

INDEPENDENT THINKING

The **University College Cork** Magazine 2016

IN THE NEWS

CNN's social media head, **Samantha Barry**, takes on New York and the world



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Inside...

FEATURES

- 04 Bowing out**
Outgoing President Dr Michael B Murphy looks back on a decade in office
- 08 Leading lady**
UCC graduate Samantha Barry is top of the social league
- 11 Here to stay**
New bust of George Boole commemorates his genius
- 12 Up for the challenge**
President-elect Professor Patrick O'Shea tells us what shapes his perspective
- 15 Music to our ears**
How annual concert on The Quad helps charities
- 16 Bright city lights**
Cork University Business School has plans to move downtown
- 19 Down on the farm**
Quercus scholar and inventor Marie Martin reveals the source of her inspiration
- 20 In and out**
We follow UCC graduate Dr Anna Marie Naughton's work with the homeless
- 23 The last word**
Newly appointed Writer-in-Residence, Cónal Creedon, on life and his universe
- 30 Simply divine**
As the Honan Chapel marks 100 years we celebrate its wonderful art
- 38 Mind over matter**
We talk to award-winning quantum physics researcher Professor Seamus Davis
- 41 Back to roots**
UCC is the first university to grow its own fresh veggies for students and staff
- 44 Central station**
Student hub will bring all facilities under one roof on campus

- 47 Popular pundit**
We ask well-known sports commentator Marty Morrissey about his news and views
- 50 Well on track**
How Phil Healy's outstanding UCC relay race brought personal and global kudos

REGULAR FEATURES

- 26 Keep in Touch!**
- 32 Weddings**
- 34 Alumni Reunions**
- 36 Alumni Achievement Awards**
- 52 Spotlight on Sport**



INDEPENDENT *Thinking*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nancy Hawkes

EDITORIAL ADVISOR

Margaret Jennings

COMMISSIONING EDITOR

Mike Ryan

DIGITAL EDITOR

Denis Twomey

DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI ADVISORS

Aideen Hogan • Karen Kelly • Nini Schwart
• Dr Jean van Sinderen-Law • Caroline Waters

DISTRIBUTION

Geraldine Taylor

DESIGN

Vermillion Design Consultants

www.vermilliondesign.com

COVER

Samantha Barry in Times Square, New York.

Photograph by Michael Appleton

PRINTER

City Print, Cork

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES AND COMMENTS

Nancy Hawkes

T: 00 353 (0)21 4902812

E: editor@ucc.ie

ALUMNI ENQUIRIES

Karen Kelly

T: 00 353 (0)21 4903643

E: alumni@ucc.ie



Data Protection Statement: The Development and Alumni Office of University College Cork (UCC) maintains an alumni database which includes personal information such as name, address, telephone number, and qualification obtained. This data will be used to keep you informed about various university and alumni events and development activities at UCC. We will also inform you from time to time about opportunities to support these activities. Any

information you provide to the Development and Alumni Office will be held securely and confidentially and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003 and UCC's Data Protection Policy (<http://www.ucc.ie/en/ocla/comp/data/dataprotection/>). Your personal data will not be disclosed to any third parties without your consent. The Development and Alumni Office will make every effort to ensure that any information we hold about you is accurate and up-to-date, but would appreciate your help in informing us of any changes by contacting the Development and Alumni Office, UCC, 5 Brighton Villas, Western Road, Cork, Ireland. Email: alumni@ucc.ie. You have a right to ask for a copy of any personal data held about you and to have any inaccuracies in such personal data corrected. If you wish to avail of this right, please write to the Information Compliance Officer, University College Cork, 4 Carrigside, College Road, Cork or email foi@ucc.ie. If you no longer wish to receive information on the aforementioned opportunities, please contact the Development and Alumni Office, UCC at the address above.

It was my *privilege* to serve during a rollercoaster decade

As UCC President Michael Murphy prepares to hand over the baton after ten years, he shares some of his memories of leading the university through high and low times

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” How Charles Dickens’s opening line from *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859) might have been written to capture the experience of the past decade in UCC!

In February 2007, my first month in office, the boundless optimism of the Celtic Tiger era was still alive: “We could not possibly put a three-storey building on the former greyhound-racing track, land prices being where they are, and going where they’re going...”, was a contribution at our university’s finance committee.

Just four years later, the same committee was voting monies to provide free meals for penurious students and to help house others sleeping in cars (or under a bridge in one case), such was the change in national, institutional, citizen and student fortune.

