



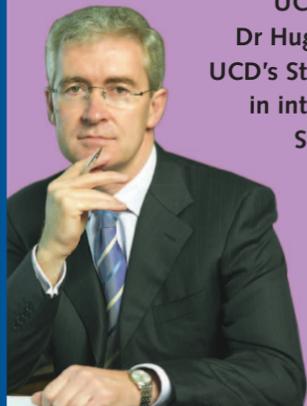
# UCD today

University College Dublin

Celebrating the past, creating the future

FEBRUARY 2005

[www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday](http://www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday)



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## UCD Horizons Modularisation arrives at UCD

First year students arriving on campus next September will enrol in fully modular, credit accumulation programmes. Branded UCD Horizons, this new approach offers students greater flexibility and choice in how and what they study.

Modularisation, when fully and completely implemented, offers important educational opportunities to the University and its students. The modular building blocks can be combined in new and interesting ways to assemble innovative and exciting programmes, whether driven by strategic focus, student demand or societal needs.

The learner-centred approach intrinsic to a modular system facilitates students' different aptitudes, interests, backgrounds and objectives. It accommodates varying levels of progression and recognises different levels of attainment. This in turn will open new pathways and opportunities for non-traditional students, promoting wider access to and participation in higher education.

The use of the internationally-recognised European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) will promote international mobility of students. Periods spent studying abroad can now be fully recognised as part of a UCD programme, and students visiting UCD will return with a clear credit value attached to their work.

The UCD Horizons system will also increase student choice in an unprecedented manner.

Students can choose to take 10 ECTS credits per year from any subject area across the University (subject to timetabling pre-requisites and the availability of places). Students can pick modules within their subject area, deepening their knowledge, or from outside their programme, broadening their learning experience.

The University ran a full communication programme for 6th year second-level students during January to provide them with as much information as possible before the CAO deadline. This campaign has publicised this very significant innovation and has raised the public profile of UCD as a dynamic higher education institution.

See <http://www.ucd.ie/modularisation.htm> for more information for staff, and <http://www.ucd.ie/horizons> for publicity for prospective students.

## Broaden your knowledge of Horizons



UCD | HORIZONS  
a greater degree of choice

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## UCD Today...

**The past year has been one of remarkable activity for UCD. Quite apart from the process of developing a new strategic plan, the university has stepped up its research efforts and achieved a 50% increase in research funding, embraced a radical modularisation model that will transform the teaching and learning experience for new students and launched the celebration of our 150th anniversary**

With so much happening on campus, there was an obvious need to produce a publication, which would provide information on issues that affect staff, students and other UCD stakeholders. *UCD Today* aims to cover these issues as well as providing a forum to highlight the work of academics throughout the university. This edition includes articles on planning, international politics and the genetics of thoroughbred horses. They are just a sample of the incredible range of research activity being carried out at UCD.

UCD has established a Communications, Development and Alumni Relations (CDAR) board to support the objectives set out in the strategic plan. *UCD Today* is just one element of the communications programme. Through members of the CDAR board you have a conduit to promote the research and achievements of your own area and to provide feedback on this publication. The list of members of the CDAR board is on the website: <http://ucd.ie/communications>.

The celebration of UCD's 150th anniversary gave us the opportunity to mark the impact of the university in a national and international context. The *UCD Today* calendar is full of events that publicise the achievements of staff, students and graduates, and provide us with the opportunity to present a positive and vibrant image of UCD to the world outside the campus. We have included a taste of the UCD 150 celebrations in this publication, and more comprehensive details are available on the website: <http://www.ucd.ie/150>.

One issue that repeatedly cropped up during the strategic plan discussions was the identity of the university. As a newcomer to the staff (although twice a graduate), I have been interested in the importance staff and students place on having a visual identity. Market research shows that although stakeholders have positive attitudes towards UCD, they do not tend to have a tangible sense of the university. Part of the reason for this is that we have not articulated adequately how we see ourselves. In the absence of an organisational identity, people describe the university in vague or even nebulous terms.

Developing a "brand" for the UCD 150 was a first step towards a visual articulation. The image we developed is vibrant and confident. To make it easy to use, design guidelines and logo downloads are accessible on the website: <http://www.ucd.ie/150/styleguide.htm>.

The next branding exercise was the development of the UCD Horizons campaign in December. The UCD Horizons branding was the result of several rapid stages of market research with potential and existing students as well as with staff and secondary school teachers. The outcome was a clean, clear campaign, which concentrated on radio with backup from outdoor and press advertisements. The campaign encouraged students to go to a dedicated section on the web <http://www.ucd.ie/horizons/> or to pick up the booklet on frequently asked questions.

Undoubtedly UCD Horizons has achieved high public awareness and by the time the new first years arrive on campus in September, modularisation will certainly be no surprise.

I look forward to receiving your comments and feedback on *UCD Today* through the CADR board, and to receiving your news for inclusion in future editions of this magazine.

Ellis O'Brien  
Director of Communications

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*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 the UCD Communications Office.*

# 2005 celebration

# Present Tense, Future Perfect?



SK The Strategic Plan sets out very clearly that UCD wishes to be a research intensive university in the top 30 of Europe and the top in Ireland. Is that realistically attainable for the University?

HB It is attainable, it is feasible and it is imperative. It will, however, be at least a 10 year job to get there, given the intensity of the competition, given our current funding levels and given the reform that we need to go through to allow us to realise our full potential.

SK Why is it an imperative?

HB UCD has throughout its history played a key role in the development of all aspects of Irish society whether cultural, social or economic and it must continue to do so. It must remain the engine room for both social change and economic development. So if Ireland is to continue to develop, UCD must continue to develop and must drive that change.

SK So then what are the key challenges you are trying to address with this Strategic Plan?

HB I think the big challenge is the intensity of the competition, particularly international competition. Competition for the best Irish students, competition for international students, competition for staff and indeed competition for funding.

SK You have two documents. You have one on the Strategic Plan overall and the second proposing structural changes. They both seem quite radical but is UCD late in coming to reform and reorganisation?

HB In my view structure follows strategy. The key document is the strategic plan itself, which outlines the high level objectives for the institution over the next three years. In terms of how we get there, reform of structure is an important element but not the only element. But I suppose because reform of structure tends to affect everybody's day-to-day working lives it is the issue that raised the most anxiety or the most concern.

And yes, UCD is coming to this late in the day. Most UK universities and many of the leading international universities began this type of process 15 to 20 years ago. There is an urgency because we are starting late but also there is an opportunity because we can look at the mistakes that others have made. Fundamentally, this is an academically driven rather than an administration-driven restructuring.

SK Yet staff and students have demonstrated against your plans and the unions says that no serious consultation has taken place.

HB In fact an unprecedented level of consultation has and is still taking place. All of the high level objectives that are laid out in this plan were agreed at discussions with the faculties, the Academic Council and the Governing Authority of this University as early as January/February 2004.

In the interim we have involved the academic and administrative staff and the students through a very intense dialogue process, which involved cross-

faculty dialogue groups, discussions within faculties and an external review group - the Washington Advisory Group. In addition the vice-presidents and I have spent hundreds of hours in direct discussions with staff.

SK But you do accept that there is a considerable degree of concern and even anger in some quarters. Is it possible that you may be rushing through the restructuring process?

HB I don't think so. In terms of the timeframe, the need for restructuring was highlighted as early as January and February 2004. I fully appreciate the concerns that major change including structural change brings to an organisation and brings to the individuals working within that organisation but ultimately this is about UCD being the best. It's about UCD providing the best teaching and learning environment for the students. It's about providing the most innovative and creative research environment and it's about maximising UCD's impact on Irish society.

Implementation will by definition require another level of consultation and that began straight after Christmas. The difference this time is that the plan will result in major changes, and that understandably causes anxiety but ultimately after this consultation process, we then require action.

We're talking about maximising the impact of over €200 million of taxpayers' money that is given to this University per year and of maximising that impact not just in UCD's performance but in Ireland's development.

*continued on page 4*

**Shane Kenny  
meets with  
UCD President  
Dr Hugh Brady  
to discuss UCD's  
Strategic Plan  
and his vision  
for the  
University.**

**VISION**

# Present Tense, Future Perfect? *continued*

SK You have said you're going to move from 89 departments and eleven faculties at the moment to a considerably reduced number. This plan will mean that a large number of office holders within the existing structure are going to lose both status and authority and people could lose their jobs.

HB That will not happen in a university situation. We have too many departments, centres, institutes and faculties by comparison with other universities worldwide. Consequently, we have a sub-optimal level of collaboration between individuals working different disciplines, and this has a negative impact on research collaboration. We have many more academic staff performing administrative duties than is necessary, so one of the benefits of the restructuring will be to free up our talented academic staff to do what they do best – research, teaching, discovery and creativity.

SK So you feel that in the current context many academics have spent too much of their time as administrators?

HB And in fact they are double or triple jobbing. Many of our heads of department are performing that important function and at the same time are carrying heavy teaching loads and their research careers. The goal of the restructuring is to create bigger spaces within which very smart people can interact and spark off each other in a positive way to produce more exciting, more innovative teaching, learning and research programmes. One of the positive by-products of the restructuring will be increased administrative efficiency, freeing up academics for academic work.

## This is an academically driven rather than an administration-driven restructuring

SK Industry and commercial reorganisation plans usually result in savings yet there don't seem to be any savings attached to this plan.

HB Overall there will not be cost savings. But if UCD becomes more efficient administratively, we will be able to allocate more resources to academic endeavours. The OECD recommended a quantum leap increase in our funding, but there is also an onus on us to allocate our current resources in the most creative way to maximise our academic performance and at the same time continue to lobby others to invest in us to a greater degree.

SK You are still in a period of debating these plans, which will be finalised by the end of March. Let me quote you something from Professor Paul Engel's Governing Authority election material. He said, "academic staff are the true capital of the University" and he questioned the impact of these changes. He said that, "the intellectual health of UCD won't survive if people allow themselves to be herded like cattle into hastily erected stalls".

HB Well first he is absolutely correct in terms of his human capital point. Our staff and our students are our greatest resource. In terms of corralling, our problem at the moment is that we have too many corrals, it is the exact opposite of Professor Engel's opinion. We effectively have a corral for every discipline. We have what has been referred to as silos or bunkers containing small groups of highly talented individuals who are generally not talking to their next-door neighbour. We're not maximising our impact in terms of new and exciting teaching programmes or in research - particularly when it comes to larger multidisciplinary research opportunities. Restructuring will provide bigger well-resourced spaces within which academic staff can spark off each other in a very creative and innovative way.

SK You have also mentioned the importance of hiring the best of talent from outside, internationally. If you hire academics from outside, that is a reflection on the talent you have already, and if you offer higher salaries, you are creating superstars within the academic system.

HB All the external reviews commented on the quality of our existing academic staff. We already have home-grown superstars in many different areas, but we are far from where we need to be compared to staff/student ratios at major UK universities. We need to resource our existing staff and facilitate their academic development but we also need to supplement that excellent body of individuals by high quality academic staff brought in from abroad.

SK Globalisation has greatly affected international university education?

HB Without doubt. We are playing on the international pitch now. Maybe 10 or 15 years ago UCD could exist in a comfort zone because of the relative homogeneity of Irish society. Now the rules of engagement have changed completely. There is not a day goes by when our top academic staff aren't approached by leading international competitors who offer them attractive start up packages and career development opportunities. Similarly an increasing number of Irish students are now giving UK and European universities a very serious look.

SK The strategic plan says that you need to design flexible remuneration packages to attract excellent staff internationally.

HB At the moment we have considerable flexibility in the Irish higher education sector but we probably don't use this flexibility to optimal advantage. Some staff are attracted by academic tenure whereas others are willing to take a slightly higher salary on a contract basis.

A typical start-up package for scientific researchers on the international market would be over €500,000, not in terms of personal salary but in terms of the laboratory resources, the equipment, the additional staff that that individual will require before they commit to an institution.

