



University College Cork
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

The College Courier

STAFF MAGAZINE WINTER 2002



Exterior view of the newly constructed interdisciplinary Biosciences Research Institute, UCC

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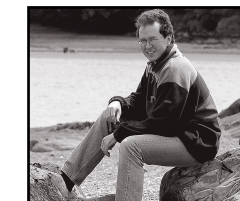
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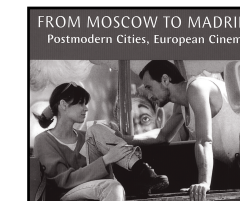
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COMPETITION RESULT

Congratulations to Mary O'Mahony, Switchboard, winner of the *The College Courier's* summer competition. Mary receives a Meadows & Byrne gift token.

WINTER COMPETITION

Q. Which town in County Cork has recently unveiled a statue of Michael Collins?

1. Bandon 2. Cobh 3. Clonakilty

Readers should send completed competition postcards to Roslyn Cox, Public Affairs.

This issue's competition prize is dinner for two at Greene's Restaurant.

Entries to be received by Friday, 10 January 2003

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New era dawns for Research Funding Opportunities at UCC

Dr Ruth Davis (*below*), Research Support Officer, Office for Research Policy & Support, explains to *The College Courier* why the EU's Sixth Framework Programme (FP6) research funding programme is important to UCC.



For four days last month, beginning on 11 November, some 8,000 people from all over Europe gathered in Brussels for the official launch of the EU's Sixth Framework Programme, the main instrument for research funding in Europe, which will become operational on 1 January 2003. The €17.5 billion programme has major implications for University College Cork.

In the past, European Framework Programmes (FPs) have helped to develop a culture of scientific and technological co-operation between various EU countries and have achieved good research results, but not, according to the EU, the ultimate aim of creating coherence throughout the European Union. The Sixth Framework Programme (FP6), has, therefore, been re-defined and streamlined with the specific purpose of developing a true European Research Area (ERA) in which the European vision of an internal market for research, science and technology, is enshrined. At the Lisbon Summit in March 2001,

EU governments called for a better use of European research efforts through the ERA and decided to make FP6 the instrument by which it will become a reality.

The Lisbon Summit decided that FP6 should concentrate European efforts on fewer priorities, in particular, on areas where "co-operation at European level presents clear added value," that there should be a move towards progressive integration of activities of all relevant participants working at different levels, that the programme should support research activities designed to have a lasting "structuring" impact and which would strengthen Europe's scientific and technological standing, and that the scientific potential of candidate countries should be used to assist their accession and the overall good of the Union. The programme also has a degree of urgency in that the R&D investment gap between Europe and the US is now running at €75 billion a year and growing. The mission statement was: "To help Europe achieve a critical mass of capacities needed to develop and exploit, especially for greater eco-efficiency and reduction of discharges of hazardous substances to the environment, leading-edge technologies for the knowledge-based products, services and manufacturing processes for the years to come."

UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITIES FOR UCC

The massive budget for the Sixth Framework Programme represents almost four per cent of the EU's total budget in 2001 and 5.4 per cent of all public (non-military) research spending in Europe. The budget for the sixth programme bears comparison with that for the first (1984-1987) which received total funding of €3.27 billion. For institutions such as UCC, with a strong research focus, the new programme amounts to an unparalleled opportunity to form dynamic and mobile research partnerships with other academic bodies and with the private sector, and to avail of the generous funding provision that has been made available.

As far as UCC is concerned, FP6, for the next five years, will be the mechanism through which a significant proportion of applications for research funding will be channelled. By far the largest tranche of the

budget will be earmarked for "focusing and integrating" future research activities based on seven thematic priority areas. They are: life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health; information society technologies; nanotechnologies, multifunctional materials and new production processes; aeronautics and space; food quality and safety; sustainable development, global change and ecosystems (including energy and transport research) and, citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society. The participation of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are specifically encouraged under the programme and 15 per cent of the funding available to the thematic priority areas has been allocated to this sector. In order to strengthen the foundations of the ERA, dedicated budgets have been provided in the areas of research and innovation, Marie Curie Actions - human resources and mobility, research infrastructures and science and society. Dedicated funding is also being provided under the heading of cross-cutting research activities, which will include research for policy support, new and emerging science and technologies, specific SME activities and specific international co-operation activities.

More than ever, according to Ruth Davis, UCC's link to European funding, it will be vital for UCC to be vigilant in this exciting era, to keep abreast of the funding developments and opportunities as they unfold, and to establish where and how on-campus research activities should actively seek outside partnerships for funding under the programme. It will be just as vital, she adds, for all departments in the University to acquaint themselves with the provisions of FP6 and to establish how best applications for funding should be formatted. "It's not going to be easy. The programme is seeking integrated projects and networks of excellence. An application from a UCC department, for instance, would require a minimum of two partners from other countries; in fact, the more partners the better. In some areas, UCC may drive the partnership, in others it may seek to join it. It is really about being mobile, seeking out the right contacts and combining to form a critical mass of research expertise in a given area. And it's a pan-European effort, that's what makes it so exciting. This is the first EU programme to make research funding on this scale available. How

applications are presented and the success in joining or creating partnerships will be very important. The underlying principle is that the fund users must enhance societal good in the EU and benefit its science, technology and competitiveness. Effectively, this is the EU's R&D programme and every department in UCC has the potential to become involved and to be a beneficiary," continued Ruth.

Prior to the establishment of the National Development Plan (NDP) the EU was UCC's main source of funding. While NDP funding had been critical in positioning the University to be competitive in terms of equipment, infrastructure and new buildings, Ruth Davis said, pressure on the national Exchequer meant the availability of EU programmes, such as FP6, would become even more important. "We must not lose sight of the fact that last year, UCC's income from EU research funding was €8.144 million, or almost a quarter of the University's total income of €35.038 million. It is more vital than ever that we should keep our eye on the ball and be willing to join or initiate ambitious projects that will qualify under the programme".

The first call for proposals under FP6 is about to be made and there will be others at various stages. UCC departments, Ruth said, are encouraged to present proposals at the first call stage - "for one, there will be less competition" - and newcomers to the process are encouraged to find partners with experience of EU procedures. "FP6 is now the bottom line for EU funding," she added.

A research information bulletin goes out monthly from the Office for Research, Policy & Support (website: www.ucc.ie/research/vp) and information is also available from the Enterprise Ireland R&D bulletin. The programme is explained fully on website <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/activities.htm>



MARK HUTCHINSON, Lecturer, joined the Department of Accounting, Finance & Information Systems in September 2002. Mark has undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Finance from UCC, and returns from London where he has been working as an Equity Derivatives Trader. His research interests include hedge fund trading strategies and the effects of inflation on stock returns.



DR JORGE OLIVEIRA was appointed Senior Lecturer in Process Engineering in September 2002. He is a chartered chemical engineer and is a member of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland, Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK and Institute of Food Technologists, USA. He was awarded his BEng - Chemical Engineering by the University of Porto, Portugal (1984), and a PhD (Food Engineering) by the University of Leeds, UK (1989). His research targets the design and optimisation of production systems of food and biological products, including customer-oriented product design engineering.

Jorge was Associate Professor at the College of Biotechnology, Catholic University of Portugal until 1998. During 1997-1998 he was Head of Projects & Development at the Inter-University Institute of Macau, and invited Professor at the College of Nutrition Sciences, University of Porto, Portugal, from 1994 to 1997. He was a founding partner and senior business consultant of "Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação, S.A.", the Portuguese Society for Innovation, a private consultancy company. He was Visiting Professor at the Department of Food and Nutritional Sciences, UCC, from 1999 to 2002.



DR ROB McALLEN has joined the Department of Zoology & Animal Ecology, UCC, as a College Lecturer. His first degree, in Marine Biology, was awarded by University College Swansea in 1994 and the University of London awarded him his PhD in 1998. He has worked as a Lecturer in Animal Behaviour & Ecology at the University of York and as a Teaching and Research Fellow in the Department of Zoology at the University of Aberdeen. He took up his new position at UCC in September 2002. His current research interests centre on understanding the physiology, ecology and behaviour of organisms inhabiting extreme marine environments. Current research includes aspects of intertidal ecology and deep-sea biology (the latter in collaboration with Oceanlab at the University of Aberdeen. This has included two research cruises to the Porcupine Seabight and Abyssal plain areas of the North Atlantic aboard RRS Discovery.



DR SALLY CUDMORE has been appointed the Manager of the Biosciences Research Institute and took up this position in September 2002. She obtained a Biochemistry degree at UCC and then pursued her PhD at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Germany. Following a short postdoctoral period at EMBL, Sally carried out further postdoctoral research at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Before joining UCC Sally was Head of Cell Biology and Project Leader at Elan Biotechnology Research in Dublin.



JOHN McAVOY has been appointed Lecturer in Business Information Systems. He graduated from UCG in 1991 with a degree in Industrial Engineering and has worked in industry since then. This took him into areas such CAD/CAM, Operating systems, technical support, training, and software development. John did an MSc by research in UCC, from which he graduated in 2001. His main areas of interest are databases, operating systems, and software engineering.



FERGAL CARTON has recently joined BIS as a Lecturer following 15 years working as a consultant in a variety of industries, most recently having spent 4 years with EMC Ireland. With a BSc from UCD and an MBA from the European School of Management Studies, Fergal's PhD research area is in the implementation of information systems to support business processes.



BARRY FOLEY has been appointed IT Analyst in the User Services section of the Computer Centre, providing technical support for staff and students in UCC. He is a Microsoft Certified Professional and has been working as a server technician in Dell Computers, Dublin, for the past two and a half years. Before that he worked on the Helpdesk in the Computer Centre, UCC



CHRISTINE McCREARY was appointed in September 2002 as Statutory Lecturer/Consultant in Oral Medicine in the University Dental School and Hospital, UCC. Originally from Belfast, she graduated from the University of Dublin (Trinity College) in 1983 in dentistry and in 1991 in medicine. Christine obtained a higher training in oral medicine in Dublin and was appointed to the dental school in Dublin as a consultant in oral medicine in 1997. She was conferred with her MD from Trinity in 2001, and after 24 years of living in Dublin she decided to move to Cork. Her research interests, in the field of oral medicine, include lichen planus and oral dysesthesia and Christine is also interested in dental education at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.



MYLES CORCORAN joined UCC in October 2002 as an IT analyst with the Operations/Networks group in the Computer Centre. His previous position was as a software engineer with Alcatel, the French telecommunications multinational. Prior to that Myles worked in Paris and Dublin as a research astronomer in the field of star formation.



DR NIAMH HOURIGAN has been appointed College Lecturer in Sociology. Her research interests include globalization, media, social movements and culture. Her book *Escaping the Global Village: Media, Language and Protest* will be published in the coming months.



JOHN GAMBLE is the newly-appointed Professor of Geology at UCC. John took up his position in early August 2002. For 22 years he had been at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, in the School of Earth Sciences. He completed a PhD in Geology at the Queen's University of Belfast and left for Australia in January 1974 where he taught in the Geology Department of the University of Newcastle, before moving across the Tasman in 1980. He was awarded a DSc in 2000 by Queen's University.

His research interests are in the composition and processes of the earth's deep interior and he has worked extensively on the geochemistry of arc volcanoes, in New Zealand, and the Pacific Rim. He has also spent 8 field seasons in Antarctica, as part of the flagship VUWAE Research programme.

His wife Frances, was IT specialist at the New Zealand Institute for Economic Research, with responsibility for internet, data base acquisition and library. They have three children, Fiona (25) is presently in Scotland, Tom (23) is working in Wellington and Mary (20) is in Dunedin at Otago University. All three plan to be in Ireland for Christmas. He enjoys fly fishing, tennis, a bit of tramping (hiking), good wine and following the Hurricanes Super 12 Rugby side.



DR EMANUEL MIHAI POPOVICI took up the position of College Lecturer in Microelectronic Engineering in September 2002. He completed his BEng in Computer Engineering at the University Politehnica of Timisoara, Romania in 1997. In 2002 he was awarded his PhD in Microelectronic Engineering from UCC. Prior to his appointment, Emanuel took up postdoctoral research at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, UCC. His research interests include error control coding and cryptography for computer and communication systems.



PAUL BARRY has been appointed as a Lecturer in Business Information Systems. He studied Electrical Engineering in UCC from 1995-1999 and was awarded an MBS in Electronic Business and Commerce 1999-2001. Before joining UCC Paul worked in Logica Mobile Networks as a Software Engineer. He took up his position in BIS in October 2002.



GERARD HOOTON took up the position of Technician in the Department of Microelectronic Engineering in August 2002. Before joining UCC Gerard worked for a number of companies in the Computer and Electronics industry including EG&G, Stratus Computer, Marconi and Eurologic Systems. He has a BSc in IT from DCU.



DR AIDAN DOYLE joined UCC in October 2002 as College Lecturer in Modern Irish. A graduate of UCC, Aidan worked for a long time in Poland where he helped to set up a department of Celtic linguistics at the University of Lublin. He obtained a PhD from Lublin where he has just submitted a postdoctoral dissertation. He was also a visiting researcher at the universities of Oxford and Bonn. Aidan returns to UCC to lecture on the structure of the Irish language.



CIARA HEAVIN took up the position of College Lecturer in Business Information Systems in September 2002. She graduated from UCC with a BSc in Business Information Systems and an MSc in Management Information Systems. Ciara is pursuing a PhD in the area of Software Development and Approaches. Her research to date focuses on software initiatives in Ireland's Software Industry.



MICHAEL FIELD, IT Analyst, Computer Science, graduated from UCC last year with a degree in Electrical Engineering. As a student he worked in computer support with the Computer Centre since 2000.



SUZANNE BUCKLEY, a UCC Economics graduate, has recently been appointed Acting International Student Officer within the International Education Office. Suzanne worked in the Department of History and in Accounting, Finance & Information Systems at UCC before joining Aer Lingus as part of the cabin crew on long haul flights. She returns to UCC having travelled the world with the state airline, during which time she greatly enjoyed her exposure to a range of international cultures and perspectives. She brings this and her previous UCC experience to bear in a position that is likely to both exploit and challenge her understanding of different cultures, lifestyles and expectations.



DR BERNADETTE SWEENEY has been appointed as Lecturer in Drama and Theatre Studies, Department of English, UCC. She received her PhD from Trinity College Dublin earlier this year. Her research focuses on the body in performance and the interface of performance theory and practice.