And yet the Western Gateway Building was built. Although it took a decade to find all €109 million required, UCC now boasts the largest and most modern academic edifice in the country. The lesson: universities the world over are extraordinarily resilient and UCC matches the best.

Wasn’t our Main Quadrangle built at the very height of the Famine (1847–49), while cholera in the city prevented Queen Victoria from coming into the campus to perform the opening. One hundred and sixty years later no mere national bankruptcy would derail the ambitions of today’s 23,000 confident, ambitious, diverse and clever community of students and staff.

Citation of a construction project as a premier institutional accomplishment is, of course, slightly ironic, as I have repeatedly and publicly denied enslavement to the edifice complex – a common characteristic of university presidents! More fundamental than buildings have been the evolution of the vision for the university, the refinement of its

goals and the projection of its uniqueness to the outside world, coupled with effective implementation.

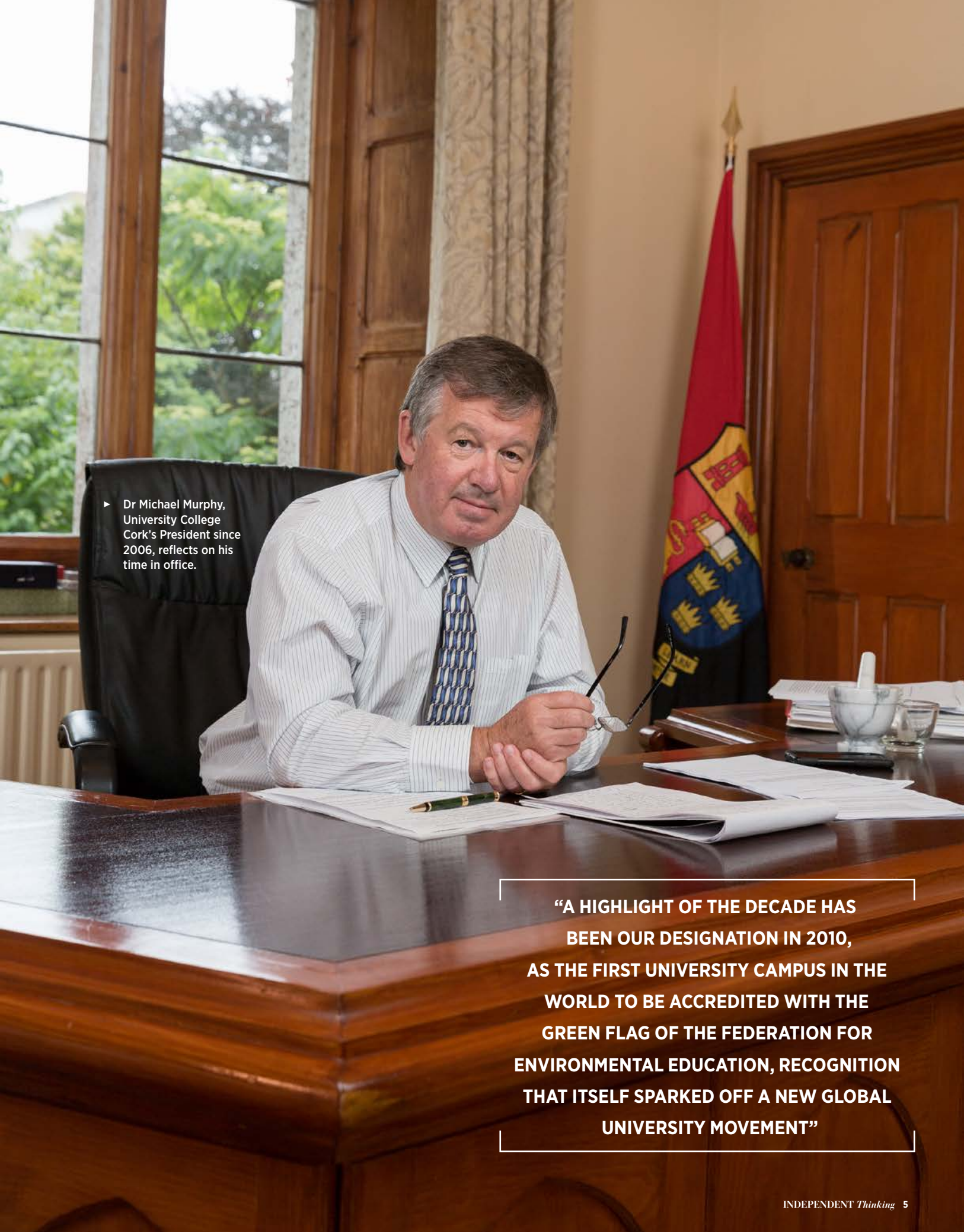
The UCC Strategic Plan for 2007–12 embraced a vision for “a world-class regional university”. Our purpose today remains excellence in teaching, learning and research, but striving also to maximise relevance to the needs of local society and business.