Salary packages will depend significantly on the market. If we are competing for, say, a leading Irish economist who has a choice between UCD and the University of Chicago, we have to offer that individual the most attractive package if we are realistically going to compete.

SK Some of the proposals that have drawn fire are those that focus on stronger links with the business world, developing an entrepreneurial culture and commercial partnerships. The point is made that the universities are there to produce responsible citizens with independent minds, not just to serve business.

## The principle of academic freedom should not be compromised

HB Fundamentally universities are about the generation and the dissemination of knowledge. I think that there is an obligation on us not just to generate knowledge but, where appropriate, to use that knowledge to advance and enhance the quality of our society on the one hand and our economic development on the other.

I fully appreciate that there is sensitivity here in that we shouldn't be selling out to industry. Any relationship between UCD and industry must be ultimately in the best interest of the institution. The principle of academic freedom should not be compromised in any way, but there is an appropriate level of collaboration between a university and industry, which we should be proactive about seeking out.

SK But isn't it a cause for concern that the funding crisis is forcing universities to go cap in hand to the Government? And you are forced to seek out commercial partnerships or to obtain funding from the rich and powerful? This is leading to a dependency that could be unhealthy.

HB I don't think there is a dependency. I think there is definitely a tension there that we must be aware of and with any collaboration between the University and industry we should always ask the question, Is this collaboration appropriate for UCD?





SK Would you accept that the abolition of fees now is undermining the independence of universities?

HB We have a serious funding deficit at the moment. Over the last three years we have suffered cuts of 4% then 10% and now this year 2% in our functional operating budget. At the same time several reviews of the Irish higher education system most notably the OECD team which reported last year, recommended that we receive a 50% increase in funding staggered over three to five years. At the moment all of the Irish universities receive approximately 90% of their funding from the State and yet the State is cutting our funding. There is a serious disconnect between the level of investment in higher education from the State and the stated Government policy which is that the higher education sector should be the driver of our social, economic and cultural development. Yet, it has been made very clear that the fees are off the table as a way of generating increased funding.

## There is a serious disconnect between the level of investment in higher education from the State and the stated Government policy

SK Last year the Provost of Trinity, Professor John Hegarty, told me that he believed that those who can afford fees should pay for university education and that some future government will have to address this issue. Do you think he has got it right?

HB I think that most observers would agree that it is likely that fees will come back at some time in the future. If fees are off the agenda in the short-term we have to get an increase in investment from some other source.

SK You didn't get the kind of funding that you were seeking in the budget only last month so where does that extra money come from?

HB You are right. The extra money did not come through the recently published budget. However, the Minister for Education and Science made some encouraging noises in terms of special funding to resource universities undertaking change management programmes.

SK Another issue, which has drawn some public comment from your plan, is the 24-hour operation of the University. You're talking about 24 hours a day 7 days a week all year round with academic and cultural programmes during the Summer. Does this signal the end of those long Summer holidays with which people associate with universities?

HB Our students receive relatively long Summer holidays and I don't think that will or should change. But the Summer holidays are probably the only time of the year when many of our staff have protected time for research. For the staff, UCD is probably an even busier place during the Summer holidays than at other times of the year.

We have a phenomenal resource here at Belfield campus in terms of the physical infrastructure and the outdoor and sporting facilities. We think there is an opportunity to provide a year-round resource for the people of Dublin and the people of Ireland. There is also an opportunity for us to engage with the international academic community in terms of summer schools and to raise income through summer camps, conferences and the like.

SK There is very strong emphasis placed on research in the Strategic Plan and the need to become a leading international research university. There seems to be an implication that at present and in the recent long-term past, UCD has been losing out in terms of research internationally.

HB I think the context is important. Until the mid 1990s all of the Irish universities were losing very talented staff to UK, US and European universities because of lack of research funding. Through the establishment of Science Foundation Ireland and the HEA's PRTL, we now have internationally competitive research funding for the first time in the history of the State.

SK Some of the criticisms about the plan suggest this focus on research might mean that it will be at the expense of teaching.

HB If you read through the plan in detail you will see that we constantly stress the vital importance of the link between research and teaching. The smart students want to feel that they are learning at the cutting edge of their field and the best teachers will be the research-active teachers who are at the cutting edge of discovery in their fields. I would look upon research and teaching as being mutually informing. Research will constantly upgrade teaching materials and indeed smart students are constantly asking smart questions that essentially provide the raw material research programmes.

SK But you must accept that there will be some people who are very good researchers but not very good teachers and vice versa?

## we constantly stress the vital importance of the link between research and teaching

HB I think that at either end of the spectrum you certainly will have individual researchers who may not be the most accomplished lecturers and similarly teachers who may for various reasons in their career not be research-active. The hallmark of all successful internationally competitive universities is that 80 to 90% in the middle are research-active. There must be a culture of discovery and of innovation throughout UCD. People asking hard questions is what's key. One distinguished dean of this institution told me that students want to be taught by those who write the books. The researchers and the students will very quickly pick up the quality difference between a research-intense university and a university where they are just being taught from books written by others.

SK So where do you think UCD stands on research internationally now?

HB The external review groups have confirmed that we have many internationally competitive researchers here and we that we have many groups of researchers that are already within the top 30 in the European environment.

There are areas that are problematic as they are relatively research inactive. We can also do better when competing for larger programmes.

SK There is a fear that the focus will be on the scientific and indeed on the medical areas, the environment and others, which are potentially commercially successful as well, and the humanities and the arts will lose out as a result?

HB UCD's strength is and has always been its diversity and that diversity should be fostered. So this plan is certainly not about downgrading the arts and human sciences. They have always been a core component of UCD and must remain so.

It is true that in terms of the financial reward the grants are much larger in the sciences. But we must not go down the road that some other universities have gone down of focusing predominantly on those disciplines.

SK Your time schedule is ambitious. You want these changes through by the end of March and in operation for the academic season next Autumn. Is that a realistic schedule?

HB I think it is undoubtedly realistic. Again we have gone through a very extensive, very exhaustive diagnostic process and now it's time for action. The diagnostic process has not just been in the last year but I would put it to you that virtually everything that has been identified as a priority for change has been identified over the past 7 years by multiple reviews of UCD whether internal or external. I think that it is imperative that we stick to the timetable that has been agreed. Even when these deadlines are reached, there will be ongoing cultural change within the institution. If the University is really to be the place of ideas at the cutting edge of discovery, it should be at the forefront of change continually and question the way we do our business.

SK I see that in the plan among other things the Academic Council's role is going to be changed to that of a Senate, refining proposals and policies rather than making decisions.

HB One of the most positive features of the dialogue process has been the discussions and debates within the Academic Council. The Academic Council is committed to meeting more often to focus on the high-level policy issues.

SK And finally, regarding the talk of a new name, is the question of UCD's name as a brand still an open one?

HB UCD is a very strong brand nationally but less so internationally. We need to look at the name and consider whether it needs changing. As you know our official name is University College Dublin, National University of Ireland, Dublin. That *per se* is not ideal. The word 'college' in the North American context can suggest a purely undergraduate teaching institute.

But first and foremost a university is judged on the calibre of its academic programmes whether they be teaching or learning or research. If you get those right, there are major additional benefits to the institution if it has a very clear and attractive brand. We have to be recognised in an international context. Clarity of branding is very important and we will be giving this a good hard look over the next few months.

SK So it's open to suggestions?

HB Everything is on the table and if you have any suggestions or indeed if any of our staff, students or graduates have any suggestions we'd be delighted to hear them.

The full text of this interview is available at <http://www.ucd.ie/ucdtoday/>

## IDA Ireland selects UCD-lead consortium to develop €90 million Institute for Research and Training in Bioprocessing

UCD has been chosen to spearhead the project to build a National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT). UCD together with partner institutions, Trinity College and the Institute of Technology Sligo, submitted a bid for the €90 million project in response to IDA Ireland's competition. The NIBRT will provide resources to leading research programmes, undergraduate and postgraduate education and pharmaceutical bioprocessing addressing key shortages of skilled personnel in the high

value biotech sector. It will include a state of the art large-scale fermentation facility that will be capable of growing fragile cell cultures under controlled conditions, a key requirement for the growing bioprocessing sector in Ireland. These fragile cell cultures will then be exploited on a large-scale for the development of new medications. Ireland's pharmaceutical industry employs almost 20,000 people at 83 operations around the country, accounting for nearly €30 billion in exports last year. The NIBRT will train

bioprocessing technologists and graduate researchers and may also provide resources for indigenous and multinational corporations established or planning to set up in Ireland including Elan, Wyeth, Centocor and Eli-Lilly. Commenting on the success of the initial proposal the president Dr Brady remarked that, "UCD's leadership of projects on a national scale such as the NIBRT underline the university's commitment to developing the knowledge economy and Ireland Inc."

## Knowledge is Power

**One could forgive Professor Desmond Fitzgerald for feeling happy with his lot at the close of 2004. Not only was it the year in which his academic career 'came full circle' with his appointment to head up the fulltime Office of the Vice-President for Research at UCD, but 2004 also witnessed something of a windfall for the University with a significant 50% increase in research funding.**

A UCD graduate of 1977, Professor Fitzgerald studied at the School of Medicine, training and practising as a cardiologist during time spent in the United States between 1983 and 1991. He returned to become a consultant lecturer with UCD, based at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital. In 1994 he was appointed Chair of Clinical Pharmacology in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and while there established the Institute of Biopharmaceutical Sciences and was a founder of the Centre of Human Proteomics.

### The importance of research is multi-dimensional

August 2004 saw him take up the new fulltime VP post at UCD. The increased funding for UCD that he now finds himself responsible for means in monetary terms a boost from the previous figure of €32 million to €50 million.

In real terms, the monies now make more attainable the aims of the new VP office. "That will consist of three pillars," Professor Fitzgerald explains, "The development of research programmes, the development of supports for those involved in research, and an improvement of the commercialisation of research activity. The monies allow for more direct and indirect funding of research. That will include seed funds for new and emerging areas, together with infra-structural supports and refurbishment of facilities."

So, one has to wonder, what is the key to this monetary magic, the secret weapon that translates, simplistically perhaps, as €3.6 million each month for the first five months of his tenure. Professor Fitzgerald has no doubts as to the secret formula. "UCD has outstanding investigators," he answers at once. "The increase is entirely due to the fact we have excellent researchers across all areas."

During our conversation, it becomes clear that Professor Desmond Fitzgerald is a man who is serious about academic research and his new-found role nurturing it. For him, the importance of research is multi-dimensional, that is, it surfaces as an issue on campus, at a national level, and most importantly as the VP sees it, internationally.

Like President Brady, Professor Fitzgerald is keenly aware of the disconnect between Government requirements of third level institutions for the 'health of the nation' and the funding of that mission, especially in recent years as Ireland transforms towards the Knowledge Economy. "Ireland's GDP has increased tremendously," he states, "putting the country on a par now with the likes of the United States. Yet there has not been a comparable increase in budgets to the country's universities." On that level alone, the funding for research, which has come from numerous agencies, such as the SFI, the Health Research Board, the Department of Agriculture and Food, and the HEA is very welcome.

For all that, the situation nationally in terms of research is by no means slack. "The quality of research in Ireland increases yearly," he says, pointing to an ever-growing number of publications in high-impact journals attesting to that fact. Nationally, then, there is no shortage of competition for research monies, and by logical extension, those constantly pushing standards ever higher.

However, thanks to the ability offered by the 2004 increase to consolidate existing talent and attract the very best researchers from Ireland and beyond, UCD becomes, in effect, the institution now 'raising the bar' with the quality of its research environment and standards.

And what of the research landscape beyond these shores? While competitiveness varies, it is not enough on the research front to compete just at a local level and to be better than UCD's immediate neighbours on this island. Research is, and always has been, international, he stresses. "If we are to maintain our position [as a leading research institution], we need to be on a par with those leading institutions around the world."