EAP - One Year On

UCC's Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) run by Dovedale Counselling Ltd, an external service provider, is now one year old. The process of evaluating the Programme's success has begun.

According to Dovedale managing director, Richard Hopkins, since October 2001, when the EAP was initiated, there had been a 3.3 per cent uptake amongst all staff at UCC which amounted to a satisfactory response in the first year of a two-year programme. "Given that financial and legal counselling services were included, we would have preferred an uptake in the region of five per cent or better, but naturally, it has taken some time for people to become familiar with the availability of the programme and how to take advantage of it, and so we are satisfied with the response and with the fact that staff who have used it have done so in the right way," he added.

Within the uptake group, some 60 per cent of staff availed of the face-to-face service provided under the programme, which was in line with the norm of 60-65 per cent. This group tended to seek help for personal reasons, such as anxiety, self-confidence, self-esteem and work-related issues, including performance and career concerns. The remainder of those who availed of the service used the help line to discuss financial, legal and some work-related issues.

One of the interesting points to emerge over the past number of months, Richard said, was the increase in the number of staff who used the service, mainly on a one-to-one basis, for advice on family and relationship issues. This tended to reflect social change in Ireland in the areas of family and divorce, and was therefore not surprising. Statistically, in the UK, 41 per cent of people who used the service did so to discuss personal matters – the UCC figure for the year was 48 per cent – while the normal contact rate for family and relationship issues in the UK was 18 per cent as against 25 per cent at UCC. Most people called the helpline during working hours but made appointments for face-to-face meetings outside working hours. The statistical analysis for UCC revealed figures that were quite normal for other organisations in Ireland using the service, according to Richard, who said that bullying in the workplace was no more than a minor issue

raised by staff during contact with the EAP. The Dovedale report on the operation of the first year of the programme at UCC is now almost complete, and the results of a survey to determine awareness of the programme are being collated.

Eight professionals, expert in a variety of areas, who are on call seven-days-a-week on a 24-hour basis, staff the helpline in Navan. As well as undergoing training in helpline procedures, they were also trained by Dovedale in the company's own protocols. In Cork, a team of ten professionally accredited counsellors is available to staff. The team was appointed after a rigorous selection process and following approval by the Human Resources Department at UCC.

Staff who used the programme had given it a high rating, Richard said, and the hope was, that in the second year, increasing numbers of staff would avail of it. "There's a certain comfort zone in having such a service available. The experience in other organisations is that even where staff members did not personally use the service, they were reluctant to see it discontinued because they regarded it as something very positive. Even if they were not using it themselves, they liked to know it was there and available to them. In our second year, the skill will be to keep reminding staff at UCC that it is their programme, for *their* use, and we will be working very hard to achieve greater participation and uptake. In the first month, more than 20 staff used the programme and since then the average has been about six or seven people a month. Our objective is to see the numbers rising again and to encourage more staff members to avail of the service. We will be putting a programme of activities in place to help them do so," Richard said.

Richard Hopkins was talking to The College Courier

Relocating to Ireland

Until she met her husband, Hans van den Bos, in 1992, Hilary Reynolds (*below*), a classical singer and singing teacher, knew little about Ireland, but now, after ten years "studying" the country, its history and its culture, she knows a lot more.

After graduating from the Royal Academy of Music in London, she travelled widely in Europe as a professional soprano. She worked as a soloist with choirs and orchestras throughout Holland, where she had been living for the past twenty-four years, but in 1992 she decided to somewhat change her busy life, which also included solo recitals and radio work, to concentrate on teaching, which she describes as one of the great passions of her life, "I love teaching, in fact, I'm potty about it", she said.

In August 1994, she married Hans, a bookseller in Rotterdam specialising in literature and art. For more than twenty years, Hans had been a keen student of Irish literature and history and a frequent

visitor to this country. He suggested Dublin as a honeymoon destination and the newly-weds spent the next four days following the Joyce trail throughout the city. "I fell in love with Dublin immediately and now I was hooked on Ireland as well. People talk a lot about the weather here but after the cold of Holland, I find the Irish climate very mild. In fact, I think the Irish climate is better for a singer than Holland. There is no real industrial pollution here, and if you know Rotterdam, you will know what industrial pollution is all about. You can smell it in the air a mile away from the city", Hilary said.

At every available opportunity the couple spent holidays in Ireland, "our dreamland and our bolthole" and began to give serious consideration to the possibility of moving here permanently. During one holiday, in 1997, Hilary and Hans visited the Friar's Gate Theatre in Kilmallock, Co Limerick, and met its director, Mr John Brazill. He put her in touch with several art centres and there followed a mini-tour in the autumn of the following year. "The audiences weren't huge", continues Hilary, "but it changed my way of thinking about pursuing a career in Ireland. I wrote to Professor David Cox, Head of the Department of Music in UCC, who sent back a very encouraging letter in which he suggested that there might well be possibilities for me in Ireland as a teacher. We were definitely moving in the direction of relocating to Ireland but there were lots of things to consider. After meeting Professor Cox in Cork, we decided to make the move."

House hunting was next on the agenda for this determined couple. They travelled thousands of kilometres covering the Irish countryside like a blanket but everything they saw was either in ruins or not in the right price bracket. They were almost at the end of the three-weeks they had set aside for this purpose, when an auctioneer suggested they view a town house in Tallow. It was theirs within the hour!

Hilary continues. "Buying the house sealed our commitment to move to Ireland. Professor Cox very kindly offered me work in the Department of Music, UCC, and I have been working here very happily for the past number of months with my accompanist, Nicole Panizza. Hans is writing poetry and working on a volume of translations of Irish poets. He's hoping to find a Dutch publisher and, of course, he has brought his own private collection of books with him - 4,000 of them - of which at least 10 metres concern Irish art and history. So, we're definitely here to stay. At this stage, they'll have to carry us out."



Wind Energy to Reduce Greenhouse Gases...?

Wind energy is under serious scrutiny from the Irish Government as it seeks ways to provide energy for an expanding economy and at the same time honour its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In January 2002, Airtricity got the go-ahead from the Government to construct the world's largest offshore wind farm on the Arklow Bank, a sandbank seven kilometres off the coast of Arklow, Co. Wicklow. The foreshore lease is effectively planning permission to build 200 wind turbines (having an installed electricity generating capacity of 520 MW). According to Airtricity, this wind development will have the capacity to meet the needs of more than 500,000 homes and will cost in the region of €630 million to construct. The target completion date is 2007.

This development mirrors a growing interest across the European Union and beyond, in harnessing the vast offshore wind energy resource available. A study commissioned by the EU, involving 13 countries focused on a number of key areas, including, offshore wind turbine technology, electricity network integration, offshore wind power potential, market developments, economics, financing, environment, conflicts of interest, planning, social aspects and prospects. These areas were grouped into five clusters and surveys were carried out to establish the best available information. The team then prepared a state-of-the-art review, using the conclusions to define recommendations for the future European RTD strategy. The Irish participant was Brian Ó Gallachóir (*above*), Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UCC.

URGENT NEED TO DEVELOP WIND TURBINE MODELS

One of the information gaps prioritised in the EU study relates to the integration of wind-generated electricity into the European electricity networks. According to Ó Gallachóir there is an urgent need to develop wind turbine models so that the grid interaction may be simulated dynamically. This would provide greater insight into the impact of wind-generated electricity on networks.

This is one of the many issues dealt with in the EU study, which is also of key importance to onshore wind energy. "The challenge in accommodating wind-generating electricity in the electricity network clearly relates both to onshore and offshore wind energy", says Brian Ó Gallachóir. "In Ireland we are not yet clear on how large-scale wind-generated electricity will impact on electricity networks and this makes it difficult for the Government to set medium-term and long-term targets",

he says. There is a desire to increase the contribution of wind energy to the national grid so that the Irish Government can meet its commitment to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

A government appointed Renewable Energy Strategy Group examined the barriers to increased onshore wind energy deployment. "If current national targets for renewable energy are met, it is projected that about seven per cent of electricity will come from onshore wind farms by 2005", says Brian Ó Gallachóir, who acted as Facilitator to the Group. The electricity system operator, Eirgrid, has expressed concerns about penetration levels higher than that. The Irish Wind Energy Association concluded from studies they commissioned that 20 per cent was acceptable without concern. According to Ó Gallachóir it is probably somewhere in between, and could increase with technological improvements.

ESBI/UCC INTERIM STUDY PUBLISHED

An all-Ireland study may shed some light on these issues. Entitled *Study into the impacts of increased levels of wind penetration on the Irish electricity systems*, this project is being led by Garrad Hassan and also involves ESBI and UCC. The interim report from this study was published in mid-July with the following key findings

- At present, wind energy accounts for 1.5 per cent of gross electricity consumption on the island of Ireland. If the strategies being pursued in both jurisdictions are successful, this is predicted to increase to 10 per cent by 2010.
- The current levels of wind energy penetration are visible, in terms of impact on the power system, to the electricity system operators who have concerns about the anticipated increases.
- The island of Ireland is possibly unique in

facing high wind energy penetration on a system that has only a relatively low-capacity link with other systems. Denmark, Northern Germany and Spain, which have high levels of penetration, also have relatively high capacity links to other systems. This raises technical issues, for which a range of technical, commercial and regulatory solutions appears to be available.

- It is widely acknowledged that an important factor in a power system's ability to accommodate greater levels of wind penetration is improved techniques, experience and ability in forecasting wind power output. These will definitely be useful in dealing with some of the issues identified.
- Having considered the detrimental impacts of high levels of wind energy penetration on the reliable operation of power systems elsewhere, the electricity systems operators are calling for the adoption of a prudent approach, through Grid Code requirements. This will require an investment in and development of new technology by wind project developers and wind turbine manufacturers, and may imply significant costs. However, the costs at present are not considered so high as to threaten the targets for wind generation.
- If the wind industry can respond successfully to these technical requirements, the only technical limit, aside from local limitations, to overall wind energy penetration on the island will be set by a requirement to maintain a generation adequacy standard acceptable to customers. This is an important theoretical conclusion: the study team has not yet reached any decisions about the feasibility of desirability of making wind farms behave almost exactly like conventional generation.



At the launch of the Family Business courses were from left, Freda Hayes, Blarney Woollen Mills, Bill O'Gorman, Management & Marketing, UCC, Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC and Dr Joan Buckley, Management & Marketing, UCC

Ireland's First Family Business Courses Launched

UCC has launched two unique family business programmes, the Master of Commerce in Family Business Direction and the Diploma in Family Business Management. The innovative programmes are a first for Ireland and reflect the fact that over 75 per cent of Irish business is family-owned. The programmes reflect UCC's commitment to the Irish business sector and will form the basis of a developing centre for Family Business as a research and practical support resource for Irish family businesses.

The MComm is aimed at senior managers of family businesses, both family and non-family, and will offer a programme of monthly seminars to acquaint managers with current best practice.

The major objective of the Diploma programme is to develop an understanding of the key issues in family business management for family and non-family managers. Its aim is to underpin key business subjects, recognising that while family

businesses account for over 50 per cent of employment in the Irish manufacturing and service sectors, research indicates that failure is typically due to the inability to manage the transition between generations.

The programmes draw on the departments of Management & Marketing, which launched the initiative, Accounting, Finance and Information Systems, Law and Food Business & Development. The programmes were formally unveiled by Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC and Freda Hayes of Blarney Woollen Mills, spoke on behalf of the Family Business Forum.

Both courses commence in January 2003. The MComm has a maximum of 12 places while the Diploma course will take between 15 - 20 students. For further information on both courses please contact Dr Joan Buckley or Bill O'Gorman, Management & Marketing, UCC, tel: 490 2928/490 3260. For an application form contact Lynn Bannon, Admissions Officer, UCC, tel: 490 2909.

Nobel Laureate in UCC



L-R: Professor Stephen Fahy, Head of Physics, UCC, presents a copy of John A Murphy's book, The College, to Dr William D Phillips, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1997. Dr Paddy McCarthy, Physics, UCC, looks on

Dr William D Phillips, one of three Nobel Laureates for Physics in 1997, whose pioneering work with lasers led to an increased understanding of how atomic particles interact, delivered a guest lecture on campus 29 October last.

In his lecture Dr Phillips explained how atoms, which travel at speeds of up to 4,000 km an hour at room temperature, can be cooled using laser technology, to a temperature less than a millionth of a degree above absolute zero, and slowed to a speed of just one km an hour. The breakthrough, which has opened the way for a more detailed study of the behaviour of atoms, was achieved with fellow Laureates, Professor Stephen Chu (US) and Professor Claude Cohen-Tannoudji of France.

Dr Phillips's visit to UCC marked the first of three public lectures he is giving in Ireland under the aegis of the Institute of Physics in Ireland. His highly popular lectures are characterized by his ability to condense the most arcane scientific topics to language readily understood by the layman. In the lectures, he has been known to make use of props such as ping-pong balls, balloons and carnations.

Dr Phillips is attached to the Atomic Physics Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology at Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA. The division carries out a broad range of programmes in long-term experimental and theoretical research in atomic physics.

Spanish Visitor Lauds UCC



Mercedes Díaz Villarías, a member of staff in the English Department at the University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain, was accepted into Hispanic Studies, UCC, for the summer of 2002 to work on a research project. Mercedes, who has recently won two national prizes for her poetry and her painting in Spain, wrote the following account of her stay in UCC.

"We are currently witnessing a semantic shift in the areas of the plastic arts and of literature and we shall be forced, therefore, over the coming years to create new systems of interpretation that will allow us to approach in an analytical way the multiple paths of fiction created by an increase in the number of iconic images and the diversity of their sources. It is therefore pleasing to discover that different universities can establish contact and work together, as my personal experience demonstrates.

During the months of July and August 2002, thanks to a grant from my home University, I had the pleasure of being received in the Department of Hispanic Studies at UCC, under the direction of Professor David Mackenzie. UCC was chosen for being a place where creative projects about languages and literature find concrete applications. What I found here was an encouraging attitude towards interdisciplinary studies, such as Literature and Cinema, my own particular

areas of research. The conceptual work about old and new forms of representation in this Department demonstrates how the communication of social values creates the form of a culture, and how fructiferous an interrelated point of view can be in the academic world.