This vision has since emerged as a global theme for university planning but our early embrace of the agenda attracted considerable international attention. The UCC Plan (2009–12) featured as a case study in the Henley (UK) MBA programme, students being required to compare and contrast the strategic plan of Nokia Corporation with that from Cork. Comparison of the status of both institutions today, might give pause for thought to those who foist a business sector ethos on universities!

Vision must give way to actions, effective implementation. Eventually, in 2015, UCC was awarded 21 A grades across 30 metrics by the European Union U-Multirank, the highest number among all 1,220 universities assessed, celebrating in particular our performance under regional university measures.

Dickens must have had university rankings on his mind. It has been quite a roller-coaster decade. By 2010 and by dint of much hard work, UCC had made its way into the top 200 (top 2%) of global universities, recognition we went on to enjoy for three consecutive years.

But alas, no more! Eight years of continuous revenue cuts, 15% fewer staff serving 10% more students, enforced early retirement of some of our most productive academic and support staff, loss of our academic stars to other international universities, and – equally important – the imposition of a bureaucratic stranglehold seen mostly in less developed countries has taken an inevitable toll.

A photograph of Dr. Michael Murphy, President of University College Cork, sitting at a large wooden desk in an office. He is wearing a light blue striped shirt and a blue and white patterned tie. He is holding a pair of glasses in his hands. On the desk in front of him are several papers, a pen, and a glass. To his right, a red flag with a crest is visible. In the background, there is a large window with a view of greenery and a wooden door.

▶ Dr Michael Murphy, University College Cork's President since 2006, reflects on his time in office.

“A HIGHLIGHT OF THE DECADE HAS BEEN OUR DESIGNATION IN 2010, AS THE FIRST UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN THE WORLD TO BE ACCREDITED WITH THE GREEN FLAG OF THE FEDERATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, RECOGNITION THAT ITSELF SPARKED OFF A NEW GLOBAL UNIVERSITY MOVEMENT”

Nevertheless, we have adapted magnificently: fewer than 50 cents of each euro flowing to UCC now comes from the state, contrasted with 86 cents in 2006, due to growing international and postgraduate fee-paying student numbers, as well as growing and diversifying research income. Meanwhile, universities in other countries have enjoyed ever more state and private sector investment and – also enjoying greater autonomy to ensure greater effectiveness – have passed all Irish universities by.

There is one very important and notable exception to the rankings trend, student-initiated and student-led and a manifestation of that independent thinking that we celebrate: UCC's commitment to institutional and societal sustainability is second to none. A highlight of the decade has been our designation in 2010 as the first university campus in the world to be accredited with the Green Flag of the Federation for Environmental Education, recognition that itself, sparked off a new global university movement.

UCC's positioning as a champion of the green agenda, among the top four universities in the world every year since "greenmetric" rankings began, is a source of great pride for everyone. The most recent green initiative, the development of our own vegetable garden on our new lands at Curraheen (which you can read about in this magazine), is also a reminder that the campus estate grew by 53 acres (40%) during the downturn.

You will have noticed that when I began this piece I highlighted that UCC has had a plan, implemented it and enjoyed impact and success. But you will also have noticed another theme – the encroachment of unanticipated occurrences, famously described by the British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan as

"events, dear boy". Well, "events" have certainly played their part in the trajectory of UCC lately. Examples include: fire at the old naval building housing the Coastal and Marine Research Centre on Haulbowline Island; the floods of November 2009 which submerged one third of the campus and inflicted tens of millions of euro worth of damage; volcanic eruptions in Iceland in 2010 stranding dozens of staff and students on field trips in Western Europe; and the global economic tsunami of 2008 from which Ireland is only now recovering. Ah, yes, Macmillan.