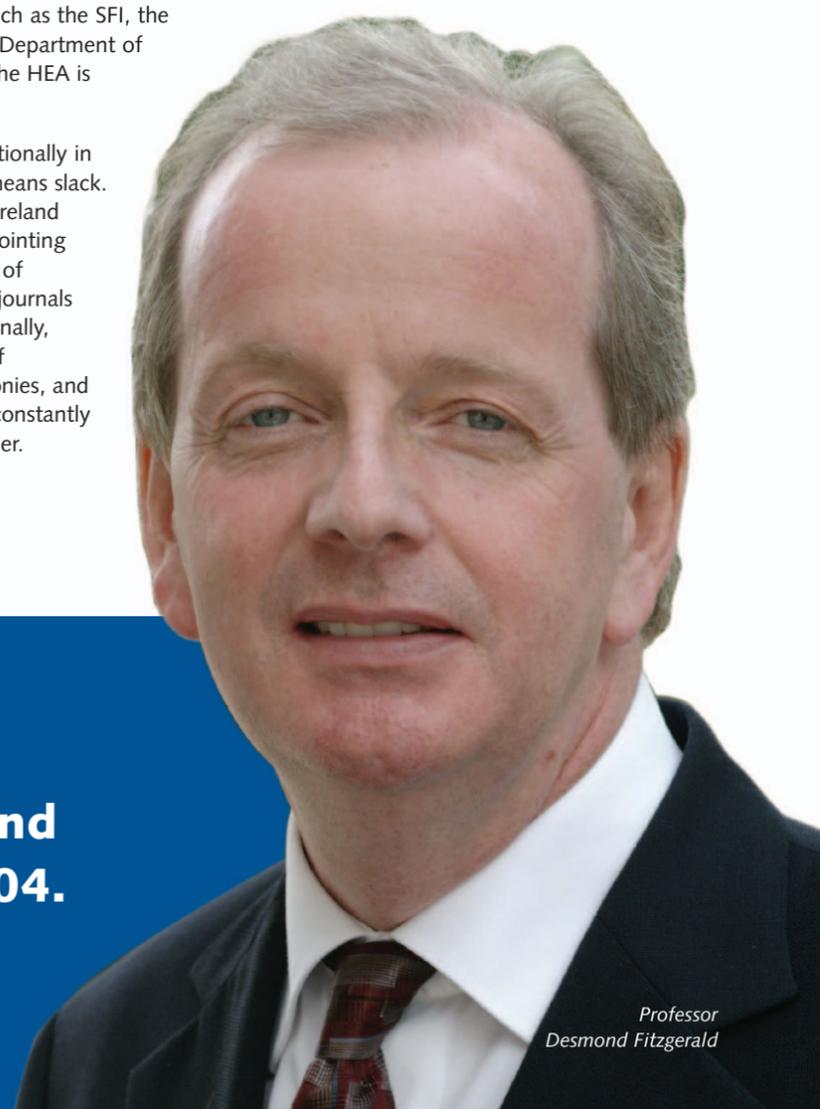
He seems undaunted by that understanding, and positive for the coming year.

He is a man who knows that by building on the talents and facilities already at his fingertips, the rest will come into play. "2005," he states, "will be a time to put the principles of the Office of Vice-President for Research to work, and to improve on the gains of last year."

*Paul Keenan is a religious and social affairs journalist.*

# Research

**Research at UCD has a new face, with the arrival of Professor Desmond Fitzgerald and a 50% increase in funding in 2004. Paul Keenan investigates.**



Professor Desmond Fitzgerald

# Opening of Health Sciences Complex

December noted a new phase in the history of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences with the completion of the first phase of the new Health Sciences Complex to house the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

The new accommodation contains modern lecture theatres, small group teaching rooms, computer laboratories and clinical skills laboratories, which simulate the real-life working environment of a busy hospital ward. Head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Dr Marie Carney declared she was "thrilled with the standard of the new accommodation" and saw the new facilities as "opening many possibilities for the development of nursing studies".

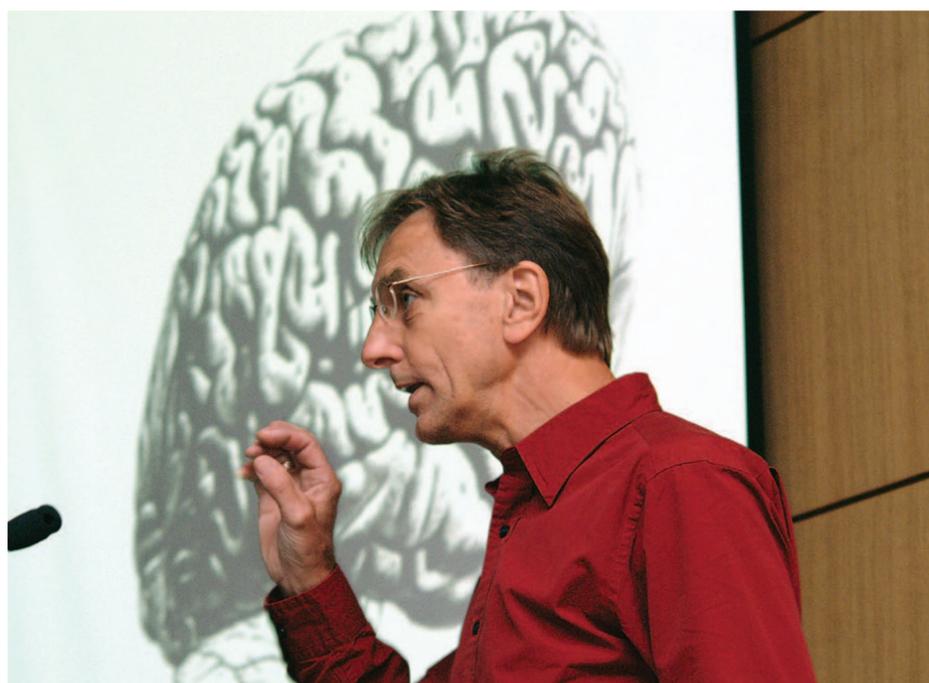
The new complex will provide an integrated learning environment for all of the constituent schools of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. This will enable student doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and radiographers to be educated in a shared setting and will promote the development of the multi-disciplinary teams so necessary for the delivery of a modern health care service. The dean of the faculty, Professor Muiris

FitzGerald echoed this sentiment when he stated "The Health Sciences Complex provides UCD with an opportunity to set the pace for the development of health education in Ireland. At last we have the facilities to enable us to put in place the type of educational programmes we know are needed to develop the fit for purpose health professionals of the future". The dean also remarked that "it is critical that Government, in its allocation of resources, sees the future

development of health education as a cornerstone in meeting our long-term health service requirements".

In February 2005, the School of Physiotherapy will also move in to the Health Sciences complex, followed in May by the School of Diagnostic Imaging and by the School of Medicine in mid-2006.

## Conway Festival of Research



*Prof Colin Blakemore, CEO Medical Research Council, UK*

Professor Pat Guiry, CEO of the Conway Institute, opened the annual Festival of Research on 9 September 2004 by congratulating all the researchers on the success of the first year of operation at the new facility. Internationally renowned scientists; Professor Marc-Andre Sirard, University Laval, Quebec; Dr Dana Philpott, Institute Pasteur, Paris and Professor John Sutherland, University of Manchester, addressed the capacity crowd in the Institute's lecture theatre on the latest advances that are increasing our understanding of human and animal diseases. Professor Colin Blakemore, Chief Executive of the UK Medical Research Council gave the plenary lecture at the Festival.

The grand finale of an internal competition among postgraduate students for the best research presentation also took place during the conference. Each of the ten finalists had four minutes in which to impress the judges. Four postgraduates namely Fiona McGillicuddy, Jillian Howlin, Simone McNicholas and Jyoti Soni received prizes sponsored by Bio-Sciences, Applied Biosystems, Seroba Bioventures and BD Biosciences.

The main sponsors of the festival were AGB, BioSciences and Enterprise Ireland Biotechnology Directorate.

## Nobel Laureate visits Conway



*(L-R) Dr Richard Roberts; Prof Des Higgins, Conway Institute; Stephen Byrne, Fellowships Convenor of the Literary & Historical Society, UCD*

Few people have the opportunity to meet a Nobel Laureate, never mind get the opportunity to quiz them on their life and work. Ten young postgraduate research students were given just such a chance during a visit by Dr Richard Roberts to the Conway Institute on 13 December 2004.

Dr Roberts shared the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his research on split genes, a discovery that radically

changed popular opinion about genes. He found that an individual gene could be made of not one but several pieces of DNA separated by pieces of irrelevant DNA. By cutting out the irrelevant DNA, the important pieces of genetic information could be joined together in one molecule. This research on the cutting or splicing process also improved our understanding of hereditary diseases like chronic myeloid leukaemia, which are the result of this process going wrong. When asked how his life in science has changed since winning the Nobel Prize, Dr Roberts commented, "It's every bit as exciting as it used to be, but the questions are different." His recipe for success was simple; "Ask big questions - identify areas of future interest that people know little about."

Dr Richard Roberts also presented a guest lecture to researchers in the Conway Institute on the "The Genomics of Restriction and Modification" and was awarded an honorary Fellowship of the Literary & Historical Society.

## Stronghold Vet of the Year from Pfizer

Andrew Byrne MVB MRVS was recently awarded Stronghold Vet of the Year from Pfizer. Andrew qualified in UCD as a veterinary surgeon in 1985, and is now a partner in a busy companion animal practice in North Wicklow. He is also the Secretary of the Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations (FECAVA), Director of Veterinary Environmental Management Limited and a Director of Veterinary Business Development Limited. UCD is the only university offering a degree course in veterinary medicine in Ireland. The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is one of the

leading veterinary schools in Europe providing excellent facilities for the care and welfare of animal patients and training opportunities for veterinary students, veterinary nurses and veterinary postgraduates.

*Andrew Byrne MVB MRVS*



# Soft Power Politics

**It is often said that Ireland is the 51st State of the USA. The confident "Celtic Tiger" version on the other hand might declare that America is in fact the 5th province of Ireland. Either way it is a complex relationship and the new Clinton Institute for American Studies at UCD aims to explore and develop that relationship, help in its interpretation and perhaps even assist people in deciding whether Ireland favours "Boston or Berlin" - or both.**

**Maria O'Halloran meets Professor Liam Kennedy, the new director of the Clinton Institute**

New director Professor Liam Kennedy believes it is an ideal time for the school's establishment. "Ireland is an emerging nation within the EU and has a special relationship with the US," he says. "The appointment of John Bruton as the EU's ambassador to the US is not an accident but a reflection of the voice and ear Ireland has within the US, which is at a pivotal time in its own history." He describes Ireland as part of a "triangle" with America and the EU, and having a key role between the two. But perhaps that key role is on the wane? After all there is the speculation that the standing 'annual meeting', on St Patrick's day at the White House may be called off. Ireland is apparently the only country in the world whose leadership has such a standing annual invite to meet the President of the US.

Kennedy, a Co Derry man who has spent the last 15 years at the University of Birmingham, is aware of the "unease" in the country, but doesn't doubt Ireland's ongoing role or see that disquiet as a negative attribute. "There is a debate going on - 'look at what we've lost' or 'it can't go on, the bubble has to burst'. But that is a natural anxiety. It is the flip-side of the coin of success." He did not witness the Republic's economic transformation firsthand as his education and academic career took him from Derry to Belfast and then to England, so his visits south were brief.

So living in Dublin is a new experience altogether. A Catholic from south Co Derry, near Kilrea, he went to the Dalriada Grammar school in Ballymoney. "I was the first person in my family to get an education in any way or form," he says, describing the predominantly Protestant school as enlightened in its approach to education and to its students. His interest in American studies started

the way most children learn about the US, through popular culture. "I wanted to be John Wayne," he confesses.

From Ballymoney he went to the University of Ulster, Jordanstown to study Irish Culture and Politics, did an MA and PhD in American Studies at the University of Nottingham and moved to the University of Birmingham. During that time, he also taught in the US, including as a visiting fellow of the University of Iowa, and at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire.