Comparing my experience in other universities to my recent period at UCC, I was delighted to find researchers move between the worlds of communication, arts and scientific documentation. Nowadays, and thanks to the various exchange programmes, we seem to be starting to understand that differences are a richness to be protected in culture, and that all cultures are of equal value.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff in the Department for their welcome and for the support shown towards me during my time in UCC. Their encouragement boosted by confidence in the validity of my comparative project about narratology".

Professor David Mackenzie, Hispanic Studies, with Mercedes Díaz Villarías, from the University of Castilla-La Mancha at Albacete, Spain, who spent the summer months in Hispanic Studies, UCC, on a research project



L-R: Mel Mercier, Music, UCC, Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, Music, Maeve Fleischmann and Max Fleischmann, daughter and grandson of Professor Fleischmann

Donation by Fleischmann Family

The Index of printed sources of Irish Traditional Music, collected by Professor Aloys Fleischmann during the past 40 years of his life, was donated by the Fleischmann family to UCC's Music Department.

Heineken Ireland Support Fellowship

Heineken Ireland has renewed its support of research on malting and brewing at UCC by providing a new Heineken Ireland Fellowship. The Fellowship is being used to support the research group of Dr Douwe van Sinderen in the Department of Microbiology and in UCC's Pilot-Scale Brewery. The Pilot-Scale Brewery is an excellent research facility that provides practical training for undergraduate and postgraduate students who specialise in researching beverages including brewing and malting aspects.

"Corporate support for research as exemplified by the Heineken Ireland Fellowship at UCC is truly appreciated by the University and facilitates the delivery of the highest quality education and research training to our students", said Professor Charles Daly, Dean of the Faculty of Food Science and Technology at UCC.

The recipient of the new Heineken Ireland Fellowship is Dr Anne Vaughan from Ballincollig, Co Cork. The previous holders were Dr Tadhg O'Sullivan who now works with Heineken in The Netherlands and Dr Karen O'Hanlon who is employed in the pharmaceutical sector in Dublin.



In UCC's Pilot-Scale Brewery L-R: Dr Douwe van Sinderen, Microbiology, Dr Anne Vaughan, recipient of the Heineken Ireland Fellowship and Padraic Liston, Manager Director of Heineken Ireland

Town Meets Gown

Almost 100 local business people gathered in UCC on 3 October last for the Cork Chamber of Commerce 'Business After Hours' evening. The event provided an opportunity for members of the Chamber and University staff to get together for a mutually beneficial evening.

In his opening address the President, Professor Gerard T. Wrixon highlighted the University's central role in mobilizing its resources to achieve social, cultural and economic development in the region. Mark Poland, Projects Officer, Buildings and Estates, reviewed the University's extensive capital development programme and Virginia Teehan, Director of UCC's Heritage & Visual Arts, spoke of the strong historical links between the Cork business community and the University. After the presentations, Dr John Sheehan and Dr Paul Callanan conducted guided tours of the Stone Corridor and the Crawford Observatory (respectively), both of which were enthusiastically received. The evening was organized by the Graduates Association, Alumni Office, UCC and sponsored by the Bank of Ireland.

Speakers at a recent Cork Chamber of Commerce 'Business After Hours' evening in UCC included L-R, Mark Poland, Projects Officer, Buildings & Estates UCC, John Cashel, President, Cork Chamber of Commerce, Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC and Virginia Teehan, Director, Heritage & Visual Arts, UCC



Fota Trip



Retired UCC staff and their families enjoyed a day out at Fota Estate last September. Professor Raftery, who has been linked with Fota for the past 30 years, gave the 50-strong group a guided tour of Fota. The Pensions Administration office organized the visit. In the grounds at Fota, l-r, Donal Harris, (Anatomy), Michael Walsh, (General Services), Tadhg O'Leary, (Reception Centre), Bernard Burke, (Works, Buildings & Estates), Dickie Rock, (General Services), Jerry Murphy, (Reception Centre), Tim Humphreys, (Civil Engineering), Sean Coughlan, (Works, Buildings & Estates), Brendan Rahilly, (General Services), Mrs Rahilly and Paddy Browne, (Works, Buildings & Estates). (Thanks to Donal Harris for providing the photograph).

Brookfield - New Medical School

UCC has recently lodged a planning application for a proposed Medical Nursing Therapies and Crèche complex at Brookfield House, College Road, Cork.

The main Brookfield building, which is approximately 11,500m², will include a new Medical School, Nursing School and School of Therapies. It will also house a Health Sciences library, a 200-seater restaurant for staff and students and Medical Faculty offices.

A UCC-commissioned Conservation Plan has been drawn up to ensure that the culture and heritage of Brookfield House and its surrounding landscape are sensitively addressed. The proposal includes the conservation and incorporation of the 1860s residential villa, which will form the focal point of the development. Surrounding building heights will vary between two and

four storeys with a basement level, underground carpark. Also proposed on the site is a two-storey 480 sq. metre 80-child crèche to address the current shortage in childcare facilities for students and staff.

The Planning submission includes an Environment Impact Statement prepared by Arup Consulting Engineers, which addresses the main environmental issues affecting the proposed site and its surroundings. UCC has also engaged Chris Southgate & Assoc. to ensure that proposals for the conservation of Brookfield House are in line with good conservation principles. A comprehensive landscaping scheme has also been developed.

Distinguished Professor of Nursing visits UCC

The Department of Nursing Studies recently invited Nurse Theorist, Professor Jean Watson to address an audience of nursing lecturers, nursing clinicians and students at UCC. Professor Watson, Director of Nursing at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, established the Center for Human Caring at the University Colorado School of Nursing in 1986.

Professor Watson's paper, "An overview of a model of caring-healing and the state-of-the-art and science of nursing", outlined her theory of nursing, *Human Science and Human Care*, and acknowledged, nursing's scientific and humanistic knowledge base. Professor Watson's theory adds a dimension to clinical nursing practice that is both challenging and appealing.

She is the author of a wide range of articles and books and has featured in national videos on the theory and art of nursing. Professor Watson has been the recipient of numerous awards including the league for nursing "Martha Rogers' award".

L-R: Harry Gijbels, Nursing Studies, UCC, Professor Jean Watson, visiting lecturer from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and Margaret Landers, Nursing Studies, UCC



Fulbright Scholar Addresses National Conference



Fulbright Scholar Anthony O'Halloran has recently returned from the United States. Anthony, who is currently a Research Fellow with the Department of Government, was a visiting Fulbright Scholar at the Department of Political Science, University of Southern Illinois. Shortly after his return, Anthony was invited to address the theme of "Local Government in the 21st Century" at a national conference in Westport, Co Mayo. Change was the central theme of Anthony's address. Addressing elected Town Councillors from throughout Ireland, Anthony stated politicians and representative institutions have not adapted sufficiently to this change. He further argued a major democratic deficit exists in Irish local government. At the conclusion of the conference, Minister of State for European Affairs, Dick Roche, TD, made a presentation to Anthony.

Anthony O'Halloran participating in a political conference in Springfield, Illinois, during his time as a Fulbright Scholar with the University of Southern Illinois

Joint NUI degree programme launch

Éamon Ó Cuiv, TD, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, recently launched Ireland's first NUI BSc degree in Rural Development. This degree will be delivered by e-learning using the Internet. The programme is also unique in that it has been developed and produced in a joint collaboration by the four constituent universities of the National University of

Ireland- NUI Cork, NUI Dublin, NUI Galway, and NUI Maynooth, thus building on the success of the existing Diploma in Rural Development by Distance Learning. Professor Denis Lucey, Dr Michael Ward and Mary O'Shaughnessy, UCC formed part of the steering group which developed the new degree programme.

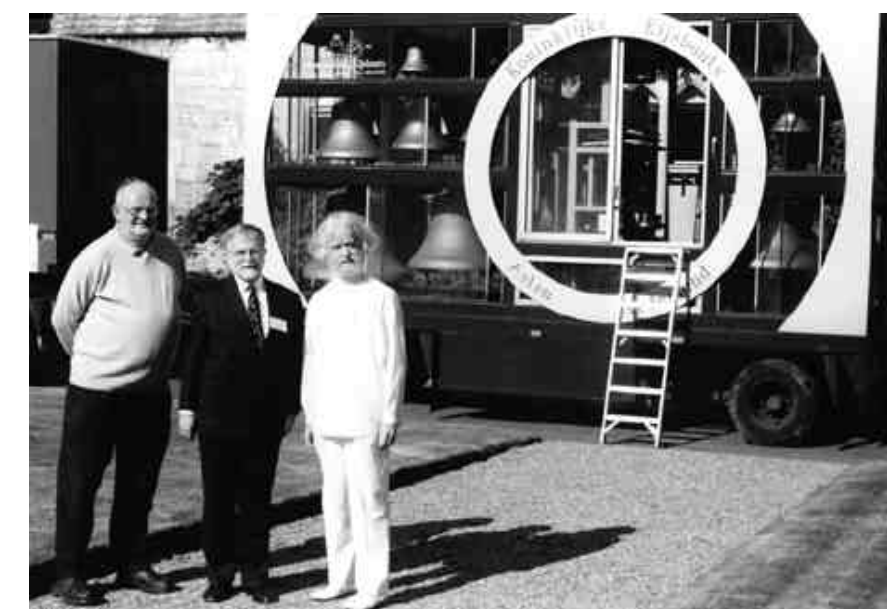
Harvard Lectures

Dr Angela Ryan (*front right*), French, lectured to students in Harvard University on the films of Jean Renoir. Also present (*front left*), is the well-known specialist in 16th century French studies and contemporary film studies, Professor Tom Conley, Department of Romance Languages and Literature, Harvard University, author of *Film Hieroglyphs: Ruptures in Classical Cinema* and *The Self-Made Map: Cartographic Writing in Early Modern France*.



Campus Carillon

A travelling Carillon, on loan from Royal Eijsbouts bell founders in The Netherlands, and in Ireland as part of the 13th Congress of the World Carillon Federation held in Cobh last July, visited UCC during the 'Academic Day' of the Congress. Nearly 200 international carillonneurs attended the week-long Congress, many of whom gave recitals on Cobh's St Colman's Cathedral carillon and the travelling carillon. Patrons of the Congress were the Most Reverend John Magee, Bishop of Cloyne and Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC. Organizers of the Congress included UCC staff Professor David Cox, Music, composer of many carillon pieces, Adrian Gebruers, carillon tutor, Music and President of the World Carillon Federation, Dr Liz Gebruers, Physiology and Roslyn Cox, Office of Public Affairs.



L-R: Professor David Cox, Adrian Gebruers, and carillonneur Jo Haazen, Director of the Mechelen Carillon School, in front of the Royal Eijsbouts Travelling Carillon

INTEL Teach for the future Seminar held at UCC



Present at the INTEL Teach to the Future seminar held at UCC were, from left, Frank Turpin, Education Manager, Intel Ireland, Professor Patrick Dillon, University of Exeter, Dr Tom Mullins, Head of Education, UCC, Mary O'Leary, Cork Education Support Centre, Declan Kennedy, Department of Education, UCC, Dr Francis Douglas, Department of Education, UCC and Michael Delargey, Department of Education, UCC

The Department of Education, UCC, recently hosted a seminar on the INTEL Teach to the Future Seminar programme. A worldwide initiative, the programme is aimed at helping teachers to maximise the use of ICT in their teaching. Intel initiated the programme in the USA in 1999 and already over 1 million teachers around the world have participated in the programme. Although the INTEL TEACH programme was developed in the USA, it was modified by the National Centre for Technology in Education for use in Ireland.

The Department of Education, UCC, was chosen by Intel to investigate the feasibility of incorporating the INTEL TEACH programme into a pre-service course for second-level teachers. Up to recent times, the programme had been used exclusively with full time qualified teachers. The 2001-2002 HDipEd students in UCC were the first to undergo the INTEL TEACH programme. A pilot group of 60 HDipEd students undertook the training programme and a further 25 students undertook the programme as part of an INTEL Summer School last summer. Such was the success of the pilot project that it is hoped to have all 260 HDipEd students participate in the project in the present academic year.

The INTEL TEACH programme has been found to be more beneficial to teachers than the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) because the INTEL TEACH training does not concentrate on just the imparting of skills but also deals with the whole area of pedagogy and best classroom practice.

The training is co-ordinated by the Cork Education Support Centre and the course delivered by a combination of UCC Department of Education staff and Master Tutors trained by Intel.

The seminar was opened by Dr Tom Mullins, Head of Education Department, UCC, who welcomed the speakers and expressed his satisfaction at the development of close collaboration between UCC, Cork Education Support Centre and Intel. Among the speakers were Professor Patrick Dillon, Professor of Telematics in Education, School of Education, University of Exeter and Mary O'Leary, ICT Advisor, National Centre for Technology in Education, Cork Education Support Centre. In addition, Frank Turpin, Education Manager, Intel Ireland, spoke on the role of Intel in supporting education in Ireland and internationally.



Present at the IMS meeting in UCC were Professor Gerard Murphy, Head of Mathematics, Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, Professor Finbar r Holland, Mathematics and Professor Philip O'Kane, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Maths Meeting

The 15th Annual September meeting of the Irish Mathematical Society (IMS) was held in UCC on 6 & 7 September 2002. Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC, opened the meeting with a welcome for over 70 participants from Irish and UK universities. The invited keynote speakers were Professor Albert Baernstein, Washington University, St Louis, a noted Complex Analyst, and Dr Imre Leader, Trinity College, Cambridge, who works principally in the area of Combinatorics and Graph Theory. In his opening address the President commented on the strategic importance of Mathematics in the development of the Irish economy based on strong scientific and technological foundations. In responding to the President's remarks, Dr Eugene Gath, University of Limerick and President of the Society, thanked UCC for hosting the meeting.

A special session of the meeting was dedicated to Professor Finbar Holland, Mathematics, UCC, to acknowledge his service to Mathematics in Cork and in Ireland over many years, and to the Irish Mathematical Society, of which he is a former President. Professor Wrixon made particular mention of Finbar's longstanding dedicated teaching and organization of the Saturday morning Mathematics enrichment classes and also his work with Irish Mathematical Olympiad teams over the years.