The roller coaster experience continues. A sublime moment came in October this year when we learned that UCC had, once again, been named the *Sunday Times* University of the Year for 2017. It is recognition, in my view, that UCC is confident in its understanding of the role of a university and clearly committed to discharging that role to very high standards. We exist primarily to teach our students, to learn with and from them, and to provide all students and staff with opportunities to grow, to improve continuously, to experiment and to innovate – to be Independent Thinkers.

During the past decade UCC grew in size – in its student population, campus acreage, built environment and research income. It is more diverse – in its international representation among staff and students and in its popularity among both domestic and international student markets. It is more successful in its innovation measures and its commercialisation and more inclusive, transparent and resilient than at any previous time.

It has been my privilege to serve during one of the most challenging decades in our history. ■



▲ Michael has been privileged to meet many extraordinary people during his 10 years in office, including here in 2007, with honorary graduate, Irish-American philanthropist Loretta Brennan Glucksman.



▲ There have been fun moments too over the decade, including Michael being nominated by the UCC Students' Union for the Ice Bucket Challenge. Here he is seen being doused by SU President Mark Staunton in the middle of UCC's famous Quad.



*Keep in Touch
with...*

Picture: Rowan Davenport

Win a €1,000 travel voucher to be our VIP guest at UCC's Christmas Homecoming event 2016

These days, contact information changes all the time. We would like you to keep in touch with UCC and let us know where you are now. To say thank you for your effort, you will be entered into a draw to be our VIP guest on campus for the annual **UCC Christmas Homecoming** reception held in UCC's Aula Maxima on 22 December 2016.

The prize also includes:

- a travel voucher for €1,000 to be spent on your flights home (if you live abroad) or, if you are based in Ireland, on future travel plans.
- a two-night stay for you and a guest in five-star luxury, at Hayfield Manor hotel, Cork, including breakfast and dinner (on one night).
- to put the festive icing on the (Christmas) cake, a family box for the seasonal pantomime, *Cinderella*, in the Cork Opera House. Four runners-up will win pairs of tickets to the show.

All graduates automatically become lifelong members of the UCC Alumni Association. Register for events, make a donation, or update your details at community.ucc.ie



Alumni Association
Cumann Alumni

To be eligible to enter the draw, you need to be a graduate of University College Cork. The draw will close on 30 November 2016 and the winner will be announced on 1 December 2016. The winner and runners-up will be advised by letter and the results announced on the UCC website. There is no cash alternative should the winner or runners-up be unable to claim their prize. Full terms and conditions for this draw can be found at: www.ucc.ie/en/alumni/

Sponsored by UCC in partnership with



Newswoman SAMANTHA is top of the social ladder

Being at the heart of the American presidential election was just one aspect of UCC graduate Samantha Barry's job as head of social media at CNN. The Cork woman tells **Clodagh Finn** about her meteoric rise to fame in the digital world

She interviewed Donald Trump in a toilet in Miami, spoke to Hillary Clinton backstage and talked to Bernie Sanders and every other candidate in the recently-held US presidential election.

Samantha Barry, UCC graduate and head of social media at CNN, was at the very heart of the 2016 election, though she's quick to clarify that her Snapchat interview with Trump took place in a toilet because that was the only place they could set up on the day.

The fact that Trump was even willing to do a Snapchat interview reveals just how vital a role social media played in the election.

"It had a huge part to play," says 34-year-old Samantha. "You saw that in the readiness of the candidates to give the extra stories and sidebars necessary for an Instagram and a Facebook audience."

From the outset of the primaries, CNN turned two-hour presidential debates into trending

▲ From her New York office, Cork woman Samantha Barry now oversees a staff of 30-plus people and has helped to transform CNN from a TV news network into a 24-hour global multiplatform network. Pictures: Michael Appleton

phenomena on Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter and Facebook.

It's a brave new world and Samantha Barry, a native of Ballincollig, Cork, is at the forefront of it. Since she graduated with an Arts degree (English and Psychology) from University College Cork in 2002, she has gone on to earn a name as a world-renowned social media expert who is invited to share her expertise at conferences and universities all over the world.

Two years ago, she was headhunted from BBC World News in London to run CNN's growing social media division.

From her New York office, she now oversees a staff of 30-plus people and has helped to transform CNN from a TV news network into a 24-hour global multiplatform network.

She strives – and this is her mantra, she tells us – “to create a CNN news habit for every generation on every platform”. “That means reaching people who don't have a cable subscription. That means reaching people in Africa who have leapfrogged desktops and are going straight to mobile and social. No matter where people live, they know they can come to us and we are going to serve them up great stories and information in a way that they want to consume it.”