**In the whole technology of news-making, the US is very good at controlling the media space**

A prolific author, his books have ranged from *Race and Urban Space in American Culture* to co-editing an electronic publication - *City Sites: An Electronic Book*. His doctorate was based on American Intellectuals and he wrote a book *Susan Sontag: Mind as Passion* on the writer, essayist and critic who died in December. Her views on the US's international role, the war in Iraq and the abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison have reflected a similar national and international debate, in the US itself, in Ireland, indeed worldwide.

The debate is part of the programme of studies at the Clinton Institute where one of Professor Kennedy's courses focuses on media and its impact on US foreign policy. "Most media want to be on the side of public opinion. They don't want to challenge it. So it is not as simple as being pro- or anti- war or an administration," he says. The evolution of a new ideology in US politics - "soft power", a new way to influence the international order short of military action or "hard power" is a growing area of interest within that, according to Professor Kennedy. It's about building relationships, such as that with the UK. It's also about winning the propaganda war. The authorities call it "managing the media space", he says. "It's a quite sophisticated form of media warfare,"

and "in the whole technology of news-making, the US is very good at controlling the media space".

People may be startled by the name of the School - the Clinton Institute. Has its director a problem with being the head of a school named after someone from a political party? He smiles and says it's not an issue. The school was established by the Government as a thank-you to the US and Bill Clinton in particular for his contribution to the Peace Process. What if it were called the 'Bush Institute'? He probably wouldn't be allowed to change its name, but he'd have no problem with that "if he could sort out the peace process". In fact, he'd invite him over to debate it before he sorted it out!

*Maria O'Halloran (BSocSc 1984) is a parliamentary reporter with The Irish Times.*

A brainchild of the Government, the Clinton Institute of American studies, was set up in 2003 to honour the US Congress and public for its contribution to the Peace Process and in particular, the 42nd president of the US, William Jefferson Clinton, for his personal contribution. Dr Maurice Bric of UCD's History Department got the key components of the school up and running, and was involved in the appointment of Professor Kennedy as its director. The institute's courses include Masters and Doctoral programmes in American Studies, and aims to broaden knowledge of the US from a "distinctly Irish perspective". It will also focus on research, links with American and other universities internationally, visiting lecturers and speakers and courses in politics, literature, music, film, economics, sociology and cultural studies. A number of keynote speakers have addressed the institute and its forthcoming line-up includes, in April, the writer and columnist Sidney Blumenthal, author of the best-selling book *The Clinton Wars*. The institute's new home has yet to be built so home is currently the Arts block. Planning permission has however been obtained, the space is allocated, the architectural design is in place for the €3.17 million institute behind the Centre for Film Studies and the Government is committed to funding the building programme.

Politics



## The Dream of Gerontius - a gala performance



**Student guests at The Dream of Gerontius concert:** Keith Allen, Francesca Asmundo, Laura Baldini, Saoirse Barrett, Esther Breithoff, Michelle Carroll, Patrick Cass, Sarah Cleary, Rosella Colevat, Ruth Curran, Tony Daly, Jennifer Davidson, Arta Denina, Sarah Feehan, Alessandra Fugazzi, Stephen Graham, Elizabeth Harris, Jessica Hjelm, Cliona Kelly, Colin Kilmartin, Edward Larkin, Ronan Mackey, Alva Mannion, Bridget Martin, Karen McNamara, Laoise Ni Chuinn, Larry O'Dea, Orla O'Donnell, Maria O'Neill, Jon O'Riordan, Anna Ogrodnik, Donal Ryan, Quentin Sabatier, Verena Schroeder, Philip Slowey, Jessica Viven, Angeline Wong, Lai Fen Wong, Barbara Wood, Yan Zhao.

UCD staff and friends filled the National Concert Hall on 4 November for a gala performance of Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, the musical interpretation of Cardinal John Henry Newman's poem. *The Dream of Gerontius* was performed by the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Our Lady's Choral Society and the UCD Choral Scholars conducted by Proinnsias Ó Duinn with soloists Alison Browner, John Elwes and Ian Caddy.

Cardinal Newman's poem relates the death of an aged and devout man and the journey of his soul after death and *The Dream of Gerontius* is one of Elgar's most popular choral works.

For the November performance, Elgar's illuminated music manuscript of *The Dream of Gerontius* was displayed in the National Concert Hall, on kind loan from the Birmingham Oratory.



## Dr Peter Sutherland presented with Foundation Day Medal

Dr Peter Sutherland (BCL 1967, LLD 1990), chairman of BP plc and a former Director-General of the World Trade Organisation was presented with the Foundation Day Medal at the Foundation Day Dinner held on 5 November 2004. Her Excellency President Mary McAleese attended the dinner and also addressed the Foundation Day Dinner guests.

## New Smurfit School Alumni Website

One of the objectives of the UCD 150 celebrations is to reach out to graduates and the Smurfit School of Business launched a new website for its alumni in the Bank of Ireland Arts Centre on 8 December 2004. Developed by the Smurfit School Alumni Relations Office the new website will serve over 10,000 alumni and provide tools for alumni to maintain their business knowledge using the powerful alumni network. Resources will include a searchable online directory, live business news, career centre complete with job and CV postings, chapter/interest group sign-up, class notes pages and news and events. The website address is <http://www.smurfit.school.ie/alumni>

## UCD 150 Honorary Conferring Ceremony

On 3 November 2004, UCD celebrated one hundred and fifty years of history with a special honorary degree ceremony that recognised the exceptional contributions of a wide range of people both in Ireland and on the world stage. Honoured graduates were chosen on the basis that their achievements reflect the theme of the UCD 150

celebrations - the unequalled influence that UCD has had on the economic, social, political, scientific, literary, academic and legal development of Ireland throughout the past 150 years, and the continuation of this influence into the future.

*Prof Garret FitzGerald*

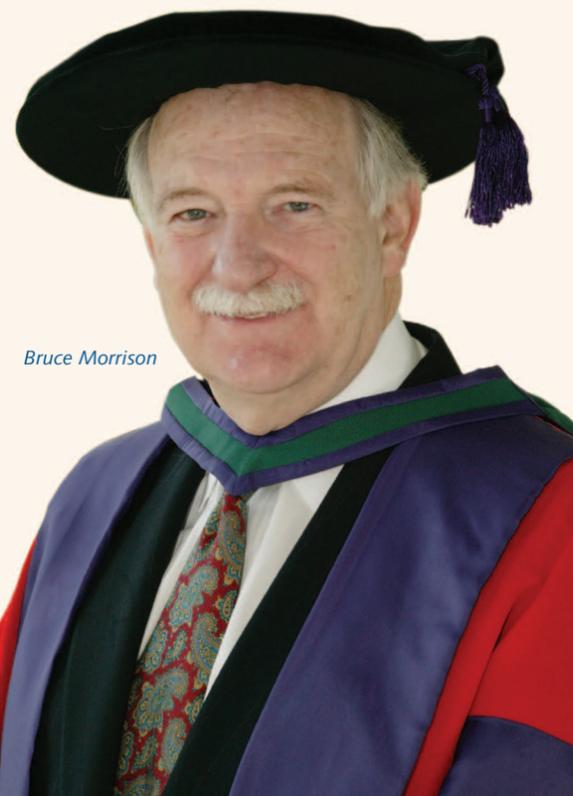


*Dr Pearse Lyons*

The following individuals were awarded honorary doctorates:

**Arts:** Michael Flatley, Imogen Stuart, Eithne Healy, Anne Madden; **Humanitarian action and philanthropy:** Christina Noble, Lochlann Quinn; **Academic and learning excellence:** Sir Derek Morris, Prof Garret FitzGerald, Prof Dr Wolfgang Meid, Fr John Dardis SJ; **Socio-economic and political impact:** David Byrne, Bruce Morrison, Dr Pearse Lyons, Charlie Bird, Niall O'Dowd; **Sport:** Mick O'Dwyer, Kevin Heffernan, Willie John McBride, Kevin Moran.

A full profile of all honorary graduands is available at [www.ucd.ie/150/news\\_hondegrees.htm](http://www.ucd.ie/150/news_hondegrees.htm)



*Bruce Morrison*

celebrate

# 150 years



## Ten Agri-Food and the Environment scholarships launched to mark UCD 150

The Faculty of Agri-Food and the Environment in association with ten national and international organisations has launched a scholarship programme with total funding of €200,000, as part of UCD's anniversary celebrations.

A scholarship, valued at €20,000, will be awarded to the student entering each of the faculty's degree programmes with the highest mark in a specified Leaving Certificate Examination subject. €5,000 per year will be available to the student to fund their education over the four years of the

degree. The scholarships are open to students who enter the faculty in September 2006, allowing current fifth year secondary school students to consider the honours degree programmes offered by the faculty.

The companies supporting the scholarships are: **Alltech Ireland, Bord Bia, Bord na Mona, Dawn Meats, Devenish Nutrition, Green Belt, Richard Keenan & Co, Kerry Ingredients, Murray Landscape Architects and SAP Nursery/Landscape.**



Pictured at the launch of the industry sponsored Faculty of Agri-Food and the Environment Scholarship Programme are (from L to R); John O'Reilly, Green Belt, Tom Egan, Bord na Mona, Dan Brown, Dawn Meats, Terry Murray, Murray & Associates, Richard Kennedy, Devenish Nutrition, Mary Coughlan, Minister for Agriculture & Food, Prof Maurice Boland, Dean, Freddie Hatton, SAP Nursery/Landscape, Mairead Ryan, Kerry Ingredients, Richard Murphy, Alltech and Gerard Keenan, Richard Keenan & Co. Bord Bia was represented by Aidan Cotter

## Colour on a Grey Canvas



UCD Volunteers Overseas in Delhi

In November, sporting hero Brian O'Driscoll joined forces with Senator and UCD graduate, Feargal Quinn to launch the book *Colour on a Grey Canvas* - an evocative photographic collection drawing on the experiences of students in the UCD Overseas Volunteers programme who spent a month last summer working in Delhi, India. Raising €40,000 to fund their journey, thirty UCD students, in a variety of subject areas ranging from metaphysics to physiotherapy,

together with three leaders, travelled to the Indian capital to carry out volunteer work with the poor of the city. The resulting book is a testament to their efforts to reach out to those in poverty stricken areas of Delhi, thousands of kilometres from their own everyday experience. *Colour on a Grey Canvas* is available for sale (€10) in the Students Union Shop and all proceeds will be used to help finance further work. The publication was funded completely by UCD 150.

This year, UCD Overseas Volunteers will also visit Haiti and will create a month-long camp for over 100 children with Aids.

For more information on the Overseas Volunteers programme, contact Fr Tony Coote, UCD, tel: (01) 7162100 or (087) 9795619 [tony.coote@ucd.ie](mailto:tony.coote@ucd.ie)

## Africa Framed exhibition in UCD



(L-R) Mrs Kahsay, Mary Rida, Minister of State Conor Lenihan, Goitom Kahsay, Chargé d'Affaires, Ethiopian Embassy and Dr Dermot Ruane at the traditional Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony

Mr Conor Lenihan T.D., Minister of State for Development Cooperation and Human Rights, opened the exhibition "Africa Framed" at the Faculty of Agri-Food and the Environment, as part of the UCD 150 celebrations. The event was organised by the Faculty's graduate committee, undergraduates and staff to celebrate the multicultural student body in the faculty and to highlight the international links it has developed around the world and with aid organisations. The event raised funds for the Irish non-governmental organisation (NGO), Self Help Development International.

## Launch of Road of Passage CD

UCD Choral Scholars has launched a second CD, *Road of Passage*, which includes the fourth movement of Michael McGlynn's 'Road of Passage', composed to coincide with and celebrate UCD's anniversary. *Road of Passage* was written in 4 sections and blends the vocal purity of young choral scholars with a number of inspiring texts dating from the early

middle ages to John Henry Newman's *lux aeterna* - eternal light. UCD Choral Scholars played an important role in the University's 150th anniversary celebrations, performing at the UCD 150 Honorary Conferring, in Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, on a UCD-special Rattle-Bag programme for RTÉ and at the Foundation Day Dinner.

