecture, Dr Mather met with staff and students of the UCD School of Physics and DIAS.

The lecture was delivered to a packed theatre of 200 people in the Global Irish Institute. Dr Mather outlined the very ambitious plans for

the successor to the Hubble Space Telescope, due to be launched in 2013. He also emphasised the important role of the European Space Agency in the mission.

At a lively Q&A session after the lecture, Dr Mather was asked if he believed that NASA could build a better satellite if they had more money. Dr Mather's response was that the James Webb Space Telescope is at the limit of what mankind can currently achieve and could not be improved upon at this time. This bodes well for the future of our enquiries into the origin of the universe and the formation of galaxies, stars and planets.

Members of the UCD Space Science group with Dr John Mather (second from left). From l-r: Sinead McGlynn, Suzanne Foley, Gary Melady, Dr Michaela Skulinova and Dr Lorraine Hanlon.



# UCD pays tribute to its sports men and women

The commitment and dedication of more than 450 UCD sports men and women from 26 different sports clubs was acknowledged by UCD at the UCD Budweiser Sports Achievement Awards.

"With many of our students from various sports clubs triumphant at Intervarsity level, and many others taking on the cream of competition nationally and internationally, it is clear that we have many top quality sportsmen and women representing the university in sport," says Dr Martin Butler, Vice-President for Students. "The multitude of achievements by UCD clubs is not only a testament to their marvelous commitment but also that of their coaches, managers, mentors and club officials.

A specially commissioned medal was presented to each of the students to mark their achievements in sport. Among those honoured were:

- The Senior Gaelic Football team which won the Dublin County Championship
- The Senior Men's Hockey team which secured promotion to the Leinster League Division 1

- The Senior Basketball team which won the University Championships
- The Ladies Senior Eight crew which won the National Championships, University Championships and the Elite Women's Eight event at Henley
- The Soccer teams which won the Harding Cup, the Collingwood Cup and the inaugural College and Universities League title
- The Ladies Volleyball team which won the University Championships, the English Student Cup and the Volleyball Association Cup
- The Senior Camogie team which won the Ashbourne Cup

A number of special awards were also presented including:

'Dr Tony O'Neill Sportsman of the Year', which was awarded to the Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie All-Star recipient, Rena Buckley.

'Gerry Horkan Club Administrator of the Year', which was awarded to the UCD Equestrian Club captain, Martin Ryan.

Rena Buckley, Dr Tony O'Neill Sportsman of the Year Award recipient



# UCD student captains Wexford to All-Ireland camogie title

Congratulations to UCD's Mary Leacy who captained Wexford to their first Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship title since 1975, thanks to a two-point victory over reigning champions Cork at Croke Park on 9 September. Mary, who is a Master's in Urban Planning student, was joined on the Wexford squad by five of her UCD club mates Aine Codd, Michelle O'Leary, Margaret Darcy, Louise Codd and her sister Una Leacy.

Wexford had a fantastic start to the final thanks to a goal after three and a half minutes from the unmarked Una Leacy who struck to the net from 14 metres. Cork were made pay

dearly for their seven wides in the opening half as Wexford made more clinical use of possession with Leacy palming home her second goal, midway through the opening half.

At the final whistle it was Wexford who reigned supreme and Mary Leacy climbed the steps of the Hogan stand to accept the O'Duffy Cup from Liz Howard. Notably it is the second time in seven months that Mary has captained a team to All-Ireland success. In February of this year she captained the victorious UCD senior camogie team in the Ashbourne Cup (the All Ireland Higher Education Championship) and the Higher Education League final.

# Cuddihy smashes Irish record at World Athletics Championships

With a finishing time of 50.73 seconds in the 400m semi-final at the World Athletics Championships in Japan on 27 August, Joanne Cuddihy smashed the 51.07 national Irish record, held by Karen Shinkins for the past eight years.

Although this was the first time that UCD medical student has broken the 51 second barrier, it did not see her through to the 400m final. Cuddihy was placed eleventh overall.

"UCD is delighted to be part of Joanne's athletic progress. She came to UCD as an athlete with huge potential and we are thrilled that her hard work with her coach Paddy Faye and Lisa Regan, Director of the UCD Enfer High Performance Centre, has paid such rich dividends," said Brian Mullins, Director of UCD Sport. "We look forward to next year's Olympics with high hopes."



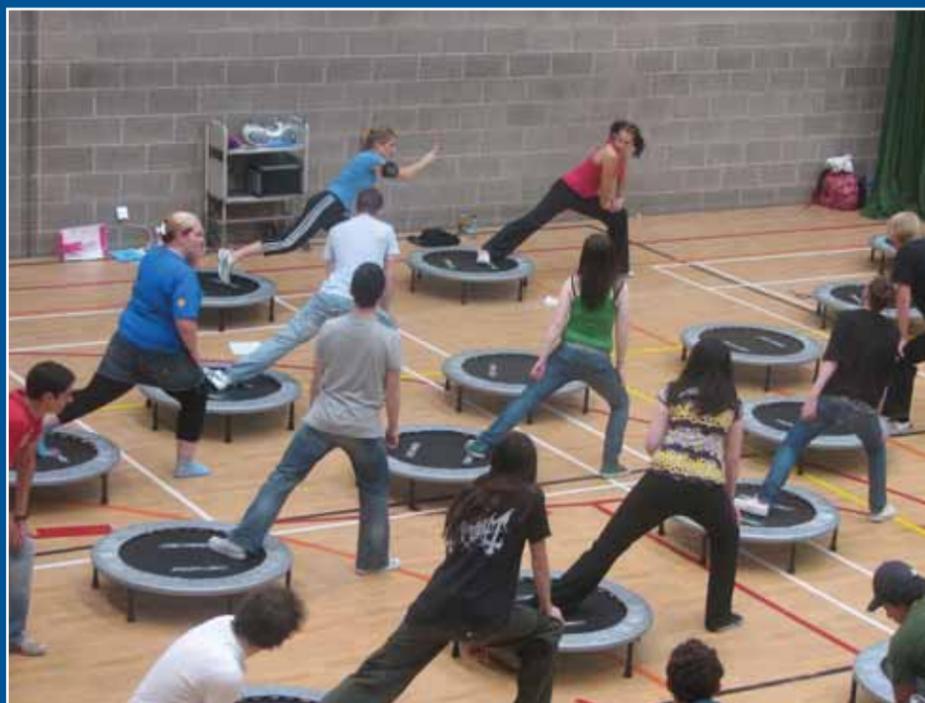
# First Years Get Active during Orientation