The speakers from Irish universities included professors Stephen Gardiner, Mathematics, UCD, Peter Kennedy, Microelectronics, UCC, Alexei Pokrovskii, Applied Mathematics, UCC and John Lewis, Principal Investigator at the SFI funded Communications Network Research Institute, based in DIT. Also speaking were recently appointed lecturers in the School of Mathematics, Applied

Mathematics and Statistics - Dr James Gleeson, Applied Mathematics and Dr Stephen Wills, Mathematics.

Generous financial support for the meeting came from the Irish Mathematical Society, UCC's Arts Faculty Conference Fund to cover the expenses of Professor Baernstein and Dr Leader, and from the School of Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Statistics to cover the costs of the coffee breaks and the wine reception.

The local organizers were Dr Tom Carroll and Dr Donal Hurley, School of Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Statistics.

A Symposium on "A New Agenda for Irish Regional Development" was held at the University on 12 & 13 September 2002. Dr Eoin O'Leary of the Department of Economics, UCC, organized the event.

Regional Development Symposium at UCC

The symposium aimed to raise awareness of the problems and opportunities facing Irish regions at the beginning of the new millennium and to analyse, from an economic perspective, the key drivers of regional development and the appropriate policy responses. The symposium was a forum for invited regional economists to present their analyses and recommendations on these issues to an audience of leading Irish policy-makers.

The symposium attracted the interest of policy makers in the area of Irish regional development, including officials of government departments, state agencies, local authorities, regional development agencies and local business groups. Nearly 100 people attended the two-day event, which was considered by all to be very worthwhile. The success of the event is evidenced by some of the issues raised being covered in *The Irish Times* and the *Irish Examiner*.

Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC, opened the symposium. It was chaired by John O'Brien, Special Advisor to the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise and Employment, Mary Harney. The topic for the first day was growth, innovation and Irish regional development. Edgar Morgenroth, Economic & Social Research Institute (ESRI), set the scene by outlining how recent advances in economic growth theory and economic geography have improved our understanding of spatial economic phenomena. Rachel Hilliard, NUIG, and David Jacobson, DCU, contended that it may have been appropriate, from an environmental control perspective, to encourage the concentration of pharmaceutical firms in the Cork area. Stephen Roper, QUB, then argued that less favoured regions find it difficult to appropriate many of the benefits from research and development activity. This was followed by Bernadette Andreosso, UL, who showed that the major disparities in knowledge creation capability are not between the Border, Midlands and West region and

the South and East region but within these two broad regions. The session was completed by the first guest speaker, Professor John Dewhurst from Dundee, Scotland, who offered some lessons for Ireland from his analysis of industry performance in Great Britain.

The theme for the second day was Ireland's regional policy dilemma. Michael Keane, NUIG, showed that techniques from the regional science literature for analyzing commuting patterns should have been considered in the debate on functional economic areas in the national spatial strategy. Dr Ella Kavanagh, UCC, argued that Cork Airport should not adopt higher aeronautical charges than either Dublin or Shannon, but instead should develop a strategy to expand revenue from non-aeronautical commercial sources at the airport. Aisling Reynolds-Feighan, UCD, analysed issues and dilemmas associated with Ireland's transportation infrastructure. This was followed by Dr Eoin O'Leary, UCC, who argued that the failure of the Irish government to realize that growth in Ireland depends, more than ever before, on the performance of regions outside Dublin, may jeopardize national prosperity over the next 20 years. Kieran O'Donoghue, Forfás, presented an enterprise policy perspective on Irish regional development. The second guest speaker, Professor Mike Danson, Paisley, offered some wider context based on his work on Regional Development Agencies and economic development in the UK and Europe. Finally, John McAleer, Director of the South-West Regional Authority offered some closing remarks.

The organizers are very grateful to the Association of Irish Regions, which is the representative organization for the Regional Authorities in Ireland, the Regional Science Association International (British and Irish Branch) and the Faculty of Arts, UCC, for their sponsorship of the Symposium.

International Conference on Decision Making in the Internet Age

One hundred delegates from all over the world met in UCC to discuss the implications of the latest developments of the Internet as a communication method for modern business.



The conference was officially opened on 3 July last by Michael Ahern, TD, Minister of State for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in the Visitor Centre, Murphy's Brewery.

The Internet Age and the many changes that have affected our world have made it necessary to develop new approaches to decision making and decision support. In addition, the large spread of decision problems, the constant evolution of the use of computers for business purposes, and of communication tools in the Internet Age means that research in this area can no longer be contained in the traditional managerial decision-making perspective.

Thus, the goal of this conference was to encourage the exchange of new ideas on decision support systems in the Internet Age and to promote their use in the decision-making processes of organizations. The emphasis is also put on emerging needs related to distributed and remote decision which could

be supported through the web with much greater collaboration between managers and organizations enabled by new technologies.

Three well-known experts addressed delegates as keynote speakers: Professor George Huber, University of Texas at Austin, Professor Tung Bui, University of Hawaii at Manoa and Professor Robin Mansell, London School of Economics and Political Sciences.

Organized by Business Information Systems at UCC and sponsored by EMC2, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young and Seabrook Research Limited, this major international conference was co-organized by the International Federation for Information (IFIP), which is the oldest research grouping in the information Systems area. Countries represented included Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hawaii, Hungary, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the UK and the USA.

At the Internet Age conference L-R: Brian O'Sullivan, EMC Ireland, Donal Manning, Heineken Ireland, Professor Ciaran Murphy, BIS, UCC, Michael Ahern, TD, Minister of State for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Dr Frederic Adam, BIS, UCC, Crispin Lynden-Cowan, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young and Garrick Jones, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young

The Council Book of Munster

The Council Book of Munster is a register of the proceedings of the council and is the only remaining record of either the Council of Munster or of Connaught. It covers the period c1601-c1620. It is preserved in the British Library as Harleian Ms. 697.

Margaret Clayton, Department of History, had her interest aroused in the Council Book of Múster when she was studying for an MA in Local History (1996-1998), a two-year part-time course aimed at mature students. Her thesis was a study of Sir Randall Clayton, one of the clerks of the Council, and it was in this context that she encountered the Council Book. Here she gives us a fascinating insight into some of her findings

"Time has eroded the ties that the Normans, who arrived in this country in the twelfth century, created between Ireland and England. In the last quarter of the sixteenth century the religious and political situation in Europe made the English monarchy nervous of Ireland's connections with Catholic Europe. Contemporary English administration did not extend beyond the Pale (Dublin and its environs). To tackle this problem a new experiment in government was instituted in the late 1570s with the setting up of the Councils of Munster and Connacht. These were modelled on the successful Councils in Wales and the North of England. This interference in the internal affairs of Ireland resulted in the Munster rebellion in 1579. Resistance was crushed by 1583 and the resulting Plantation of Munster was a new trend in English influence in Ireland.

The Council of Munster, headed by a Lord President, had a variety of roles – military, ecclesiastical, local justice, local government. For the first few years it was involved in suppressing the rebellion in Munster. Following the subjugation of the region the council supported the new English planters with the imposition of English law on the area. This was done through the re-establishment of Sheriffs and the introduction of other local officials such as escheators, provost marshals, justices of the peace and constables, etc. A key requirement for any of these positions was swearing the oath of Supremacy and attending Protestant church services. The Council of Munster lasted for 100 years and when it was abolished local government was well and truly established in the region.

The early modern period in Irish history is characterised by a general paucity of documents. This has led to the stunted growth of administrative and legal history for Ireland during the early Modern period resulting in the history of law and administration in the provinces remaining in its infancy. Our knowledge of the roles of the new local government officials is rudimentary, but it was this small administrative group who radically changed the face of Ireland. They were a new breed of upwardly mobile adventurer officials and secured for themselves rapid social and material advancement.

In its present format the Council Book is available only to the most dedicated scholars as it is a notoriously difficult source. Most of the 206 folios are in English but several are in Latin, and many of the writing styles demand stringent study to decipher. In May 1999, as an

exercise to crack the secrets of seventeenth century writing, I began to transcribe the Council Book on a part-time basis in my free time. I worked from microfilm in the Special Collections Department of the Boole Library. I soon became hooked as stories leapt off the screen. Although it is a legal document and some entries are interminably long (I'd sometimes wonder why lawyers didn't say what they meant instead of going around in bewildering circles) there are some fascinating glimpses of life in that era, like the poor widow who aroused the sympathy of the court. Her husband and children died of hunger when the Sheriff's bailiff illegally confiscated the family's 25 sheep on suspicion that her husband was a criminal. There are several documents showing the authorities' attempts to have the bailiff reprimanded but there is no indication of what happened to the poor woman – her outlook was not good. Several of the folios are marked 'at campe before Kinsale' December 1601. In the midst of official reporting there are human stories – like the soldier who was shot through the mouth and lost his tongue yet survived to receive compensation of £10.

The Council was a peripatetic body so the entries cover the whole of Munster. With the intention of making the document available not only to academics but to local historians, I have transcribed it verbatim, extending the contractions in order to make it more accessible to the wider public and adding a glossary of Latin and legal terms and an index. I was, and still am, supported by expertise in the Department of History, in particular by my supervisor Dr David Edwards and Kenneth Nicholls. In November 2000 the Irish Legal History Society awarded me their inaugural Bursary. This was an important turning point as it was a public acknowledgement of the significance of my project and encouraged me to believe in the importance of the work. I used the bursary to travel to London to see the original document. The Department of History's HEA fund supported a second trip. The Irish Legal History Society will publish the work but the time-scale will, I assume, depend on support funding.

In October 2001 I was awarded a Government of Ireland Research Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences to convert my research to a PhD. The initial award for a year has been extended to two years. My thesis will extend the scope of the Council Book and seek out the first local government appointments in Munster. This information is not readily available and I must search through documentation in Ireland, England and America. Courtesy of a Francis Bacon Bursary I will spend March 2003 in the Huntington Library, Los Angeles, to research important Irish documents. I am on leave-of-absence for two years and plan to have all the research completed by the time I return to my part-time job in administration in the Department of History in October 2003."



New funding in Environmental Biotechnology

Dr Alan Dobson's (*left*), research group in the Microbiology Department at UCC has just received a joint grant from the Irish Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Agriculture (€854,000), for a project to look at biological approaches to remove nutrients from waste streams in the Irish Food sector. The project also involves Dr Julian Marchesi from Microbiology together with Queen's University Belfast and Kerry Ingredients, and aims to study different ways in which to remove phosphate from waste streams. Waste streams containing high levels of phosphate have the potential to cause eutrophication of freshwater environments, which occurs as a consequence of the overabundant growth of algae and is currently one of the most serious global water management issues and poses the most widespread single threat to good water quality in Ireland.

COMPOSTING RESEARCH

Dr Dobson's group is also involved in work on the composting of organic waste. New EU-directed changes in national waste management strategy requires a minimum 65 per cent reduction in biodegradable wastes consigned to landfill, thereby promoting alternative solutions such as composting. In Ireland, greater than 90 per cent of our waste is currently landfilled. The group has developed a suite of techniques and a body of expertise in the areas of compost activity/quality assessment.

In addition many County Councils have problems with potential toxic leachate coming from municipal landfill sites. The collection and safe disposal of landfill leachate is now required by landfill operators as part of their integrated pollution control (IPC) licences. With this in

mind the group is also involved in studying the potential toxicity of these leachates together with composting processes and biological methods of treating landfill leachate.

All of these activities are being undertaken under the umbrella of BioTreat™ a new campus based company, headed by Dr Donal Mulkerrins and based in University College Cork. BioTreat™ was established to meet the growing demands of industry to address environmental issues. To date the client base extends across a broad spectrum of Irish industry such as food/dairy companies, the pharmaceutical sector, the composting industry, landfill operators and many environmental consultancies. In addition the company has worked closely with regulatory authorities such as the Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and local authorities.

Poor not to blame for Environmental Degradation

Nick Chisholm is a lecturer in the Department of Food Business and Development. He is also Ireland's representative on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Working Party on Development Co-operation and Environment and adviser to the Project Appraisal Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Bilateral Aid programme. Nick attended the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg last August.



One of the many self-help groups in Tigray, Ethiopia, visited by Nick Chisholm in September last. These villagers construct an irrigation channel

The first World Conference on Environment and Development, in Rio, 1992 (known as the Rio Summit), and attended by all major world leaders, committed the global community to implement Agenda 21. This ambitious plan aimed to reduce poverty, promote sustainable development and reverse the destruction of the world's natural resources and biological diversity. It is ten years since the implementation of Agenda 21 and the condition of the global environment has in most respects continued to deteriorate, and the numbers of poor people has continued to increase.

Away from all the summity the daily struggle of ordinary poor people to sustain themselves continues. One of the apparent breakthroughs in thinking at the Rio Summit was the recognition of the link between poverty and environmental degradation. The environment wasn't just a middle-class concern of people in developed countries, but was fundamental to the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of poor people living in rural areas in developing countries. It was

thought that poor people were forced to degrade their environment to survive, therefore, attacking poverty was also the key to reversing environmental degradation.

POOR TAKE ACTIVE MEASURES TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

But is it the poor who are responsible for degrading the environment? Generally not. Ethiopia is a good test case of this link, because it's well known for high rates of poverty, recurrent famines and environmental degradation. Yet my research suggests that poor people are in general well aware of the importance of the environment for their livelihoods, and they take many active measures both to protect environmental resources and to regenerate those resources. I have carried out research in four communities in Tigray in northern Ethiopia, where the Irish Government's development co-operation programme is working with local communities and local Government to support sustainable development. In almost all of these areas, communities have estab-

lished their own rules and local organisations to regulate the use of natural resources such as woodlands, grazing areas for livestock, and valuable irrigation systems in an area that is generally drought-prone. In addition, with the support of the local Government and donors, including Ireland Aid, communities have regenerated watersheds, enriched common grazing lands and developed a range of income-generating activities that help to alleviate poverty and food shortages.

Why then does environmental degradation occur? Although there is some degradation due to poverty and population pressure on resources, for example, poor people without land sometimes cut down trees to sell as firewood, the most serious degradation has taken place as a result of external factors which reduce the effectiveness of local management systems. The most significant "shock" to the system has been uncertainty over the land tenure system, particularly affecting tenure over trees on hill slopes, that was a consequence of the 1975 land reform. Once it wasn't clear

who had responsibility for trees, people indulged in a "free for all" to get some benefit before others could do so. This lack of clarity over land tenure lasted for many years in Tigray, but was accompanied by civil war and the war was another cause of degradation, as troops cut down trees to meet their own needs. More recently, in one of the communities investigated, the Government decided to take over the management of one of the few remaining forest areas, which had for decades been effectively guarded by local communities. The result was an increase in outsiders coming into the area to cut trees, now immune from the sanctions that local communities had applied.