*Road of Passage* is available for purchase at €15 in the Student's Union shop, the UCD Bookshop and in selected music stores throughout Dublin. For more information on UCD Choral Scholars, contact Desmond Earley at [choralscholars@ucd.ie](mailto:choralscholars@ucd.ie) or at tel: (01) 716-2109



UCD Choral Scholars Siobhán Hearne, Rachel Gilmore-Murphy and Fiona Peacock at CD launch

# Celebration of UCD's prestigious Newman Scholarship Programme

Professor Catherine Godson, vice-president for innovation and corporate partnerships announced the appointment of six new Newman Scholars in November. UCD's Newman Scholarship Programme has been an extraordinary success since its launch in 1989. It reflects the University's strategy of building partnerships with business and industry. The programme provides post-doctoral research opportunities for scholars from the humanities and sciences at the University. The programme has been highly

successful in attracting distinguished talent from Ireland and overseas and, to date, over 90 scholars have been appointed and 62 Irish and International companies, semi-state bodies, voluntary organisations and individuals have donated over €7.7 million to fund the programme.

The latest scholarships are in a variety of fields and are sponsored by: Applied Biosystems - Proteomics; Aughinish Alumina and AIB Group - New Employment Relations;

Nestlé and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland - Ann Westby Newman Scholar in Food Safety; Wyeth - Rheumatology; C&C Group - Food Safety, Dawn Foods - Food Safety. These scholarships are in addition to current sponsorships by Punchestown Kidney Research Fund, Piersce, Pfizer Animal Health Care, Enterprise Ireland, Cuisine de France, Diageo, Baxter Healthcare, The Irish Lung Foundation and Dunnes Stores.



Chengjiang Huang - Enterprise Ireland Newman Scholar

## 150 Years of Celtic Studies

On 7 December 2004 the Faculty of Celtic Studies and the Department of Irish Folklore hosted an event to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Máire MacNeill, the author of the classic work *The Festival of Lughnasa* (1962, 1982), and a member of the Irish Folklore Commission from 1935 to 1949. Among the large attendance were relatives and friends of Máire MacNeill, representatives of many academic institutes at home and abroad, and members of the public. The event also marked the sesquicentenary of Celtic Studies in UCD. The event was chaired by Professor Patricia Lysaght, Department of Irish Folklore. Dr Patricia Kelly, Dean of the Faculty, opened the evening and traced the development of Celtic Studies in UCD



Mr Peter McGuire, Department of Irish Folklore, receiving the Máire MacNeill Scholarship (2004-5) from Professor Maureen Murphy.

as the academic context of Máire MacNeill's scholarly achievement. The guest speaker, Professor Maureen Murphy, Hofstra University, New York, delivered a spirited lecture on the life and work of Máire MacNeill and presented Peter McGuire with the 2004-5 Máire MacNeill Scholarship of which she is the founder and sponsor.

## UCD Rattlebag Special

On 3 November a special UCD edition of RTÉ Radio One's *Rattlebag* was broadcast live from the Industry Centre. The show featured a discussion with UCD graduates and writers Frank McGuinness, Conor McPherson and Éilis Ní Dhuibne, Professor Terry P Dolan of the School of English and Dr Hugh Brady, president of UCD. The auditors of DramSoc, Simon Tierney, and the L&H, Frank Kennedy, also spoke and Neil Sharpson performed an extract from *Mick* written by Mark Noonan of DramSoc. UCD Choral Scholars gave a short performance at the end of the broadcast.



Conor McPherson



Prof Terry P Dolan



Frank McGuinness



Éilis Ní Dhuibne

## Johann Sebastian Bach: Mass in B Minor

On 2 December 2004 in University Church, St. Stephen's Green, the UCD Chamber Choir and Baroque Orchestra gave a performance of J.S. Bach's great *Mass in B Minor*. The performance was led by Aoife Durnin (BMus 1998) and conducted by Professor Harry White. The ensemble included soloists, choir and orchestra drawn from among alumni and current members of the UCD Chamber Choir and Orchestra including Desmond Earley (artistic director of UCD Choral Scholars) and Ciaran Crilly (conductor of the UCD Sinfonia).

# celebrate





# Science Uncovered postgraduate showcase and faculty exhibition

The Faculty of Science presented a showcase of postgraduate research for the general public and alumni at 'Science Uncovered', a showcase celebrating excellence in Science at UCD and demonstrating how scientific research has developed over the years. A range of presentations were made including; "An alternative approach to toxicity testing... just what the doctor

ordered", from the Biomedical Sciences; "Perfect difference sets", from Mathematical Sciences; "Wetlands: A wastewater solution" from the Biological Sciences; "Automatic text summarisation - highlighting the best bits!", from Computer Science; and, "Some drugs have an evil twin" from the Physical Sciences. The event was chaired by RTÉ's Mr Ryan Tubridy. The five speakers were

presented with an award by Mr Tony Killeen, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

The Faculty also held an exhibition for each department showing their history and providing an insight into current research activities.

# years

## Staff Party at UCD 150



(L-R) Rinat Khoussainov, Prof Barry Smyth, Gerry Dunnion, all from Computer Science Department



Former presidents of UCD Dr Paddy Masterson and Dr Art Cosgrove



(L-R) Deirdre O'Brien, Arts Faculty Office; Liesanne Dean, Faculty of Law; Bianca Cranny, Faculty of Law



(L-R) Genevieve Dalton, Computing Services; and Mary Crowe, Computing Services

## Reception for renowned Artist Kim En Joong held in Quinn School of Business

On 23 November 2004, a reception was held in the Quinn School of Business to view the paintings of renowned artist Fr Kim En Joong. Fr Kim was commissioned by Lochlann and Brenda Quinn to provide the artwork for the contemplative room, which they have donated to the Quinn School of Business.



At the reception in Quinn School UCD (L-R): Brenda Quinn, Prof Philip Bourke, Fr Kim En Joong, Lochlann Quinn, Prof Mary Lambkin, Dean, UCD Business Schools.

## NovaUCD 2005 Campus Company Development Programme to commence in March

NovaUCD's tenth Campus Company Development Programme (CCDP) commences in March. The aim of the CCDP, which is supported by Enterprise Ireland, is to assist UCD academic and research entrepreneurs in the establishment and development of knowledge-intensive enterprises. The CCDP is a nine-month enterprise support programme consisting of 10 half-day workshops, which include a mix of intensive coaching, one-to-one consultancy and practical business assignments. The CCDP allows participants to make a realistic assessment of their projects and highlights the practical issues affecting start-up companies. Participants on the CCDP have the potential to benefit from the specialist expertise and facilities available at NovaUCD, Enterprise Ireland and through the NovaUCD partners.

Each CCDP culminates in an awards evening when each company completing the programme is presented with a certificate and three companies from the programme are chosen to deliver presentations to an invited audience.

One of last year's winners was Berand whose lead promoters are Dr Andrew Foley, Dr Sean Mulvany and Professor Ciaran Regan of the Conway Institute.

Applications are now being invited for the 2005 CCDP. For further information contact Peter Finnegan tel: 716 3714 or email: [peter.finnegan@ucd.ie](mailto:peter.finnegan@ucd.ie) or visit [www.ucd.ie/nova/service/ccdp.htm](http://www.ucd.ie/nova/service/ccdp.htm).

## NovaUCD hosts entrepreneurial master classes for students

**NovaUCD, the Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre at UCD, held its third series of entrepreneurial master classes last semester. The aim of the Student Enterprise Seminar Series is to promote a spirit of entrepreneurship among the student population at UCD. The series was supported by Venturepoint, the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Enterprise Board.**

The opening seminar was delivered by Angela Kennedy, Co-Founder and Business Director, Megazyme Ireland International, and Chairperson of the Small Firms Association. Other speakers included: Ray Nolan, CEO, Web Reservations International; Cyril McGuire, Chairman and CEO, Trintech; David Phelan, Joint MD, The Boru Vodka Company; Dr Jim Mountjoy, Former CEO, Euristix; Declan Fearon, MD, Blarney Stone Enterprises; Emmet Daly, MD, Café Sol; and Susan Spence, MD, SoftCo. The entrepreneurs spoke about their experiences of setting up and running their own business, the highs and lows of their entrepreneurial journey and the lessons learnt along the way.

## Saving Old Sounds - A wax cylinder digitisation project

The Department of Irish Folklore's Archive holds some 1,300 wax cylinders containing sound recordings made in the early years of the early 20th century. Nearly one-third of the cylinders were recorded by the full-time collectors of the Irish Folklore Commission (forerunner of the Department of Irish Folklore); and the balance consists of donations received by the Commission, the earliest of these being the **Feis Ceoil** recordings made in Dublin and Belfast in 1897. They represent the earliest audio instances of certain narratives, songs or tunes, or constitute the only known examples of such items. They are invaluable source materials for the study of lost dialects of Irish and Hiberno-English.

Conservation of these voice and instrumental recordings constitutes the first step of the **SOS** project. A grant of €9,000 from the Heritage Council of Ireland has already enabled the Department of Irish Folklore to effect the transfer of approximately 250 cylinders to digital format. The donation of a further €40,000 by **Muintir Thír Eoghain** / The Tyrone Association is now funding the digitisation, carried out by the French company **L'Archéophone**, of the remaining cylinders, thus completing the first stage of the project.

Stages two and three, for which funding is currently being sought, will concentrate on transcribing, documenting and contextualising the contents of the collection. It is also planned to re-master and publish the recordings.



(L-R) Micéal Whelan, NovaUCD; Michael Johnson, CEO, Venturepoint; Caroline Gill, NovaUCD; Angela Kennedy, Co-founder Megazyme Ireland International; Dr Pat Frain, NovaUCD; Prof Frank Roche, UCD

After each presentation, students participated in lively question and answer sessions, chaired by Professor Frank Roche, Berber Professor of Entrepreneurship at UCD.

NovaUCD is planning a fourth *Student Enterprise Seminar Series* for the Spring. For information contact Caroline Gill tel: 716 3715 or email: [caroline.gill@ucd.ie](mailto:caroline.gill@ucd.ie)

## Cultural Diversity at UCD - Feb 2005

The International Office of UCD is organising the University's third Cultural Diversity Week for the week of 8 February 2005. Events during the week will include an international exhibition in the John Henry Newman Building, musical performances from Nigeria, China and Ireland, an international soccer blitz, film screenings and many other cultural activities. For further information on the Cultural Diversity Week see [www.ucd.ie/international.htm](http://www.ucd.ie/international.htm)



# thoroughbredsgang

## Getting first past the post

**The Irish thoroughbred horse sector is world-class, but in order for Ireland to remain at the top of this highly competitive industry, it is vitally important that new scientific technologies that could help early identification of champion horses be fully embraced and supported.**

In this context, the work of Dr Emmeline Hill, Department of Animal Science, is essential. Dr Hill is seeking to identify those genetic factors that are important in race-winning horses. Researchers have found that up to 30 per cent of the performance of champion horses is determined by their genetics, so if the genetic factors for success can be nailed down, the Irish horse industry should gain some competitive advantage over its rivals.

The origins of the thoroughbred horse date back 400 years to the time of the Tudor and Stewart kings of England, who developed a strong interest in racing horses. These English kings wanted to improve on their horses' racing ability and began to introduce Arab types, which were bred with local running hobby horses. Later in 1791, the breeding of horses became a more scientific process with the establishment of the world's first thoroughbred stud book by an Englishman called James Weatherby. From that point on, the exact lineage of all thoroughbreds was put down on paper. Today, Ireland is home to 10 per cent of the world's thoroughbreds.



Hill, who is from Wexford and is from a horse breeding and racing background, is a member of the tiny community of equine genetics researchers in the world. She estimates that there are perhaps 30 in total around the globe. She is a very promising young researcher, and this was underlined in October last year when she was awarded (along with another young UCD researcher Dr Jens Erik Neilsen) a President of Ireland Young Researcher Award from Science Foundation Ireland.