Ask her about her job and she'll tell you she “absolutely loves it”. Most mornings start at 5.30am or 6am and the first thing she does is look at her emails on her mobile – it's been on all night. She then checks her WhatsApp groups, Facebook, Twitter and CNN's messaging apps.

“Then, I grab a coffee on the run. I've massively embraced the New York way of life, which is to order

everything. It's a rare privilege to cook dinner,” she says.

The office day goes by in a heartbeat – from 7.30am to 6pm – then, she tries to shut off for a few hours before tuning in again to keep an eye on primetime coverage and what is coming out of Hong Kong as it wakes.

**“I WROTE FOR
THE UNIVERSITY
EXAMINER. I DID
THREE RADIO SHOWS
ON THE UNIVERSITY
RADIO. I JUST PUT
MY HAND UP AND
TRIED STUFF”**

It's a long way from her student days at UCC, though she says her digital journey began the week she started college. “I tell the story that the first email address I ever had was in UCC. The first mobile phone I got was from Bank of Ireland. They were offering new students who signed up in 1999 a free Nokia flip phone,” Samantha says, adding that her US colleagues can't believe that happened as late as 1999.

But what really stands out from her student days is the way UCC gave her an opportunity to put her hand up: “I don't mean in class. I mean for things that could potentially put you down the path of where you were going to go. I wrote for the *University Examiner*. I did three radio shows on the university radio. I just put my hand up and tried stuff,” she says, advising others to do the same.

Did her time there help her get to where she is now? “Absolutely. It helped me hone my skills and gave me confidence in journalism and made me feel that I could do this. It really started me on the path to working at the BBC.”

After graduating from UCC, she went on to do an MA in Journalism at Dublin City University and from that got a job at RTÉ.

“When you grow up listening to a radio station and the next thing you are on the radio reading the news – ok, it might be at 3 o'clock in the morning but it's still the news – it's kind of fun.”

At 24, she took a year off to go to Australia and took up a job as lunchtime reporter at Newstalk radio when she came home. She still recalls a week-long series she did on Ireland's most dilapidated secondary schools, as one of the highlights of her career.

She stayed at Newstalk for a year and a half, but the travel bug had bitten. In 2009, she went to South America and while there she got what she describes as a “very offbeat opportunity” to go to Papua New Guinea with ABC to train young reporters.

“That was the first lightbulb moment. Feature phones had just arrived in Papua New Guinea and had changed how everyone communicated. I set up Facebook pages for 13 radio stations and then, I said – wait a second – this thing that we call social media is changing not only how we communicate but how we consume news.”

After a year and a half there, she had a stint in Pakistan – “it was amazing and fascinating” – before going to London to work at BBC World News and BBC Media Action.

“They sent me to a lot of amazing places, including Burma,”

she says, mentioning another career highlight.

“When I went there first in 2012, I sat in a room with about 100 young journalists and I asked if anybody had a mobile phone. One Burmese guy put up his hand and put what can only be described as a satellite phone on the desk. Nobody else in the room had a mobile phone.”

Two short years later, Samantha Barry walked off the tarmac in Yangon airport and was astounded to see how radically things had changed. “Everybody had a mobile phone, from the taxi driver to the monk I met. And a lot of them were getting their news from Facebook or messaging apps. It was an amplified version of what has been happening all around the world.”

She weighs the pros and cons carefully when asked if she thinks the seismic shift in behaviour, prompted by innovations in digital technology, is a good or a bad thing.

On the downside, she says cyberbullying is a real problem, though publishers and platforms are trying to combat it. “Sometimes the comments section of CNN is not a nice place to be.”

On balance, however, she thinks information is a real equaliser.

“With this little thing,” she says tapping her iPhone, “so many people have access to information that they never had before.”

Another upside is that technology has allowed her to stay in touch with friends and family. “I am so connected to my family in Ireland because of WhatsApp. I Facetime my sister Davina, in Sweden and my brother Brendan, in Barcelona.

She Skypes her parents Máiréad and David in Bantry, Co Cork, and WhatsApps her mum. “We are every Irish parent’s worst nightmare; none of us lives at home. My dad had to suck it up and buy wifi for the house.”

Looking ahead, she says the future of news-gathering and news consumption is very exciting. While people on social media tend to live in a kind of self-congratulatory bubble that reflects their existing views, sometimes big, important news stories penetrate that filter.