PARTNERSHIP ONE WAY TO REVERSE DEGRADATION

Although we shouldn't romanticise local management systems, we should be aware that their existence shows that local communities do try to manage environmental resources in a sustainable way. They are well

aware of the problem, and partnership with these communities is generally the best way to support them in reversing degradation and ensuring sustainable livelihoods. Actually the work that Ireland Aid is doing in the area is a good example of that type of partnership. It would be of great concern if there were a reversal in the trend of increasing Ireland's foreign aid budget, which we have seen in recent years, given the scale of the environmental, food, health and educational problems threatening to overwhelm many developing countries.

So who does cause environmental degradation? Without a doubt most of the threats to the global environment are the result of excessive pressure on resources caused by the demands of developed economies. In that respect pinning the "blame" for environmental degradation on the poor is a cop-out. It is to be hoped that, at the least, the summit in Johannesburg serves to remind the developed world of its responsibilities to address problems of over consumption and the unsustainable nature of the current global economy.

The developed world needs to get serious about adjusting to a sustainable economy, meaning more focus at home on reducing CO₂ emissions, promoting recycling and reduction at source, expanding renewable energy options, expanding public transport and promoting sustainable agriculture. But in relation to developing countries we should be supporting fair and sustainable trade that doesn't damage the environment. We need to expand partnerships with Governments and communities in developing countries who clearly want to protect and enhance the natural resource base, but who may be lacking the basic financial or other resources that would enable them to do so.



UCC gets go ahead for Ireland's First National Dioxin Laboratory

Ireland's first laboratory for analysing dioxins - chemical compounds known to be highly carcinogenic - is to be established at the Biochemistry Department of University College Cork following confirmation by the Department of Agriculture and Food that an Exchequer grant of €2 million has been made available.

Professor James Heffron (*above*), Department of Biochemistry, said the unit would be located at the Lee Maltings complex in Cork, close to the National Microelectronics Research Centre. The work of the new unit would include testing for dioxins in a wide variety of food as well as assessing human risk to dioxin exposure. The unit, he added, would carry out tests for the 17 dioxin compounds with significant toxicity, using a high-resolution magnetic sector mass spectrometer as well as other specialist equipment, and its establishment would mean that for the first time, samples would be analysed in Ireland rather than being sent abroad for testing, as is the case at present.

Dioxins are chlorinated organic chemicals which may arise from various combustion and industrial processes and includes cigarette smoking and wood burning! They are usually associated with municipal waste and hazardous waste incinerators, but recent improvements in incineration technology has drastically reduced dioxin emissions to insignificant levels. A major source of dioxins is the uncontrolled burning of domestic waste in back gardens - so-called barrel burning - a process which should be completely banned. Tyre burning is a further significant source. Even burning of straw in our fields can produce dioxins. The ubiquitous occurrence of the dioxins means that they can enter the food chain and ultimately gain access

to the human body. Their ubiquity, albeit at very low levels, combined with their extreme toxicity requires diligent and constant monitoring in food, soil and air. The United States maintains the most comprehensive database of dioxin levels. The World Health Organisation has recently set a tolerable daily intake for these compounds in our food.

The unit, which would have a staff of five initially, would hope to offer analytical services and consultancy to the pharmaceutical industry and would be self-financing. The principal role of its work would be to generate data on foods required by EU legislation on dioxin control. At present, Ireland has very limited data on the dioxin content of food compared with the other EU member states, with the exception of Greece.

Rather than sending samples abroad for analysis, it would now be open to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) amongst others to use the new service. In the context of proposals for incineration throughout the main regions in the National Waste Management Plan it will be essential to maintain levels of testing in food and human blood and to create a database that we will be able to interpret and compare with corresponding measurements from Germany, United Kingdom, France, Belgium etc. Milk, for food testing, and blood, to measure human exposure, will provide the key indicators in the new unit.

Law Reform Review

Shane Kilcommins, Maeve McDonagh, Siobhán Mullally and Dr Darius Whelan, Law Faculty, UCC, have been awarded €26,000 by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform to carry out an international review of Employment Equality Legislation. This research project forms part of a review of Ireland's employment equality legislation that will consider extending the scope of equality legislation to prohibit discrimination on grounds of socio-economic background, political opinion, trades union membership and past criminal conviction.

Research Awards, Contracts, Grants, Bequests

ADC-ERI/ZOOLOGY & ANIMAL ECOLOGY
€43,487 – European Union

APPLIED MATHEMATICS
€3,900 – Enterprise Ireland

APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES
€12,375 – Clonmel Resource Centre

ANATOMY
€1,811 – Wellcome Trust

BIOCHEMISTRY
€4,000 – Enterprise Ireland
€63,588 – HEA Cycle 3
€178,000 – Enterprise Ireland & HiberGen

CENTRE FOR CO-OPERATIVE STUDIES
€4,840 – Valentia Gauge
€38,917 – Research Stimulus Fund

CHEMISTRY
€3,275 – Enterprise Ireland (2 contracts)
€65,934 – Intel Corporation
€79,560 – Enterprise Ireland
€163,894 – HEA Cycle 3

COASTAL & MARINE RESOURCES CENTRE
€11,734 – Seabed Mapping Programme

CORK CITY PARTNERSHIP LTD
€21,164 – Development Social Inclusion programme

ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
€77,000 – Eltra

ENGLISH
€79,122 - HEA

ERI/ZOOLOGY & ANIMAL ECOLOGY
€200,220 - European Union
€773,152 – Marine Institute (5 contracts)

FOOD SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & NUTRITION
€102,841 – European Union

FOOD SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & NUTRITION/NFBC
€11,250 - Teagasc

HISTORY
€2,500 – Enterprise Ireland

HFRG
€857,984 – European Union (2 contracts)

HMRC
€5,316 – Marine Institute
€10,856 – Irish Hydrodata Ltd
€13,776 – Mulroy Bay
€54,622 – Marine Institute

INFORMATICS RESEARCH CENTRE
€1,444,915 – HEA Cycle 3

IRISH CENTRE FOR MIGRATION
€70,000 – Third Sector Research Programme (2 contracts)

LAW
€77,821 – HEA Cycle 3

MEDICINE
€63,588 – HEA Cycle 3

MICROBIOLOGY
€192,000 – European Union

NMRC
€183,900 – IF/2002
€315,886 – European Union (2 contracts)
€435,448 – Enterprise Ireland (2 contracts)
€602,618 – HEA Cycle 3

ORAL HEALTH
€1,729 – South Eastern Health Board
€92,484 – Dept of Health & Children (2 contracts)
€506,533 – Health Research Board

PHYSICS
€41,000 – Enterprise Ireland

PROCESS ENGINEERING
€8,827 – Enterprise Ireland

ZOOLOGY & ANIMAL ECOLOGY
€1,300 – Enterprise Ireland
€35,200 - Moorepark
€118,137 - PHD



Professor Perry Chair of National Body

Professor Ivan J Perry (*left*), Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, has been appointed Chairman of the National Primary Care Steering Group. The Steering Group works with the National Primary Care Task Force on:

- driving the implementation of the primary care model as outlined in the Quality and Fairness – A Health System for You, Health Strategy
- identifying representative locations for the implementation projects
- planning human resources, information and communications technology and capital requirements for primary care on a national basis
- putting in place a framework for the extension of GP co-operatives on a national basis with specific reference to payment methods and operational processes.

Double Bill for Professor Kennedy

Professor Michael Peter Kennedy (*right*), Microelectronic Engineering, has been appointed Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems, Part I: Fundamental Theory and Applications, with responsibility for the new focus area of Optimization, Graphs and Computational Methods. Design flow management is a key challenge for future microelectronic systems. Automating the design process relies critically on advances in the key mathematical and numerical disciplines of Optimization, Graph Theory and Computational Methods.

Professor Kennedy has also been appointed to the executive team of the IEE's professional network on "Systems on a Chip". This international group is charged with developing resources for engineers involved in the design and manufacture of complex microelectronic systems.



Challenging Course Proves Successful

Banking in Germany, exporting to France, sourcing in Italy, joint-venturing in Spain, start-ups in the Gaeltacht, all this and more pose no problems for the first graduates of UCC's BComm (European) degree course. Professor Deirdre Hunt, Management & Marketing, explains why.

UCC's BComm (European) degree exemplifies what universities do well - the bringing together of outstanding staff across different faculties and disciplines to create something new and exciting. This degree course meets urgent market demands for culturally and linguistically-informed graduates, and to succeed in international business graduates must be able to draw on combined cultural, language and commercial knowledge.

To achieve this the BComm (European) has brought together UCC staff from 13 departments drawn from the Faculties of Arts, Law and Commerce, together with 17 partner universities in France, Germany, Italy and Spain and placement companies in the Gaeltacht.

Students spend one year at a university in the country of their chosen language and are expected to compete on an equal footing with their overseas peers, including passing the same examinations, in one of the 17 universities, from Rostock on the Baltic to Messina in Sicily, from Santiago in Spain to the Science Pol in Paris. The students have to learn to achieve within complex environments,

thrive within an unknown educational system and live successfully in a foreign country for an extended period of time. For those taking the BComm (European) with Irish the challenge is just as demanding with students working with owner managers on detailed business assignments.

The arrival of students and staff from the partner universities, together with reciprocal visits and making contact with the Gaeltacht companies, has opened up huge opportunities for wider development for the Faculty of Commerce. This year two members of faculty staff have been appointed visiting academics with the partner universities, and UCC in turn will receive three staff members from overseas and there are plans for this to grow.

The market response has so far been very encouraging with BComm (European) graduates taking up positions in international financial services, manufacturing in Germany and Spain and Enterprise Ireland overseas offices. These are early days but already the outcome is looking very good.

First graduates of the BComm (European) degree course. UCC staff attending the conferring in September were from left; Professor Matthew MacNamara, French, Dr Tony O'Connor, Philosophy, Dr Edward Shimnick, Economics, Dr Angela Ryan, French, Professor Denis Lucey, Food Business & Development, Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, Professor Enda McDonagh, Governing Body Chair, Professor Deirdre Hunt, Management & Marketing, Dr Donncha Kavanagh, Management & Marketing, Dr Joan Buckley, Management & Marketing, Dr Tony Lewis, Coastal & Marine Resources Centre, Dr Pádraigín Riggs, Roimn na Nua-Ghaeilge and Dr Donal Hurley, Mathematics



First for Ireland

Tomás Tyner (*left*), photographer in the Audio Visual Services Department, UCC, has successfully completed a BSc in Medical Illustration and is the only Irish recipient of the award to date. The degree, administered by the Institute of Medical Illustrators (UK) and awarded by Glasgow Caledonian University, examines the practical and theoretical role of Medical Photography and over its four-year duration has encompassed large elements of practical assignments to complement the in-depth study into areas such as ethics, management, copyright, etc.

The study has impacted enormously upon Tomás' work as a Medical Photographer in the Cork University Hospital. Tomás is a member of the Irish Professional Photographers Association and his work appears regularly in the local and national media. Tomás, who joined UCC in 1989, is a contributor to university publications *The College Courier* and *The Graduate Review*.

Marie Curie Fellowship



UCC postgraduate Dr Andrea Ahern (*left*), has been awarded an EU Marie Curie postdoctoral fellowship which she has taken up as a researcher in the Innovation and Research Department of Shell Global Solutions, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The award is for a minimum of two years.

Her work will be concerned with the behaviour of metal surfaces, an area to which she is no stranger. Andrea graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Chemistry in 1997; she was awarded an Undergraduate College Scholarship in 1994 and the title "College Scholar" for 1995, 1996 and 1997. She worked for her PhD, which was awarded recently, under the supervision of Professor L D Burke, Chemistry, UCC. The research was divided into two related sections: the first dealt with the electrocatalytic activity of platinum and silver surfaces and is relevant to fuel cell and electric car development, while the second, sponsored by National Power/Regenesys, was concerned with the development of the first large-scale electrochemical energy storage device for use with alternative energy sources.

Andrea participated in various scientific conferences, including a Joint Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry and The Electrochemical Society in San Francisco (Sept. 2001). She also holds awards for Ladies Football, Soccer and Irish Dancing and spent a summer (1997) as a researcher in Essen, Germany. She has formal lecturing and laboratory supervision, along with computer training and tuition experience from her time in UCC and was appointed a member of the Academic Council for Research in the later organization.

Andrea serves as a role model of what is required, or how to achieve, an excellent foundation for a career in science. She is one of three Marie Curie awardees to date from Professor Burke's research group; two former members of this group were awarded Alexander von Humboldt fellowships.

Dental Research Awards

Paul Beirne, PhD student, Oral Health Services Research Centre (OHSRC) has received the Cochrane Fellowship R&D Award 2002, from the Health Research Board. This award was achieved in a field of highly competitive applicants. It will enable Paul to undertake systematic review training as a means of enhancing his research skills in the health and social care area.

A second Health Research Board award has been made to PhD student, Michael Cronin, also with the OHSRC, who received a Health Services Research Fellow award to carry out a study entitled 'Development of methods for measuring outcome of treatment provided within a third party funded dental service'.

Bright Sparks!



UCC winners of the IE I/Siemens Young Engineer of the Year L-R: Alan O'Connell and Ken Healy with Dr Alan Morrison, Project Supervisor, Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Professor Robert Yacamini, Dean, Faculty of Engineering

Ken Healy and Alan O'Connell, students of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, win the prestigious 2002 'Young Engineer of the Year' award. The Institute of Engineers of Ireland (IEI), responsible for the professional accreditation of Engineering degree programmes in Ireland, runs an annual competition, currently sponsored by Siemens, to determine the Young Engineer of the Year from all eligible and accredited Engineering courses in Ireland.

The winning project 'Motion detection, person tracking and face recognition using an active stereo video imaging platform' was supervised by Dr Alan Morrison, Electrical & Electronic Engineering, UCC. The project involved the development of a state-of-the-art real-time stereo video imaging system to detect, track and recognise people. Potential applications range from security tools for identity checking and criminal or terrorist detection to smart video conferencing systems that automatically identify and track the person speaking, to automatic "player-cams" for tracking individual players during a soccer match or other spectator sport.