This award means that she can receive funding of up to €1.2 million over a five-year period. The idea of the award and the accompanying funding is to provide significant and stable financial support to top tier young investigators at a level and over a time duration that will enable them to develop careers as internationally recognised researchers.

**Dr Hill is seeking to identify those genetic factors that are important in race-winning horses.**

The goal of Dr Hill's project - to identify genetic factors that might be associated with enhanced performance of thoroughbred racehorses - is a big task. Researchers have found in the human there are 120 genes associated with performance and fitness traits, and the story is likely to be something similar in elite racehorses.

The first thing to do is to undergo a genomic scan to identify the regions of the genome (the entire DNA material of the horse) that have undergone selection for increased performance in the elite horse. The second aspect of the work is the use of so called microarrays. This technique involves looking at the expression of thousands of genes simultaneously, and measuring the level of messenger RNA, the precursor to protein, that is present in the cell. These techniques allow researchers to determine gene activity in the cell at any given time.

Dr Hill wants to take a look at the different genes that are expressed in the thoroughbred when it is resting, against the thoroughbred post-exercise. She also wants to look at the expression of genes after a four-week period of training, during which time there is a change in what are called the fast and slow twitch muscle cells.

There is a commercial horse gene chip that has most of the horse's genes on it. This

horse chip means that Dr Hill can examine up to 3,000 horse genes all at once, at given times during training or resting.

"The use of these so-called micro-arrays has revolutionized biomedical science in the past five years," said Dr Hill. "Now we can look at the expression of hundreds or thousands of genes all at once. In the past we would have had to look at them one by one. For instance, we can look at the muscle tissue of horses and see what genes are being expressed at the end of a race when a horse has been pushed to the limit of its performance. The elite horses are those that perform optimally in low oxygen conditions".

Since tissue samples are hard to come by, it is necessary to set up an in-vitro model replicating such low oxygen conditions as exist at the end of a race. Dr Cormac Taylor, an SFI investigator at the Conway Institute, cultures cells in normal oxygen conditions and in hypoxic (low oxygen) conditions, and these systems will be used by Hill. She will monitor the expression of genes in normal oxygen and low oxygen conditions. There is an adaptive response to low oxygen conditions that is regulated by HIF-1, a master gene that triggers a cascade of other genes involved in processes such as glycolysis (energy provision), erythropoiesis (red blood cell generation), vasodilatation (expansion of blood vessels) etc. It may be, for instance, that the muscle of the thoroughbred horse has a greater capacity to adapt to low oxygen conditions than that of the carthorse, for example.

All of this research could be very important to the thoroughbred horse industry here. If the genetic factors that determine a potential champion are identified early on, then the trainer and owner need not go to the time and expense of developing a thoroughbred that is simply not going to cut the mustard at the top level.

"The reason that a thoroughbred is successful has to do with genetics and the environment," said Hill. "Management, training and nutrition are also important. However, Paddy Cunningham at TCD found that 30 per cent of the variation in performance in the equine thoroughbred is due to genetics, and that is what we want to unravel".

Professor Maurice Boland, dean of the Faculty Agri-food the Environment commented, "It is a great pleasure to facilitate Dr Hill's research programme in the faculty. Her work complements the established research programme in Animal Genomics in the Department of Animal Science."

*Seán Duke (BSc 1987) is co-founder and joint editor of Science Spin*

**Seán Duke Talks to Dr Emmeline Hill of the Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agri-Food and the Environment**

# Rural Idyll, Urban Nightmare?

**If you live outside of Dublin you are amongst Ireland's happiest citizens. At least this is what new research undertaken by UCD's Department of Planning and Environmental Policy is showing. Over the coming months it will reveal the many reasons why, everything else being equal, Dublin citizens are significantly less satisfied with their lives in comparison to their country cousins and provide pointers for politicians in how they might improve happiness.**

Professor Peter Clinch is excited about this research, which is the first attempt to measure quality of life and express the true success of the Irish economy in terms other than the pace at which the economy is growing. Factors such as traffic congestion, commuting time, local environmental quality and community life may be more significant than income in many ways in determining happiness. Those who remain unemployed despite the boom and those who live in local authority housing are also considerably less satisfied with their lives. It is clear from these findings that people living in Ireland's capital city can only aspire to a happier life when the government tackles these thorny issues.

"The Government should be interested in what makes people happy" says Clinch. "This new research highlights the need to put significant effort into trying to understand why people are less happy living in Dublin. This is a serious area for research. GDP and GNP are very poor measures of well-being".

The economic boom that transformed Ireland from a basket-case economy to one of Europe's most prosperous and envied took most people by surprise. Few economists flagged the Tiger's coming. No one was prepared for the surge in employment and prosperity. The pressure to provide additional housing and infrastructure was phenomenal. Planners were caught out and are continuing to struggle to catch up with the boom.

"There is a need to improve the effectiveness of the planning system and make it more fair. It will have to change so that planning decisions are not held up because of people trying to make a capital gain out of their land" according to Clinch. "The public transport system will have to continue to be improved. It is not surprising that people working in Dublin and commuting large distances are less satisfied with their lives."

Clinch hopes that this type of research will serve to enhance policy-making and will ultimately encourage the Government to take a long-term view when making decisions that will benefit the public generally. Evidence-based policy making will also reduce the influence of vested interests on planning decisions and could help to restore public confidence in the planning process, he believes.

Clinch points out that, until recently, the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government had no budget for planning research. This changed in the last budget when €100,000 was allocated for this purpose. "This is a small amount but it is a start and we hope it will increase. The Department does hire consultants but their reports generally tend to impact on decisions already made," he says. "Decisions are being made in an information vacuum. Without proper research, vested interests can put forward their own theories and there is no evidence to contradict them."

Clinch contends that the Government's use of scientific research to successfully implement controversial policies such as the smoking ban was crucial in winning public acceptance. "There is no way the smoking ban could have been introduced without peer-reviewed academic research. Evidence was published in the *British Medical Journal* showing that second-hand smoke kills people. This is a good example of how seemingly unpopular decisions can be brought to the attention of the wider public who then get behind them. It should be a lesson for the government in terms of public policy."

**Decisions are being made in an information vacuum. Without proper research, vested interests can put forward their own theories and there is no evidence to contradict them.**

He believes that socio-economic research can reap great benefits in terms of planning. The often heated debate on rural housing, for example, has drawn many heckles but there is little evidence to support the pros or cons of this argument. "We have little idea of the costs and benefits of different settlement patterns. It is often said that one-off housing damages the tourist industry but we don't have the evidence. We don't know what tourists think of it, and we don't know what the nation thinks of it or what locals think of it. There is little evidence that it is stabilising communities either". This is a hard debate for an academic, he says, as no matter what you say you are labelled as being an extremist on one side or the other.

Planning problems have also been exacerbated by inconsistent government policies, he says. "Decentralisation, for example, is totally inconsistent with the National Spatial Strategy. Decentralisation is a way of spreading the public service across the country in a way that would provide some political gain to the Government but doesn't support the Spatial Strategy goals to create alternative growth structures outside of Dublin. This has dented the credibility of the system."

Planning can be defined as any intervention in the market necessary to promote the common good. It will always be controversial and its unpopularity with the public is rooted in the fact that the process necessarily must take away some people's rights in order to promote the common good. "Generally the public don't recognise the benefits of good planning decisions".

Clinch suggests that UCD can play a major part in providing research in planning and environmental policy that can improve people's lives in a similar way to scientific research. "Some academics view engaging in real-world research as a grubby business. However, engaging in high quality, academic, peer-reviewed research which also provides information that enhances public policy is valuable" he says. "UCD has the broadest range of expertise in areas of public policy and it should be part of our mission to contribute to independent research in this area. We should be a resource to which the Government turns when making decisions."

Many of the University's departments undertake research that is relevant to planning and Clinch says he would like to engage colleagues in other disciplines in large-scale projects to improve the process in Ireland and internationally. "I hope and believe that as part of the restructuring at UCD the University will become a power house in public policy. It should become a leading centre of public-policy research, teaching and publication in Ireland and Europe."

Peter Clinch is Professor of Regional and Urban Planning, Jean Monnet Professor of European Environmental Policy and Head of the Department of Planning and Environmental Policy.

*Siobhán Creaton (MA 1990) is an Irish Times journalist and author.*



**In terms of economic yardsticks, we've never had it so good. But new research conducted at UCD suggests other factors have to be considered to give a true measure of happiness in Celtic Tiger Ireland. Professor Peter Clinch talks to Siobhán Creaton.**

Siobhán Creaton

# UCD archaeologists explore early medieval crannog



The Department of Archaeology recently completed a multidisciplinary, inter-institutional collaborative research project on an early medieval crannog (ancient lake settlement) at Coolure Demesne, Lough Derravarragh, Co. Westmeath funded by the Heritage Council Archaeological

Research Grants 2004. The project involved underwater archaeological surveys, topographical and archaeological surveys, artifact and archival research and a range of palaeoecological investigative techniques. The project discovered through dendrochronological and radiocarbon dating that Coolure Demesne crannog was probably first built and occupied in the Pagan Iron Age/early Christian transition (i.e. c. AD 410) making it the earliest known crannog in Ireland. The crannog was probably most intensively used between the seventh and the tenth century AD.

The crannog was the residence of people who had access to high-status objects, such as brooches, pins, and items of personal possession. Other objects previously found on the site include a drinking horn, slave irons, decorated metalwork and imported silver from Hiberno-Norse Dublin. Palaeoenvironmental analyses of plant and insect remains indicate that they ate well, perhaps feasting on beef, pork and mutton, and their diet may have been supplemented by barley, oats, berries and hazelnuts. By the Anglo-Norman period, archaeological evidence suggests, there may still have been some people living on the site, but perhaps power had shifted to other hands and another ethnic group. It is possible that the Gaelic Irish resurgence in the fourteenth century saw the site being re-invested with importance, but soon it would be abandoned. By the twentieth century, the site had entirely fallen out of local memory and it was not regarded as an archaeological or cultural feature. However, it was still a place of importance to local people and children and those that could swim out and around the island were reckoned to be 'good swimmers'.

## IBIS: Forging links between research and policy in a changing Ireland

Easter 2005 marks the seventh anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and it is clear that the need for an improved understanding and awareness of the complexities of the evolving British-Irish relationship in Ireland remains as important as ever. UCD's Institute for British-Irish Studies (IBIS), established in 1999 as a resource for academics, policy-makers and politicians in this field, continues to link the academic and policy world by engaging in an active research and outreach programme.

IBIS seeks to conduct policy-relevant research on a wide range of issues connected to the British-Irish relationship. In a recent project, Dr Jennifer Todd directed a major initiative to preserve recollections of recent events with the recording and archiving of audiotape interviews with 70 main participants in the multi-party talks. Current research funded by the EU PEACE II programme, through the HEA, focuses on the Irish border and cross-border cooperation. In conjunction with Queen's University Belfast and other organisations, IBIS leads "Mapping frontiers, plotting pathways: routes to North-South cooperation in a divided island", a project seeking to determine what factors influence sustainable and effective cross-border cooperation.

The theme of IBIS's annual conference on 29 April will centre on the evolving North-South relationship in Ireland, reviewing the opportunities and challenges faced by the North-South institutions that deal with cooperation on issues such as trade and business development, EU programmes and tourism. Details of all activities are listed on the IBIS website [www.ucd.ie/ibis](http://www.ucd.ie/ibis) or by contacting tel: (01) 716 8670 or [ibis@ucd.ie](mailto:ibis@ucd.ie).

## Take it to the next level...

### CPE's new Masters in Mediation and Conflict Resolution

Continuing education is a real necessity for today's professionals. For more than 10 years UCD's Centre for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) has been meeting this need with particular emphasis on up-skilling, career enhancement and sometimes career shifts. CPE responds to this challenge by offering highly flexible and innovative teaching. This includes modular course format, satellite learning, in-company training and internet-based support. We have taught over 7,500 students across a range of ever increasing courses with over 1,000 students currently enrolled in CPE courses. The Centre works closely with academic staff, related specialists and professional bodies to deliver flexible, accredited and practical learning.