As part of this year's Orientation, the Sports Centre organised a programme of fun activities for all incoming students during the week of 3 to 7 September.

Over 3,000 students joined in the activities, which included archery, rowing, trampolining, skipping, rock climbing and rebounding.

Following their participation in the activities, students were encouraged to complete the UCD Health Screening form and received free fitness class vouchers which they can use over the coming months.

Commenting on the event Carmel Kissane, UCD Sports Education Officer, said "We were delighted with the level of participation throughout the week. It gave us in Sport an opportunity to encourage to students to engage in exercise and sporting activities that will hopefully enable them maintain a healthy balanced lifestyle throughout their time at UCD. Due to the success of the event we look forward to expanding the activities for next year's Orientation."



# UCD honours veteran Irish actor, Nobel prize-winning economist and classical pianist

For his life's work on the stage and screen, one of Ireland's most successful actors, Milo O'Shea was conferred with an honorary Doctor of Literature by UCD in June. O'Shea, who is 81 years old, was raised in Dublin and educated by the Christian Brothers. He began his stage career at a very early age and was soon performing with the Abbey Players. In the 1960s he became known to audiences for his starring role in the BBC sitcom, *Me Mammy*. He has since gone on to act in dozens of big screen movies.

"There are a multitude of reasons for conferring the degree of Doctor of Literature on Milo O'Shea for his outstanding achievements as an actor across stage, film and television," said Prof Tony Roche from the UCD School of English, Drama and Film. "Not least is the fact that he played Leopold Bloom in Joseph Strick's 1967 film of Joyce's novel *Ulysses*."

At the ceremony, UCD also honoured Prof Amartya Sen in recognition of his work on famine, human development theory, welfare economics, the underlying mechanisms of poverty, and political liberalism. Prof Sen was conferred with an Honorary Doctor of Laws.

In 1981, Prof Sen published 'Poverty and Famines: An essay on entitlement and deprivation'. In this book he showed that famine was not the result of a lack of food but rather the result of inequalities of the mechanisms of food distribution, explained Prof Morgan Kelly, UCD School of Economics.

One of the greatest musicians of our time, the pianist Alfred Brendel was also honoured by UCD at the ceremony. In recognition of his outstanding contribution to musical performance, Brendel was conferred with an honorary Doctor of Music.

In a career spanning more than fifty years, Brendel has performed all over the world as a soloist, in chamber music, in concerti with the world's great orchestras, and with the greatest conductors of our time.

"Although alive with characterisation, his performances have a completeness and coherence that stems from a formidable grasp of the music's constructive principles and a penetration of the ideas that motivate them," said Dr Julian Horton, UCD School of Music.



## Technology and art collaborate at Kilkenny Arts festival

Visitors to the 2007 Kilkenny Arts festival saw technology and art come together in *Lost and Found*, a collaborative show combining location-sensing technology, specialist textiles and interactive dance performance.

In the show, dancer Megan Kennedy interacted with a dynamic dance floor that sensed her location and mapped her movements through projected visuals and sound. The audience was then invited to guide Megan on her journey through interactive colour and pattern. Children also had a chance to test the interactivity for themselves, making the show unique.

The project combined the skills of Prof Patrick Nixon, Dr Lorcan Coyle, PhD students Hui Zhang and Emerson Loureiro from the Adaptive Information Cluster (AIC) at UCD, textile artist Tara Carrigy, dancer Megan Kennedy and director Jo Timmons.

A joint UCD-DCU research centre, the AIC's work focuses on adaptive technologies that automatically evolve to meet the diverse needs of users, devices and content in changing contexts. Prof Nixon of the UCD School of Computer Science & Informatics leads the Systems Research Group at UCD, a key part of Adaptive Information Cluster.

Part of the AIC's remit is to stimulate interest in adaptive information technologies, and the physical, imaginative and playful experience of dance and theatre made this medium a strong partner for interaction technology. The sensing technology provided an intuitive interaction form that makes the computer disappear - allowing the dancer and the children to take control of the technology without any knowledge of how it works. This interactive dance experience uses the same fundamental technology developed within the AIC to monitor the environment or to provide home health care support.

This show is a follow up to the sell-out success of *Jacare Jungle* which was performed at the Kilkenny Arts Festival and Belfast Children's Festival in 2006. *Jacare Jungle* was produced by Tara Carrigy as part of the Adaptive Craft Award, the collaborative initiative of AIC and the Crafts Council of Ireland which was set-up to encourage dialogue between craft and science.



Photographer: Fionn McCann, Dancer: Megan Kennedy, Designer: Tara Carrigy



**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.

The magazine is distributed to all UCD staff and to an external community of stakeholders, associates and media.