The UCC students emerged winners following a written presentation of their final year project work and a seminar presentation at the Institute's Headquarters in Dublin. "This is a significant achievement that serves to illustrate the quality of Electrical Engineering students this Department consistently produces", says Professor Robert Yacamini, Head of the Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

Higher Diplomas Awarded in West Cork

UCC has recently awarded Higher Diplomas to the first set of participants who have successfully completed its off-site Diploma in Management and Marketing. This programme, set up in 1994 by UCC's Department of Management and Marketing, has been offered in Clonakilty (in conjunction with the West Cork Enterprise Board) for the past two years. It is now well known in the Cork region for its impact on the calibre of marketing and management personnel.

The Diploma consists of two sub-programmes - a Certificate in Management and a Certificate in Marketing. In 2001 students from a variety of backgrounds, in both the public and private sector, studied for the Certificate in Marketing. In October 2002 UCC returned to Clonakilty to offer its Certificate in Management programme. Participants will acquire knowledge of, and skills in, a range of subjects including human resource management, operations management, entrepreneurship and business strategy. In addition, a number of one-day workshops will be offered in related areas such as business law, finance, quality and customer relationship management.



Class of 2002 in Diploma in Management & Marketing with members of UCC staff and management team. Back Row, 2nd from left, Dr Joan Buckley, Head of Management & Marketing, UCC, centre, Angela Desmond, Department Manager, Management & Marketing and 3rd from right, Patrice Cooper, Director, Part-Time Higher Diploma in West Cork. Front Row, centre, Michael Hanley, Chief Executive Officer, West Cork Enterprise Board, and on his left, Miriam Collins, Technology Transfer Manager, UCC

Success for 700 Adult Learners at UCC



An awards and presentation ceremony took place in UCC on 13 October last, which marked the culmination of years of hard work and dedication for almost 700 adult learners who successfully completed Adult Continuing Education Certificates and Diplomas.

Awards presented ranged from Applied Business Computing, Disability Studies, Music, Archaeology, Art History, Personnel Management, Meat Technology and many more areas of specialised study.

These programmes were delivered in UCC and by Distance Education in outreach learning centres in partnership with community and professional groups in Charleville, Caherciveen, Youghal, Tralee, Mallow, Dublin, Ennis, Clonmel, Limerick, Kenmare and Wexford.

During his address Professor Peter Woodman, Dean of Arts, paid tribute to the innovative work conducted by the Centre for Adult Continuing Education in making third-level opportunities accessible to adult learners. This represents a quiet revolution in recent educational policy and many adult students who successfully complete these programmes go on to take full-time degree courses.

At the recent Presentation of Awards were father and daughter Patrick and Ruth Horgan who each received a Certificate in Introduction to Irish Archaeology L-R: Professor Peter Woodman, Dean of Arts, Ruth Horgan, Secretary's Office, Cllr Donal Counihan, Deputy Lord Mayor, Patrick Horgan and Professor Máirtín Ó Fathaigh, Director, Centre for Adult Continuing Education

UCC students win Plasma Science and Technology Prize

The National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST) at Dublin City University has awarded its annual prize to Bride Ní Riágain and Caroline Nyhan, both students of the Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, UCC. The prize is awarded annually for the best undergraduate project in an Irish university in the general field of plasma science and technology.

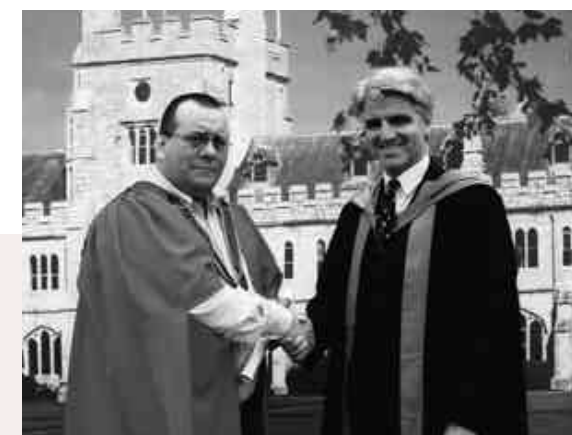
Bride a native of Ventry, Co Kerry and Caroline from Clonakilty, Co Cork received this prestigious award based on their final year undergraduate student project, and their success follows on from the recent awarding of the IEI/Siemens Young Engineer of the Year Award to two other students in the same class. "This is another significant achievement which serves to highlight the reputation of this Department in consistently producing graduates of high calibre", said Professor Robert Yacamini, Head of the Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, UCC.

Dr Sean Prunty, Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering at UCC, supervised the winning project entitled "Bench testing of a new polarimetric technique for plasma diagnostics". The work represented an experimental investigation of a new optical technique proposed by an Italian theoretical physicist, Professor Segre, for the measurement of important parameters in machines designed for studying fusion reactions. In awarding the prize, the judges commented favourably on the good balance between the mathematical theory and the experimental work undertaken.

Bride and Caroline graduated this year with honours degrees. Bride will soon start her career with Analog Devices, while Caroline plans to pursue a postgraduate career in plasma physics.

Below is a selection of photographs of Staff and children of Staff who have recently graduated from UCC

Conferings



1. L-R: Marc van Dongen, PhD (Computer Science), and Professor Patrick Fitzpatrick, Department of Mathematics



2. Don O'Leary, Department of Anatomy, and Kate O'Leary with graduate daughter Karen, BSc (Microbiology), with (from left) daughters Claire and Sarah and son Kevin

3. Sandy O'Driscoll, Department of Zoology & Animal Ecology, and Cyril O'Driscoll with their son John, BSc (Applied Ecology)

4. Professor Pat Morrissey, Department of Food Science, Food Technology & Nutrition, and Ita Morrissey with their son Andrew, BSc (Microbiology)

5. BSc (Computer Science) graduate John Studdert with (from left) his mother, Catherine Studdert, father Dr Richard Studdert, Department of Computer Science, and grandmother Bridget Coughlan

6. L-R: Professor Thomas McCarthy, Department of Biochemistry, and Ruairi Collins, PhD

7. L-R: Dr Tony Lewis, Department of Civil Engineering, and his wife Patricia, with their son Dafydd, BComm

8. Ciaran Fitzpatrick, who graduated with a BA, with his parents Johanna Fitzpatrick and Professor Patrick Fitzpatrick, Department of Mathematics



3.



4.



5.



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7.



8.



9. Professor Denis O'Sullivan, Department of Education, with graduate son Máirtín, BSc (BIS)

10. Carmel Halton, Department of Applied Social Studies, with graduate daughter Lisa, BCL, husband Eamon and son Denis

9.



11. Ann Gillen, BA is the graduate daughter of Robin Gillen, Department of Physics and Mary Gillen

12. Peadar Cranitch, Library, with his nephew Luke Cranitch, BMus. Also pictured, (from left) Luke's mother Liz, and grandmother Kathleen.

13. Dr Angela Ryan, Department of French, with her son Patrick du Boucher-Ryan, BSc (Computer Science), at his conferring, and daughters, (from left) Fiona and Kintilla

14. Barry O'Sullivan, NMRC, with his daughter Paula, PhD (Engineering) and wife Marie O'Sullivan

15. Dr Sextus De Almeida, Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering with his wife Malini who was conferred with an MMedSc and their daughter Charlini

16. Eileen Twohig, Accounts, and John Twohig with their daughter Fiona, BDS, at her conferring. Also pictured are sons, (from left) Cian, Eoin and Cillian

11.

17. Mark McAvoy, BA, with his father Joe McAvoy and mother Dr Sandra McAvoy, Co-ordinator, MA in Women's Studies, UCC



12.



14.



15.



13.



16.



17.



18. Mary Gillen and Robin Gillen, Department of Physics, with their son Patrick who received a BSc (Earth Science) degree

19. L-R: Professor Seán Teegan, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry (BSc 1945), with his grandson Eoghan Long, BSc BIS (2002), and daughter Margaret Teegan-Long (BSc 1974)

18.



20. Ned Faby, Deputy Librarian, and Trudy Faby with their daughter Alison who graduated with a BMus

21. L-R: Muris Lenihan, Professor Máirtín Ó Fathaigh, Director, Centre for Adult Continuing Education, Pat Lenihan, who received her degree in Applied Social Studies, Eamon Lenihan, Food Business & Development and Triona Lenihan

19.

22. Conor Dumigan, who graduated with a BSc (BIS), photographed with his father Robert Dumigan, Systems Administration Manager in Accounting, Finance & Information Systems and his mother Alice Dumigan



23. L-R: Carmel Culloty, Dr Sarah Culloty, Department of Zoology & Animal Ecology, Tracey Culloty, BSc (Earth Sciences) and James Culloty

24. Emanuel Popovici, Department of Microelectronic Engineering, PhD, with his father (on left), Dimitrie Popovici and Professor Patrick Fitzpatrick, Mathematics

25. Father and daughter, Tom Mullins, Department of Education, and Elizabeth Mullins, were each awarded a PhD (Arts) last June

20.

26. L-R: Con Murphy, Buildings & Estates, Gillian Murphy, BA, Ena Murphy and Helena Murphy



21.



23.



25.



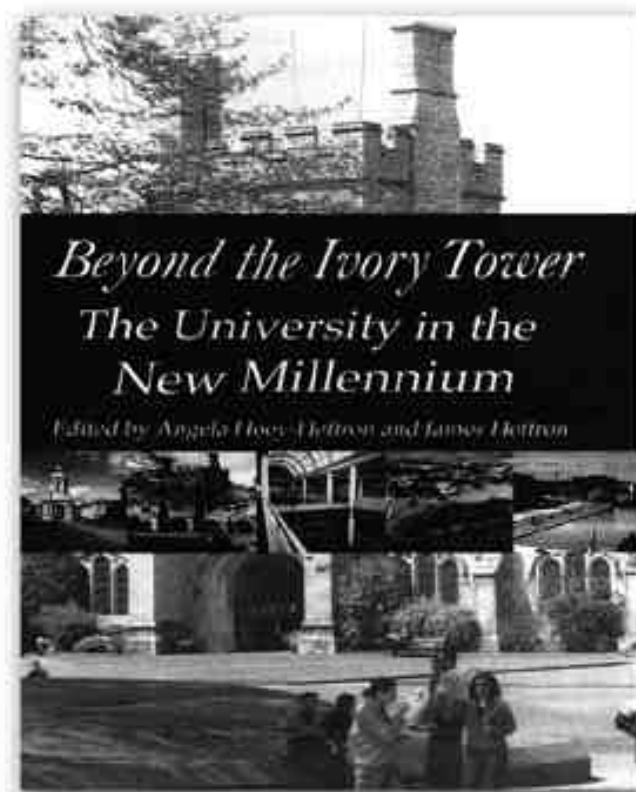
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24.



26.



Beyond the Ivory Tower The University in the New Millennium

edited by Angela Hoey-Heffron and James Heffron

The new millennium is a unique occasion for individuals and organisations to examine their existing role in society, to take stock and to make projections for the future. Foremost in this quest is the university, where new research in the sciences, medicine and the humanities is proceeding at a pace never before thought possible. The rate of acquisition of new information and knowledge poses new challenges for the traditional university. Should it succumb to the exigencies of governments and state agencies or should it continue to offer thought-provoking, curiosity-focused courses along the lines so eloquently expressed in Cardinal Newman's famous idea some 150 years ago?

And how will the university cope with the rapid expansion of information on the

Internet? Or will it disappear into a virtual realm with all the impersonality of science fiction?

In various ways the chapters of this book examine different aspects of these crucial questions, looking at the role of the modern university in a new millennium and the question of academic freedom and university autonomy.

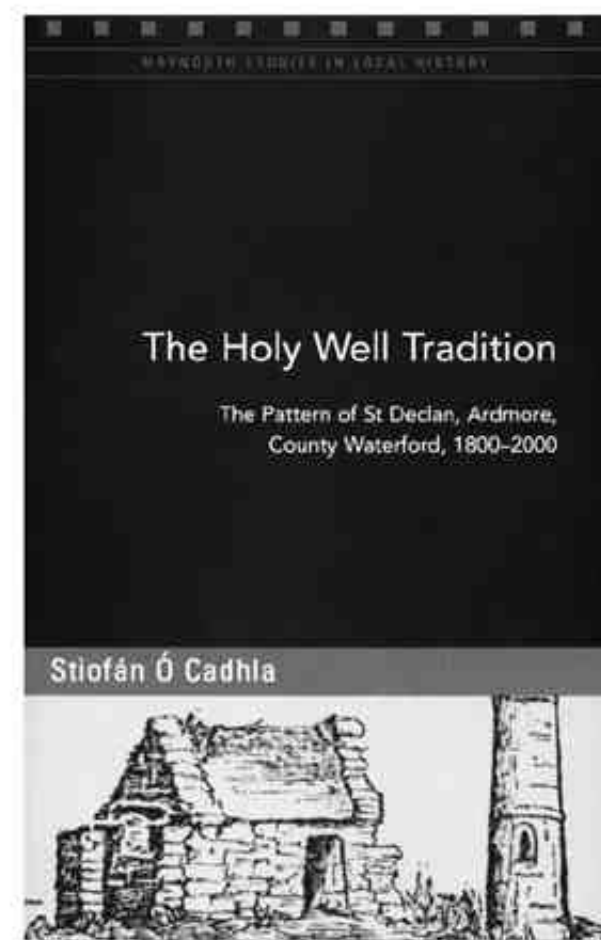
James Heffron is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, UCC.

Publisher: Mercier Press (www.mercier.ie)
Price €25.39

The Holy Well Tradition

The Pattern of St Declan, Ardmore,
County Waterford, 1800-2000

Stiofán Ó Cadhla



It is estimated that there are up to 3,000 Holy Wells in Ireland. The pattern or feast day of the local patron saint has been viewed as one of the most typical aspects of Irish culture and has served to define that culture as either primitive in a negative sense or traditional in a positive sense. The pattern in honour of St Declan of Ardmore, County Waterford, has been one of the most widely patronized in Munster and provides an opportunity to look at patterns in general through one particularly illustrative example.

Stiofán Ó Cadhla is a College Lecturer in Béaloideas/Folklore in UCC.