New courses and skills have developed as traditional careers have shifted and society

has evolved. The Department of Social Policy and Social Work developed the Masters in Mediation and Conflict Resolution with CPE as a response to a rapid growth in this field. The new Masters programme provides a challenging learning experience for those who wish to develop their practice in the field of mediation and conflict resolution. Academic Director, Delma Sweeney, asserts, "Mediation is a new profession across the world with a skills and theoretical backdrop that has been building since the 1980s".

Mediation offers the potential for two or more parties to resolve a dispute and find a solution. According to Delma Sweeney, "conflict resolution principles are widely applicable across industry, politics, education, community and the family". The masters degree offers two modes: Mode A and Mode B. Mode A is for those who wish to

undertake a 'taught' masters programme while training as a professional mediator in a specialist field of mediation. Mode B is for those who have already completed their specialist professional training and who wish to undertake a masters programme by research and assignment.

Further information on this Masters and other CPE courses are available on website [www.ucd.ie/cpe](http://www.ucd.ie/cpe) or alternatively at the annual CPE Open Evening taking place on 23 March 2005 in O'Reilly Hall. In conjunction with the Open Evening, the centre will also be launching CPEIreland. This is an exciting new initiative which will bring together the diverse continuing professional education activities in Ireland across the third level sector. For more information tel: (01) 7168712 or [cpe@ucd.ie](mailto:cpe@ucd.ie)



## L&H - 150 Years of History

This year, The Literary & Historical Society, like UCD itself, is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its foundation by Cardinal Newman. The L&H has been at the very heart of student life in UCD since its foundation and is the most celebrated debating society in Ireland and the largest student society in Europe. Many leading people in Irish life cut their teeth in the Society, and today the L&H regularly attracts guest speakers of the highest calibre.

To commemorate this anniversary milestone a new history of the Society is being published to complement the first published fifty years ago. Chaired by Desmond Green (Auditor 1961-62) the book is edited by writer and barrister Frank Callanan (Auditor 1977-78). Many old L&Hers including Eamon Delaney, Maeve Binchy, Owen Dudley Edwards, Vincent Browne, Kevin Myers, Adrian Hardiman and Michael McDowell contribute to the book. The original *Centenary History*, edited by James Meenan is also being reprinted. The new book will be launched at the L&H gala 150th Anniversary Dinner on Saturday 5 March 2005.

Both books can be ordered online at [www.landh150.com](http://www.landh150.com), or by emailing Paul Brady (Auditor 2000-2001) at [pb@bradyco.ie](mailto:pb@bradyco.ie). Tickets for the dinner may be purchased through the Society, or by emailing Auditor Frank Kennedy at [auditor@literaryandhistorical.com](mailto:auditor@literaryandhistorical.com)

## UCD 150 Student Week

The UCD 150 Student Week will run from 28 February to 4 March 2005. Check all the exciting events planned during the week at [www.ucd.ie/150](http://www.ucd.ie/150)

## Temptation Island...

The 2005 UCD Fashion Show 'Temptation Island' will take place in Dublin's Point Theatre on 4 March. Over 6,000 loyal fashion fans are expected to attend the event. All proceeds from this year's show will be donated to the *Tsunami Relief Fund*.

The UCD Arts Fashion Show 2005 is a hotbed of young Irish talent and will showcase some of Ireland's leading young Irish designers in conjunction with the 'UCD Model of the Year' competition. This year the show's production team, French & Morrogh Productions, are launching a Male and Female 'Model of the Year Award'. The winner of this prestigious competition will receive many top prizes and an Irish and international modelling contract.

Another highpoint of the UCD Arts Fashion Show is the highly coveted 'Young Designer Award' presented to emerging fashion design students and judged by a panel of industry experts who have previously included Marc O'Neill, Louise Kennedy, Joanne Hynes and Antonia Campbell Hughes. This nationwide competition is open to anyone studying fashion in Ireland. Many past winners have gone on to realise great success in the world of fashion.



Rosanna Davidson at launch of UCD Arts Fashion Show

To purchase tickets see [www.ticketmaster.ie](http://www.ticketmaster.ie) Tickets cost €40 (€20 for students) plus booking fee.

## Belfield 97.3 fm - celebrating 10 years on the air



Maybe the faces have changed over the years, but Belfield fm has remained a station that is run by students for students - it's *Your music, Your way*. Belfield fm provides a great range of music and chat for all tastes and

allows students interested in the various aspects of broadcast media to gain hands on experience. This year Belfield fm will be on the air for nearly six weeks, the longest period it has ever broadcast. Its next broadcast is from 14 - 19 February.

Belfield fm has recently moved to temporary accommodation outside the Student Centre and has relocated the antenna to the water tower, meaning that the station can now be heard across most of Dublin. The station has helped people all over the world keep in touch with what is happening in UCD through live streaming on [www.Belfieldfm.ie](http://www.Belfieldfm.ie) broadcast 24 hours a day.

## DramSoc - a busy year!

The 78th Session of UCD DramSoc has been an extremely busy one so far. This year DramSoc is hosting the 'Irish Student Drama Association Festival' from 11 to 19 March. Twelve third level institutions from around Ireland will converge on UCD to compete for the most coveted awards in Irish student drama and this will be a great opportunity to catch a glimpse of the best of Irish dramatic talent.

Playwright and film director, Conor McPherson (BA 1991), received an honorary Fellowship from DramSoc on 14 January. McPherson, an internationally established playwright, won the Laurence Olivier/BBC Award for Best New Play for *The Weir* and his latest work, *Shining City*, will soon open on Broadway. On 21 January Frank Kelly (BCL 1960) accepted his honorary Fellowship. Kelly has had a long and illustrious career on the stage, silver screen and television and he is best known for his portrayal of Fr Jack Hackett in the hit Channel 4 sitcom, *Father Ted*. Both men are DramSoc alumni.

Other activities include the DramSoc Comedy Troupe's first show on Tuesday 1 February in the Forum Bar, and the Swing Ball which will be held in the Shelbourne Hotel on Thursday 3 February 2005. DramSoc will also stage a special performance of 'Reduced Shakespeare' on 3 March as part of the students' UCD 150 celebrations on 3 March. For information about DramSoc see [www.ucdDramSoc.com](http://www.ucdDramSoc.com)



Simon Tierney (Auditor) presents Conor McPherson with the Honorary Fellowship of UCD.

students at ucd

# UCD leading the field in men and women's soccer

**With 1,000 members, UCD's men's football club is the largest sports club in any Irish university. It is also the only university club operating in the Eircom League. In women's football, the UCD team dominate the domestic scene and will represent Ireland at the European Club Championships. Lindie Naughton investigates a remarkable success story.**

At the end of March, the Eircom League resumes, with the UCD men's soccer team back in the premier division and determined to stay there. "When we were relegated after nine years in the top division, we got in a new manager, Peter Mahon and have bounced right back, ending up just one point behind Finn Harps at the top of the division 1 table," says Diarmuid McNally. Not only that, but the U21 team won the Dr Tony O'Neill Cup, beating Cork in the final last November, while the intermediate and freshers teams both won their leagues.

## UCD's men's football club is the largest sports club in any Irish university

At intervarsity level, the Collingwood Cup eluded them. "We would be considered the strongest team at college level, but in the past we found that combining Eircom League commitments with the intervarsities, which take place from Monday to Friday in a single week, was difficult. Although some of the lads were tired after an Eircom league match on the Sunday, we got to the final last year and were unlucky to lose 1-2 to UCC, who have won for the past three years."

With the Collingwood Cup in March, just before the Eircom League kicks off, hopes are high that UCD can at last nail down the most prestigious of intervarsity honours this season. The freshers play in the Harty Cup, which they won in 2003, and the inters in the Crowley Cup.

However, maintaining its position in the Eircom League is the most important consideration for the club, which offers a unique opportunity for talented youngsters not only to play top-level football, but to get a decent education. "Too many young lads leave school at 14 or 15 and go to one of

the big English clubs like Liverpool or Manchester United, where it's a cattle market," says McNally. "When they're dropped, they come back completely disillusioned, not realising that it's almost impossible to make it over there at that age. We offer an alternative and this year we have started a Back to Learning programme allowing the lads to get a qualification and keep their playing skills in the shop window. This means they are not damaging their prospects of being picked up by a bigger team in the future, which is very important for them". Through the programme, players will qualify for the Diploma in Sports Management course. Of the fifteen scholarship places awarded in the current year, seven are for the Back to Learning programme.

In the off-season, the usual movements of players take place and from their promotion winning first team UCD have lost striker Willie Doyle, who scored 16 goals for the club last season, while in the second year of the Sports Management Diploma course. Although Doyle was offered a scholarship, he turned it down and has signed for Waterford, another ambitious team operating in the top flight of the Eircom League.

For the UCD women's soccer club, winning has become a habit. This year for the third successive time, they won the WFAI Cup and can look forward again to European competition next summer. This year's cup final took place in Lansdowne Road after the men's final on October 24 - a considerable boost for the women's game in Ireland. UCD were in no way awed and beat Dundalk 4-1. In the league, the club remained unbeaten for the entire season. There was also victory in the DWSL Cup when the students beat St James Gate 6-1, and a comprehensive Leinster League victory. So is there anyone out there who can take them on? "Because we prepare for playing in Europe, we find our standard of fitness is higher than for some of the other teams," says team striker and club secretary Carmel Kissane.

Thanks to fitness trainer Lisa Regan, every member of the squad has a personal fitness routine, including weight training. "Very few other clubs use weight training. We are also used to playing on the big pitch at home, unlike a lot of the teams we play, who tell us they need oxygen when they come to us! In our matches, we kill teams off in the last twenty minutes because we are so much fitter."



Mary Waldron, UCD, in action against Sharon Dromgoole, Dundalk, 2004 FAI Ladies National Senior Cup Final, UCD v Dundalk, Lansdowne Road, Dublin

One of the club's stars is Karina Kelly, who is the only current player on scholarship. "For some reason, we got very few applications last year. But it's looking better for next season - we've had a number of inquiries from Irish U19 international players."

## For the UCD women's soccer club, winning has become a habit.

Heading for Europe, one of the club's biggest problems has been getting the standard of match practice they need. "Before France this year, we played the Northern Ireland international team twice, which was a big help

because there was nothing between us. In France, we played a lot better than in Norway the previous year, although the heat really got to us."

The summer team includes a few outsiders, but this is kept strictly under control. "We have five non-UCD players and we try and hold it at that. We get loads of emails from players in outside clubs wanting to join us. But we are funded by UCD, we play in Belfield, so we feel our guest players really must have something special to offer before we take them on."

Lindie Naughton BA 1974 is a sports journalist and author, whose most recent book "Lady Icarus - the Life of Irish Aviator Lady Mary Heath" (Ashfield Press) was published in October 2004.

Robbie Martin, UCD, in action against Martin Cummins, Kilkenny City, Eircom League, First Division, First Division, UCD v Kilkenny City, Belfield Park



# SOCCER

## A Comment The 10th Discourse (after Dan Brown)

Emeritus Moriarty, Yale Professor of Signology, puffed contentedly on his briar pipe. "I deserve this moment of serene self-satisfaction", he mused, "After all, it isn't every day a man cracks the code which contains the answer to every question asked about the history of the Irish university sector for 150 years." In accelerating contentment, he ponders the startling evidence he has gleaned: first from his conclusive proof that Cardinal John Henry Newman had in fact delivered a tenth discourse on *The Idea of a University*; then, from further contemplation of the revelation that Newman had refuted all his earlier assertions and even his very identity in this long-hidden text, known to signologists for over a century as *The Dark Discourse*.