Publisher: Four Courts Press (www.four-courts-press.ie)
Price €9.95

New Journal of Folklore and Ethnology



Pictured at the launch of *Béascna*, the new journal of Folklore and Ethnology, are from left, Professor Gearóid Ó Cruaíoch, *Béaloides/Folklore, UCC*, Professor Gerard T. Wrixon, President, UCC, Seán Ó Duinnshléibhe, Valérie Liégeois, *Liégeois, UCC*, Luís Angosto, editors and Professor Peter Woodman, Arts Faculty Dean, UCC

The first edition of *Béascna*, a new journal of Folklore and Ethnology, has been launched at UCC. The journal founded by three postgraduate students, Luís Angosto and Valérie Liégeois, Department of Folklore and Ethnology, and Seán Ó Duinnshléibhe, Department of Modern Irish, includes articles on family photography and collective memory, the overlap between Literature and Anthropology, the clothing tradition of the Aran Islands, commemorative practices, and many other articles of interest. The focus, however, is not exclusively on Folklore and Ethnology as this issue also contains contributions from other disciplines - a trend the editorial committee would hope to develop further.

Speaking at the launch Professor Gearóid Ó Cruaíoch, Head of UCC's Department of Folklore & Ethnology, said, "The Department is very proud of the achievement of our postgraduate students in inaugurating the new journal to such scholarly standards. *Béascna* reflects in an excellent way the chief characteristics of our discipline: a local rootedness in Irish tradition, and a confident, innovative engagement with contemporary cultural discourse - on a global scale".

Béascna is intended to be an annual publication and will provide a permanent platform for new researchers in the discipline of folklore and ethnology and other related fields. It is a bilingual publication (Irish/English) which should help to enhance and emphasize the position of the Irish language as a medium of research in contemporary Folklore and Ethnology Studies. UCC's President Research Fund, the Faculty of Arts and the Department of Folklore and Ethnology funded the journal.

"It is hoped that *Béascna* will provide a forum for new researchers in Folklore and Ethnology and related disciplines, to publish their work", said Seán Ó Duinnshléibhe, member of the Editorial Board of *Béascna*. He went on to say "rud eile a chuireamair romhainn ab ea an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn mar theanga taighde sna réimsí léinn seo agus léiriú is ea na haltanna Gaeilge san uimhir seo den iris ar an gcuma gur féidir leis an dteangain dul i ngleic le téarmaíocht chomhaimseartha na hEitneagrafaíochta agus í a thabhairt chun dúchais ar a slí shainiúil féin".

From Moscow to Madrid

Postmodern Cities, European Cinema

authors: Ewa Mazierska and Laura Rascaroli



Travelling from Warsaw to Blackpool, Marseilles to Madrid, this lively and accessible book investigates the postmodern nature of contemporary Europe's urban life and cinema and shows how European films represent the cities across the old and new Europe. Interdisciplinary in approach, the text engages with diverse films, including *Luna Park*, *Run*, *Lola*, *Run*, *Trainspotting*, *Wonderland* and many more. It tackles the issues of postmodernity raised by these films and the changes wrought in European cities since the 1980s under the effects of political change, from the post-communist era in Moscow and Berlin to the effects of Thatcherism in Edinburgh and London.

Ewa Mazierska is Senior Lecturer in Film & Media Studies, Manchester Metropolitan University; **Laura Rascaroli** is Toyota Lecturer in Film & Media Studies, University College Cork.

Publisher: I B Tauris London – New York (www.ibtauris.com)

Paperback: stg £15.95

Launch of Field Day Anthology

This Christmas sees the publication of the eagerly awaited *Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing Volumes IV and V: Irish Women's Writing and Traditions*. Eleven years in the making and featuring the work of over seven hundred and fifty individual writers, it has been worth the wait.

The most influential women writers and academics in Ireland joined Mary Robinson at the Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, Dublin, to celebrate what was without doubt the publishing event of the year. Taking precious time away from a private holiday, Mrs Robinson said the new anthology was a treasure trove, hugely significant not only to the women of Ireland but to women around the world. She said she would be using the volumes as a working tool, illustrating how Irish women, their writings, stories and lives have been made visible once more. The anthology showed how women's voices could successfully be put back 'on the map'. Mrs Robinson continued, "They are very

different, they are very fresh. They represent new words and new methods... a great triumph." Events to herald the arrival of the new volumes have also been held in London, Paris and New York.

The Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing Volumes IV and V: Irish Women's Writing and Traditions is available from all good bookshops priced €250, or directly from www.corkuniversitypress.com. where full details, including the preface and a listing of all writers and extracts, can be viewed.



Mary Robinson and Sara Wilbourne, Cork University Press, pictured at the launch of *The Field Day Anthology*

An bhfuil tabhairt amach á eagrú d'éinne atá ag éirí as?

Má tá, téir I dteagmháil leis an Eagarthóir le do thoil agus cuirfidh sí cúpla grianghraf den ócáid sa Courier. Fólíne: 2821 | dirlíon: r.cox@ucc.ie

Has someone in your department married recently or had a baby?

Please contact the Deputy Editor if you would like this information in *The College Courier*. Ext: 2821 e-mail: r.cox@ucc.ie

APPOINTMENTS

Dr Edel Barnes, Snr Lectureship, Accounting & Finance

Dr Orla Barry, Lectureship, Pharmacology

Paul Barry, Lectureship, BIS

Fergal Carton, Lectureship, BIS

Peter Cleary, Lectureship, Accounting & Finance

Dr Alastair Christie, Professorship, Applied Social Studies

Alice Coffey, Nurse Tutor, Nursing Studies

Dr Philip Coleman, Lectureship, English

Myles Corcoran, IT Analyst, Computer Science

Anthony Crotty, Analyst/Programmer, Computer Centre

Dr Sally Cudmore, Manager, Biosciences Institute

Gerard Deegan, Department Manager, Computer Science

Dr Aidan Doyle, Lectureship, Modern Irish

Dr Joseph Feller, Lectureship, BIS

Michael Field, Computer Science, IT Analyst

Barry Foley, IT Analyst, Computer Science

Dr John Gamble, Professorship, Geology

Julia Hansen, Lectureship, Philosophy

Gael Hardie-Brown, Lectureship, Accounting & Finance

Jeremy Hayes, Lectureship, BIS

Ciara Heavin, Lectureship, BIS

Dr Josephine Hegarty, Nurse Tutor, Nursing Studies

Dr Colin Hill, Assoc. Professorship, Microbiology

Gerard Hooton, Technician, Microelectronics

Dr Niamh Hourigan, Lectureship, Sociology

Mark Hutchinson, Lectureship, Accounting & Finance

Dr Robert McAllen, Lectureship, Zoology & Animal Ecology

John McAvoy, Lectureship, BIS

Christine McCreary, Snr Lectureship, Oral Health & Development

Dr Anne Mulhall, Lectureship, English

Finbarr O'Connell, Services & Security Operative, General Services

Edward O'Connor, Electrical Foreman, Works

Dr Thomas J F O'Gara, Professorship, Microbiology

Dr Jorge Oliveira, Snr Lectureship, Process Engineering

Mairin O'Mahony, Nurse Tutor, Nursing Studies

Dr Eileen O'Rourke, Lectureship, Geography

Dr David O'Sullivan, Lectureship, Applied Psychology

Eleanor O'Sullivan, Lectureship, Dental Surgery

Dr Paul O'Toole, Lectureship, Microbiology

Dawn Philips, Lectureship, Philosophy

Dr Emanuel Popovici, Lectureship, Microelectronic Engineering

Timothy Power, Mechanical Technician, Electrical & Electronic Engineering

Brendan Richardson, Lectureship, Management & Marketing

Dr Garret Swart, Lectureship, Computer Science

Dr Bernadette Sweeney, Lectureship, English (Drama & Theatre Studies)

Angela Twomey, Nurse Tutor, Nursing Studies

Patricia Leahy Warren, Lectureship, Nursing Studies

Dr Mathew Woodcock, Lectureship, English

Dr April Wuensch, Lectureship, French

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Dr Susan Aylwin, Applied Psychology, for 12 months for data analysis, reading and writing.

Dr Andy Bielenberg, History, for 12 months for research and publication.

Dr Fidelma Boyd, Microbiology, for three months to work with Professor James Kaper at the University of Maryland Medical School in Baltimore.

Dr Francis Douglas, Education, for nine months to explore the philosophy of Early Years Education in Ireland, Cornwall and Southern Brittany.

Dr David Edwards, History, for 12 months to write a book on Martial Law and English Rule in Ireland, 1556-1650 and to co-organize a conference on Sectarian Conflict in Ireland from the Reformation to the coming of Independence (1536-c1937).

Dr Liam Gallagher, Economics, for 12 months to take up a post at Dublin City University.

Dr Jools Gilson-Ellis, English, for three months to participate in professional voice training, to tour with new dance theatre production and to complete research for a critical reflection award.

Dr Mary Horgan, Education, for nine months to undertake research on Early Childhood Education in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick.

Dr Fiachra Long, Education, for eight months to undertake a research project and to spend time in libraries in London and Louvain.

Nuala Lordan, Applied Social Studies, for four months to work on a joint research project with the social work department in the Mercy Hospital and to work on a research project for publication.

Dr JoAnne Mancini, History, for two years to take up a position in the School of English & American Studies at the University of Sussex.

Marian McCarthy, Education, for three months to continue work on a doctoral thesis.

Siobhán Mullally, Law, for 12 months to prepare a doctoral thesis for publication as a book, on the subject of human rights law. Also to spend time at the human rights centre, University of Toronto, Canada and to work on a second book.

Dr Clíona Ó Gallchoir, English, for four months to complete a monograph entitled *Gender and National Culture in the Work of Maria Edgeworth*.

Professor Niall Ó Murchadha, Physics, for seven months to attend a series of workshops in Caltech and spend some time at the Erwin Schrödinger Institute, Vienna.

Professor Fred Powell, Applied Social Studies, for three months to complete a book on community development in Ireland.

Bernadette Power, Economics, for four months to complete a PhD in the University of St Andrews.

Dr Pádraigín Riggs, Roinn Na Nua-Ghaeilge, for 12 months to complete a number of projects for publication including contributing several items for a forthcoming Encyclopaedia of Celtic Culture and History, to be published by the University of Wales.

Dr Angela Veale, Applied Psychology, for 12 months to continue writing publications, to develop further research interests on asylum seeker issues and to conclude training in child and adolescent psychotherapy in Trinity College Dublin.

CAREER BREAKS

Karen McSweeney, International Education Office, 12 months

Mary O'Flynn, Careers Service, 12 months

DEPARTURES

Aoife Corkery, Buildings & Estates

Dawn French, Language Centre

Conor O'Leary, General Services

Linda O'Riordan, Language Centre

RETIREMENTS

Mary Collins, Secretary's Office

Dr Patrick Cronin, Ancient Classics

Patrick O'Connor, Dental Hospital

Professor Denis O'Mullane, Oral Health

BIRTHS

Congratulations to **Professor Kevin Cashman**, Food Science, Food Technology & Nutrition, and his wife **Maria Harrington** on the birth of their son **Jack**; **Anita Cronin**, Postgraduate Admissions Office, and husband **Paddy Mullen** on the birth of their son **Jack**; **Professor Cormac Sreenan**, Computer Science and his wife **Joan** on the birth of their daughter **Clíodhna Aobh**.



Bertie Bowman (centre), who retired after 21 years service with UCC. Bertie, who was a member of the General Services team, is seen with Ger Harrington, Director, Buildings and Estates and Sheila Maguire, General Services Officer



Mary Collins, Secretary's Office, retired on 31 October 2002 after 26 years with UCC. Mary is seen here at her retirement party with Michael Farrell, Secretary's Office and Michael Kelleher, Secretary and Bursar

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Professor Peter Michael Kennedy, Microelectronic Engineering, presented an invited paper entitled *Communicating with Chaos: State of the Art* at Motorola's University Partnership Wireless Convocation in Austin, Texas, last October.

Dr Ursula Kilkelly, Law, has been involved in the provision of judicial training in Igalo, Montenegro, on the European Convention on Human Rights and Family Law. The Council of Europe organized the training. Dr Kilkelly gave a paper entitled *Effective Protection of Children's Rights in Family Cases: Using the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to interpret Article 8 European Convention on Human Rights*, at the International Society of Family Law 11th World Conference held in Copenhagen/Oslo in August 2002.

Dr Anita Maguire, Chemistry, was invited by the Royal Society of Chemistry to present a lecture at the 3rd International Meeting on Drugs from Natural Products, titled *Synthetic Approaches towards CAF-603 - a Potent Modulator of the Maxi-K Channel*, held at Trinity College Dublin.

Dr Colin Sage, Geography, was invited by the University of California Davis to present a lecture on *Embeddedness and the Geography of*

Regard as part of a programme on The Geography of Food involving distinguished Californian food producers and writers. While in Davis he also presented a seminar to the International Agricultural Development programme on *Controversies and Contradictions in the Meaning of Food Security*. Dr Sage also presented seminars on *Alternative Agri-Food Networks in South-West Ireland* to the Social Sciences and Humanities Colloquium at Colby College and to the Department of Resource Economics and Policy at the University of Maine.

Dr Helen Whelton, OHSRC, gave a presentation titled *Use of Dental Service Data to Inform Research and Policy*, at the International Association Dental Research conference, European Festival of Oral Science, held in Cardiff last September.

Dr David Woods, Ancient Classics, presented his paper *The Alleged Rebellion of the Camel-Master Caloceraus in Cyprus AD334*, at the Second Celtic Conference in Classics held at the University of Glasgow in September. He also delivered the lecture *The Origins of St George* as part of the Dublin Classics Seminar at UCD.



Patricia Connolly

1937- 2002

Pat Connolly died on 20 June 2002 and will be sadly missed by all her friends in UCC. Pat came to the UCC Library in 1978 and worked consecutively in Cataloguing, at the Main Issues Desk and in Acquisitions. She moved to the Special Collections area of the Boole Library in the late 1980s. She was a dedicated and approachable member of staff who went to great lengths to help solve readers' queries. She enjoyed her contact with those who carried out research in Special Collections, many of whom became her friends.

She also contributed unselfishly to the welfare of staff and served for some years as a union representative. She was also a member of the Regrading Committee where she distinguished herself by her wise and compassionate contribution to the business of the committee.

Pat was born in Bradford and retained traces of her Yorkshire accent all her life. Her father had served in North Africa in World War II and she remembered vividly his return home to Bradford at the end of the North African campaign. Her mother took her to the cinema frequently and instilled in her a great love of film. She was a great fan of westerns and realised a dream when she and her husband visited Monument Valley, Tombstone, and other famous sites a few years ago. On leaving school she joined the library service in her native city. She worked in the Bradford Reference Library and while there obtained her professional qualifications. She later joined Marks & Spencer as a member of the management team and subsequently worked all over England. When in Southampton she met, and married, her husband Patrick, a Cork man and eventually came to live in Ireland. Although Pat was very happy here, her maiden name was Murphy after all, she was always proud of her Yorkshire origins.

Pat had such a vibrant personality that is hard to realise that she is gone. I still make a note of an interesting anecdote or of the latest political absurdity in order to pass it on to her. She was a dedicated reader all her life and particularly enjoyed biographies and memoirs. Because of her wide reading she possessed a vast store of eclectic

knowledge and one could always refer obscure queries to her knowing that she would either have the answer or at least know where to find it. She had a wonderful sense of humour that enriched the lives of all those around her. Her marvellous sense of the absurd, and her ability to tell a great story, made her a most entertaining companion. I have great memories of times we spent together and particularly recall when we inadvertently crashed the cast party of the National Theatre Company, which included Sir Ian McKellan and Brian Cox, at the end of their week in the Opera House, and of course we stayed and pretended we were 'luvvies' for the evening.

Pat endured a lot during her illness but was courageous and optimistic until the end. A few weeks before she died she organized a party for colleagues and friends. It was held on an incredibly beautiful day in early summer in her daughter Maura's garden. Although we knew then that she was very ill and, indeed, was saying good-bye to us, we remember the occasion as a happy one – a celebration of her life and of our affection for her. What courage and fortitude it must have taken on her part we can only imagine.

To her husband Patrick and to her family, in whom she took such pride, we extend our sympathy.

*Carmel Quinlan,
History*



Dr Siobhán Vernon

Siobhán Vernon (née O'Shea) died on the 18 September 2002. She was a native of Macroom and it was to the boys' school there that she went for classes in mathematics in the higher-level course for the Leaving Certificate. Siobhán entered University College Cork in 1949 and was awarded a college scholarship on the results of the First Science examinations in 1950. In 1952 Siobhán obtained a BSc with First Class Honours, in Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, and in 1954 was awarded an MSc in Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics.

In 1952 Siobhán took up a position as Demonstrator in UCC's Mathematics Department in a support scheme for postgraduate students. Her senior colleagues in teaching mathematics were both future Presidents of the College. H St J Atkins, Professor of Mathematics, became President in 1954 and Tadhg Ó Ciardha, Professor of Statistics, was appointed President in 1978. Due to the gradual increase in student numbers a need was felt to increase the staffing in Mathematics and she continued as senior Demonstrator after taking her Master's degree.

Dr P B Kennedy was appointed Lecturer in Mathematics in 1954 and Professor in 1956. He was very active in research and encouraged Siobhán in this area. She was appointed to the full time post of Assistant in 1957. Her publications started to flow and Paddy Kennedy arranged for her to take leave of absence during 1962/63 to become Visiting Lecturer at Royal Holloway College, University of London. Following her return

she was awarded a PhD in 1964 by the National University of Ireland, her thesis unusually being composed of her already published papers. She was appointed Lecturer in 1965.

Her publications were generally in the field of infinite series, in particular trigonometric series, which is mathematical analysis, but in her teaching she had an inclination to algebra. For many years she taught the First Arts course and part of the Third Arts, and gave supplementary lectures through the medium of Irish. Students at various levels profited greatly by her lectures and she was well known to the many who went into the teaching profession. If memory serves, in the early days she was one of just two women in this country at university level in pure or applied mathematics.

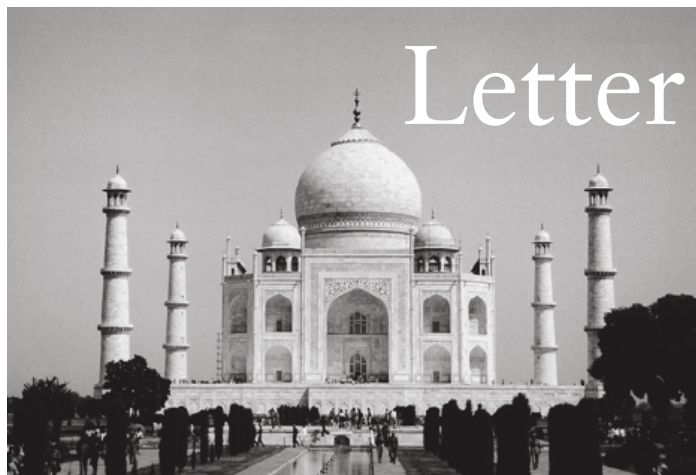
Siobhán married colleague Dr Peter Vernon of the Department of Geology, and later reduced her college position to half time for ten years while they raised a family of four. She then resumed full time teaching

activity until her retirement, which took place in 1988. Her old school, the Convent of Mercy in Macroom, honoured Siobhán in 1995 for achievements in her career and she received a Catherine McCauley award as a distinguished past pupil.

To such a full academic and family life she added an active social one and had a wide circle of friends. Her final publication came after her retirement when she was invited to contribute a chapter on Paddy Kennedy for the book *Creators of Mathematics: The Irish Connection*, edited by Ken Houston (University College Dublin Press, 2000).

Siobhán Vernon will be remembered by her students for her contribution to mathematical scholarship and her commitment to the teaching of mathematics.

*Professor Emeritus Patrick D Barry,
Mathematics*



Letter from India

Michael Murphy, Management & Marketing, was invited by the University of Delhi to facilitate a research seminar for MBA students during late summer 2002. The invitation was taken up at the end of Michael's leave of absence, which was spent in Warwick University where he worked for six months on PhD research.

It was with great curiosity, and a certain feeling of unease, that I returned to India in September 2002, after my first visit twelve years ago. Along with a desire to investigate accounts from Indian friends about 'McDonalds on every corner', I was keen to see for myself the effects of 'liberalizing' the Indian economy over the last decade. On my last visit to India, the closest to an international brand widely available was 'Lahore-Pepsi', and in some areas one could get locally-produced Cadbury's chocolate (which had some ingredient to prevent the chocolate melting in the heat, making it very brittle in texture).

Arriving at Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, I braced myself for all manner of difficulties: lengthy queues, baggage loss, hassle, touts, pickpockets, conmen and dodgy taximeters. Whatever about the economy, certainly some of the traditional tourist scams have become much more developed over the years. Instead of just claiming the hotel of your choice is already full or closed due to a strike, the taxi drivers, keen to bring you to another, overpriced hotel, where they get a hefty commission, often stop somewhere en route to the city centre to let you use a phone to make or confirm a reservation for the hotel of your choice. As a friend of mine discovered, too late, last year, the phone is rigged, and any hotel you ring will be full! Fortunately, I emerged from the airport relatively unscathed, other than being short-changed at the foreign exchange counter ("but, sir, there are no coins in India"). My initial impression, heading towards the city, was that little had changed: the heat, the dust, the smells (pleasant and not-so-pleasant), the crowds of people, the mayhem on the roads, the noise, the little auto-rickshaws everywhere and, most of all, the cows happily wandering down the main thoroughfares, oblivious to the chaotic mid-day traffic. While it is true that there are small signs for McDonalds on almost every street corner in the very centre of Delhi, I only saw three outlets during my time there. And Cadbury now has their own small fridges in shops.

I had accepted an invitation to facilitate a research seminar at the University of Delhi for MBA (business administration) students. I wanted to use this opportunity to explore the attitudes of young Indians to western consumerism, and to examine the impact they think this is having on their culture. The University of Delhi has 79 colleges and about 220,000 students! There is no central campus as such, with the various colleges spread around two areas of the city. I arrived during campaigning for the student union elections. There were large groups of students chanting on the roads near the Faculty of Management Studies, and also a sizeable number of police wielding lathis (long canes). It was reported in The Times of India that, in the first incidence of poll-related violence the previous day, one of the vice-presidential candidates, Rishi Thukrai, had been shot at! 14 'flying squads' composed of university personnel had been established to provide added security at the 51 different polling stations across the university. The Faculty of Management Studies is one of the smaller colleges, only offering post-graduate programmes. Their main programme is the MBA, a two-year full-time course, with a total of 90 students. Yet, over 20,000 applicants sit a special exam each year to get a place on this programme. As a result, the standard is very high and the students I met were extremely confident and knowledgeable about their area of study. Great emphasis is placed on education, and many now feel a primary degree alone is inadequate to secure reasonable employment. Due to the rapidly increasing population, and improved productivity in many sectors, there is growing competition for jobs. The MBA degree also appears to have become a significant status symbol in India. It was not unusual to see newspaper advertisements, placed by families seeking matrimonial matches for their children, as follows: "MBA 28 /175/51 top MNC (IT), Bengali status Family seek B'ful girl...". Some parents are very demanding in terms of the girl sought: "homely, beautiful, tall, fair, slim, well educated, artistic girl from cultured family", while others are less so:

"boy had kidney transplant... hence willing to make minor compromise in girl".

The sense I got from the students and lecturers I spoke with is that, while very many Indians aspire to consume western brands, they are still well beyond the reach of most, even the burgeoning middle-classes. There was little doubt among these students that international, and particularly American, consumer brands are deemed to be very desirable, and in the words of one student, evidence that you are 'getting there'. There was also a strong feeling that foreign-owned companies are bringing up standards within India. Some local entrepreneurs seem to be responding to the challenge, as indicated by the sign outside one establishment proclaiming 'very rapid fast food'. However, the biggest impact of the western world at present is clearly coming from television. Even very modest dwellings, as I witnessed myself, now receive some 40 channels by satellite, most of them foreign. In a country where most marriages are still arranged, and dating is not widely acceptable, young people are watching American sitcoms, soap operas and Hollywood blockbusters. This, coupled with very widespread use of the internet, is creating tensions in a society heavily dominated by religion and tradition. The presence of internet cafes and computer training schools (such as the 'Cyber-Guru' school), even in the smallest towns, represents another big change since my earlier visit. One can now send e-mail from almost anywhere in India, and sometimes with a cow poking their nose in the door a few feet away.

On the surface, little has changed in India during the last decade, at least to the casual observer. However, increasing exposure to other cultures and value systems is changing attitudes, behaviour, particularly among the more educated, and the young. It would be disappointing to see this extraordinary country become 'westernized', rather than more developed. Many of the Indians I spoke to are confident that their culture is strong and that they can preserve the best of it while embracing other influences. Even McDonalds have had to introduce the McVeggie Burger!

Questionnaire from the Office of Public Affairs to UCC Staff on *The College Courier*

This document is the first in a series of communications the Office of Public Affairs will issue to staff to assist them with their review of internal communications.

Staff are invited to start engaging in this process of consultation by completing this questionnaire and returning it to The Editor, *The College Courier*, Office of Public Affairs, The East Wing.

Alternately, an online version of this questionnaire can be accessed from the Office of Public Affairs website @ <http://www.markclass.com/websurvey.asp?ci=50&si=299>

1. Do you read *The College Courier*?

YES. Why?

NO. Why not?

2. Do you read hard-copy only of *The College Courier*?

YES _____

NO _____

3. Do you ever read the web version of *The College Courier*?

If **YES**, how often?

If **NO**, why not?

4. How do you receive your copy of *The College Courier*?

5. Are you happy with this method of circulation?

6. What are your favourite sections of the magazine, and why?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

7. Are there other areas of interest that are not currently covered in the magazine?
If there are, please give details of same.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

8. Do you like the design and layout of the magazine?

If **YES**, please outline what design elements you like?

If **NO**, please outline why not?

9. Have you ever submitted material to *The College Courier*?

If **YES**, how often?

If **NO**, why not?

10. *The College Courier* issues three times a year. Do you think this is

too frequent ? _____

not frequent enough ? _____

Additional Comments: _____

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire completed by **Name:** _____

Department/Office: _____

Date: _____

NOTES

Pensions Office goes on-line

The Pensions Office recently completed a project to implement the on-line module of its computerised pensions system. *Pensionmaster* is used by the Office for the management of the Defined Benefit Scheme – the University's statutory scheme for permanent staff. *Pensionmaster* on-line now provides the facility to all scheme members to log on and view their pension entitlements and change personal details.

The project is part of the Pensions Office Policy to improve communication with scheme members. Extensions of the web output are planned to further enhance this service.

With important and wide-ranging changes pending in the pensions area, the University has recently advertised the post of Pensions Manager. This appointment is part of the preparation of the Office to meet the challenges of the recent legislation and to provide a quality service to University staff and pensioners.

Copy Submission Date

The next issue of *The College Courier* will be published in Spring 2003. Submissions for the forthcoming issue of the magazine should be sent to the Editor by 5pm, Tuesday 18 February 2003

Feeling Anxious?

If you are feeling anxious or concerned about the new academic year, Dovedale's helpline staff are on hand to help - 24 hours a day. Start by calling your EAP on freephone 1 800 201 181

CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELLING FOR STAFF

For more information: www.ie/ucc/equalcom/EAP.htm

Colby College Faculty Exchange

Colby College, Waterville, Maine, USA, is pleased to invite applications for next year's UCC exchange professorship. The Colby-UCC exchange programme has been going on continuously since 1986. The successful applicant will be asked to teach two courses during the second semester, from February through May 2004, in an appropriate department or programme at Colby. Colby will provide return air transportation for the staff member and his or her immediate family, housing, meals on campus, and the use of a car.

Please submit a letter telling us about your teaching and research and your interest in Colby College (see <http://www.colby.edu>). Include a CV and an indication of support from your department.

SEND TO: Professor Art Champlin, Anngarry, St. Clare's Avenue, College Road, Cork.

DEADLINE: Monday, 3 February 2003.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM: Professor Andrew Brown or Professor Art Champlin. tel. 434-2382. email. colbycrk@iol.ie

The College Courier on the web

See *The College Courier* on the web @ <http://www.ucc.ie/info/courier/courierWin2002.pdf>

To cancel your hard copy of the magazine please contact Roslyn Cox

The College Courier wishes all its readers a Happy Holiday!