Incredible as it would seem, Newman was, in fact, Cardinal Joan Henry Newman! With her secret lover, P2 lodge member Cardinal Paul Cullen, they had founded a dynasty which ultimately destroyed the Catholic Church in Ireland. If it were not all there in *The Dark Discourse*, one could scarcely believe that Newman and Cullen had achieved this through the technology assisted conception of triplets, Eamon De Valera, John Charles McQuaid and Michael Tierney whose identity as blood brothers was kept secret by their separation at birth and the provision of false birth certs by P2 after the burning of the Four Courts. This was what enabled them to plan the destruction of Catholic Ireland - while masquerading as its staunchest defenders! And to think that those who hadn't read *The Dark Discourse* probably still believed that Tierney and his university were hostile to Fianna Fáil!

And to think that his graduate student had attempted to rob his discovery of its lustre: "maybe *The Dark Discourse* is an elaborate hoax" she impertinently suggested, "Carried out by a skilled charlatan with a simple, but ingenious formula which involves flattering readers by making them feel privy to information which has been a closely guarded secret for centuries?" "And", she went on, "Maybe the discourse isn't susceptible of straightforward interpretation and explanation. Can we be so sure that ancient texts contain both a univocal meaning and one that is easily inserted into our contemporary preoccupations and polemics?"

"What a prig", Emeritus thought as he re-filled the briar, "She's obviously completely failed to appreciate the significance of the reference to Nelson's Pillar; if it hadn't been destroyed when it was, the secret, joint burial place of Cardinal Paul and Cardinal Joan, located six feet beneath its base, would have been discovered! Wonder how the two university administrators buried in their stead in Clonliffe and Rednal are sleeping tonight?"

PC

## The University and Society: From Newman to the Market

O'Reilly Hall - Thursday 10 and Friday 11 February

The Faculty of Human Sciences celebrates 150 years of teaching, research and service to Ireland and the wider world community with a major conference to be held in O'Reilly Hall on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 February.

"What are we here for?" Newman's question at the opening of the Catholic University in 1854 is still the challenge

pivotal to the evolution and development of a 21st century university. This conference will revisit Newman's key question and international scholars and policy influencers will develop the central themes of Newman's vision of the University and society in the market-driven reality of modern education. Three themes will be explored, namely: liberal education post-Newman, the research

mission of the university, and the university and civil society. Speakers will include Professor Sheldon Rothblatt of the University of California Berkeley, Professor Yves Mény, President of the European University Institute Florence, and Professor Marja Makarow, Vice-Rektor, University of Helsinki. For further information contact tel: 716-8619 or FHS@ucd.ie

## Funding for 2 PhD studentships in Psychology Department

Dr Gary O'Reilly and Professor Alan Carr, from the Psychology Department have recently secured funding of €135,000 over three years for two PhD studentships to conduct research on the assessment and treatment of adult sex offenders. The funding has come from the EU organisation CAWT (Co-operation and Working Together) via two clinical psychology services on either side of the border that offer community treatment for sex offenders. The services are the NWHB, where Olive Travers is the Senior Clinical Psychologist, and Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital where Paul Quinn is the Consultant Clinical Psychologist. Dr O'Reilly and Professor Carr's book *Handbook of Clinical Intervention with Young People Who Sexually Abuse* was recently published by Routledge. Their report on an independent evaluation of the Irish Prison Service Sex offender Treatment Programme will be published this year.

## Eleventh John Maurice Kelly Memorial Lecture

**The eleventh John Maurice Kelly Memorial Lecture was delivered by Baroness Brenda Hale on Friday 21 January before a distinguished audience which included the Minister for Justice, Mr Michael McDowell; the Chief Justice, Mr Justice John Murray; and Justices Nial Fennelly, Adrian Hardiman, Hugh Geoghegan and Catherine McGuinness of the Supreme Court.**

The title of Baroness Hale's lecture was 'Law Maker or Law Reformer - what is a Law Lady for?' The lecture considered the role of Judges in the

context of interpreting, making and reforming the law and considered what distinct perspective, if any, a female judge could bring to judicial decision-making.

Baroness Hale has the distinction of becoming the first woman to be appointed to the United Kingdom's highest court, the House of Lords. She was appointed 'Lord of Appeal in Ordinary' in 2004 after a varied career as an academic lawyer, law reformer and judge. Baroness Hale is the fourth member of the House of Lords to deliver the John Maurice Kelly Memorial Lecture (the others were Lord Alan Rodger; Lord Leonard Hoffman, and Lord Johann Steyn).

The Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Paul O'Connor, stated in his introductory remarks that the lecture series was, "a particularly fitting memorial to John Maurice Kelly, former Professor of Roman Law and Jurisprudence at UCD, who contributed so much to the development of the Faculty of Law, to legal scholarship in Ireland and further afield, and as a public servant and parliamentarian to the political culture of the Irish State".



(L-R) Chief Justice, the Honourable Mr Justice John Murray, Baroness Hale, The Honourable Mrs Justice McGuinness and Ronan Keane, former Chief Justice.



# Calendar of Events

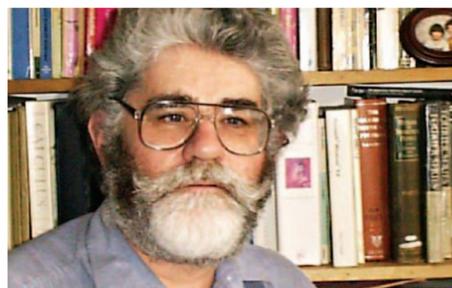
# UCD 150

## February - April 2005

Date	Event	Place / Time	Organiser
7 - 9 Feb	Cultural Diversity Week	UCD	International Office
10 Feb	Conference 'Evaluation and evidence-based policy making, getting the evidence into policy-making and implementation'	Astra Hall	Geary Institute/ National Economic and Social Forum (NESF)
10-11 Feb	Conference 'University & Society: From Newman to the Market'	O'Reilly Hall	Faculty of Human Sciences
21 Feb	Launch of International Centre for Newman Studies	Newman House 4pm	Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
23 Feb	Launch of National Network for Continuing Professional Education Providers	O'Reilly Hall 5pm	Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
23 Feb	UCD Sinfonia Concert	National Concert Hall	Contact wolfgang.marx@ucd.ie
28 Feb - 4 Mar	UCD 150 Student Week	UCD	Vice-President for Students/ UCD 150
2 Mar	Irish Times Debates Finals	O'Reilly Hall	L&H Society
3 Mar	DramSoc Celebratory 150 Performance	Astra Hall	DramSoc
3 Mar	Reception for Retired Staff	O'Reilly Hall	UCD 150 Committee
3 Mar	Issues and Challenges in working on International Development	Astra Hall	Centre for Development Studies
4 Mar	UCD 150 Arts Fashion Show	The Point Depot	Arts Faculty / French & Morrogh Productions
5 Mar	Literary & Historical Society 150th Anniversary Dinner	O'Reilly Hall	L&H
10 Mar	UCD 150 Ulysses Inaugural Lecture	O'Reilly Hall 5.30pm	Vice President for Innovation & Corporate Partnerships
12 Mar	'Be a Student for a day'	UCD	Faculty of Arts
15-16 Mar	Neurodegeneration Ireland	O'Reilly Hall	Conway Institute
6-7 Apr	UCD Choral Scholars Spring Concert 'The Messiah'	St Ann's Church, Dawson Street	UCD Choral Scholars. Contact 716-2109 or choralscholars@ucd.ie
14 Apr	Business Symposium	Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business	Faculty of Commerce
12 Apr	Current Research in the Faculty of Engineering & Architecture at UCD	O'Reilly Hall Afternoon	Faculty of Engineering & Architecture
12 Apr	Shaping the Future - from the Miniscule to the Metropolitan	O'Reilly Hall Evening	Faculty of Engineering & Architecture
15 Apr	Rugby Dinner	O'Reilly Hall 7.30pm	Contact Paul Keenan tel: 4700561
22 Apr	Law Faculty Dinner	O'Reilly Hall	Paul Ward tel: 716 8717 Paul.ward@ucd.ie
22 Apr	The Productivity Argument for Investing in Young Children - Prof James Heckman (Nobel Prize in Economics) Lecture	Geary Institute 4pm	Geary Institute

For details on all events see <http://www.ucd.ie/150/>

## Peter Lynch - Met Eireann Professor of Meteorology & Director of the Meteorology and Climate Centre



Peter Lynch was formerly Deputy Director at Met Eireann and has wide interests in dynamic meteorology, climate modelling and numerical weather prediction. A Masters programme in meteorology has recently been launched in the Mathematical Physics Department, with fourteen students registered. Undergraduate modules will be introduced later. Peter can be contacted at tel: 716-2431 or [peter.lynch@ucd.ie](mailto:peter.lynch@ucd.ie)

## Network Corner @ UCD



## Mohamed Al-Rubeai - SFI Investigator, Professor of Biochemical Engineering

Mohamed previously worked at the Centre for Biochemical Engineering and later the Centre for Formulation Engineering at the University of Birmingham, where he was Professor of Biotechnology and leader of the Animal Cell Technology Group. He is an internationally renowned researcher with close funding and consultancy collaborations with leading biopharma companies worldwide. He is a member of several international advisory, editorial and reviewing scientific bodies related to Biochemical Engineering, is editor of *Cell Engineering* and author of over 300 professional papers, conference proceedings and patents reflecting his interests in the areas of cell culture, tissue engineering, flow cytometry and apoptosis. His laboratory is dedicated to the process engineering of biotechnological processes involving animal cells based on a combination of engineering, analytical, biological and physiological skills. Mohamed can be contacted at tel: 716 1862 or [m.al-rubeai@ucd.ie](mailto:m.al-rubeai@ucd.ie)

## Simon More - Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis

Simon holds a BVSc and a PhD from the University of Sydney and James Cook University of North Queensland respectively, is a Fellow of the Australian College of Veterinary Science and a Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Public Health and has also completed a Graduate Diploma in Project Management from the University of New England. He previously worked as a senior consultant for AusVet Animal Health Services in Brisbane, Australia. Simon is also Director of the Centre for Veterinary

Epidemiology and Risk Analysis (CVERA) where he provides national leadership in the fields of veterinary epidemiology and risk analysis. CVERA is tackling many issues relating to the control and eradication of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis in Ireland, the establishment of a national herd health initiative and the facilitation of strategic collaboration between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in animal disease. Simon can be contacted at tel: 7166071 or at [simon.more@ucd.ie](mailto:simon.more@ucd.ie)

## Paddy Nixon - SFI Investigator, Chair of Computer Science

Paddy holds a BSc, MA and PhD in Computer Science, is a chartered engineer and a member of the BCS, ACM and IEEE. Paddy was appointed as the youngest Professor of Computer Science in the UK aged 32. At Strathclyde University he established and led the Global and Pervasive Computing Group and was research co-director of the Kelvin Institute. He has held visiting positions at California Institute of Technology and University of Warsaw. His research interests are in the areas of Pervasive Computing with specific emphasis on infrastructure aspects of Distributed Computing, Component Software Engineering, Resource Discovery,



Context Adaptive Systems and Mobile Code systems. Paddy has edited 6 books and over 100 refereed publications and is editor for special issues of *Communications of the ACM*, *Personal and Ubiquitous Computing Journal*, the *Journal of Mobile and Pervasive Computing*, *IEEE Internet Computing*, the *Software Quality Journal* and *The Computer Journal*.

## Gerry Looby - Director of Development

Gerry is a graduate of UCD with undergraduate and masters degrees in Agricultural Science and an MBA from the Smurfit School. Gerry joins UCD from CardBASE Technologies, a software development company he helped establish in 1993. Prior to CardBASE, Gerry worked with Allen McGuire & Partners, Oracle

Corporation and Accenture. As Director of Development, Gerry will be responsible for the formulation and implementation of the university's fundraising strategy and will lead UCD's fundraising effort in relation to individual, corporate, foundation and alumni giving. Gerry can be contacted at tel: 716-1281 or [gerry.looby@ucd.ie](mailto:gerry.looby@ucd.ie)