The most recent example was the picture of the bloodied Syrian boy Omran Daqneesh, photographed in an ambulance.

“The reach of that on social was huge. People shared that story who had never shared a story on Syria before. When people do that, we say, ‘Yes, we did our job!’” ■

What device could you not do without?

My phone. I have an iPhone for everyday. I have a Samsung that I use for virtual reality.

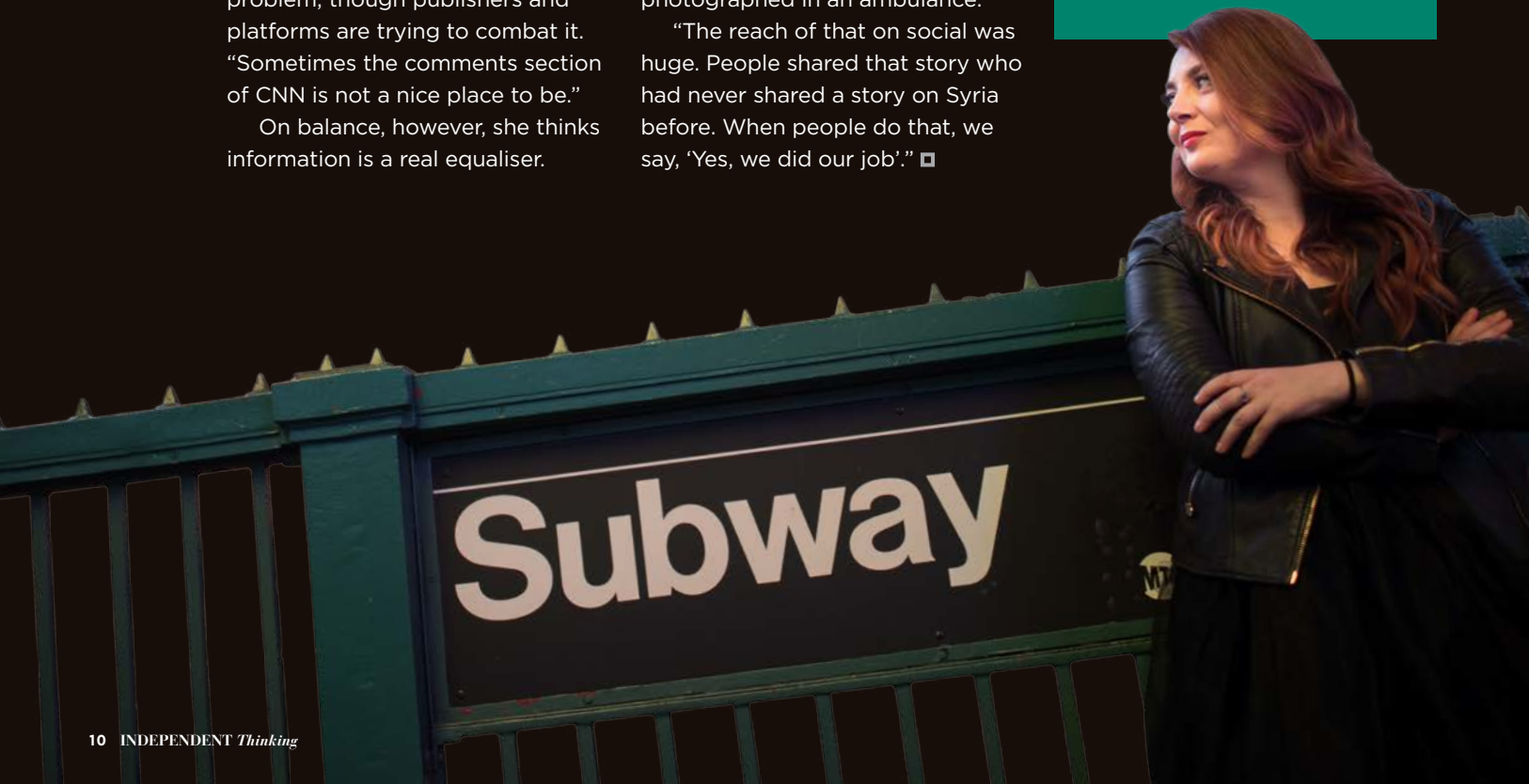
Kindle or book?

Real books, definitely. I love my book shelf and I have carted books from Papua New Guinea to London. When CNN relocated me to New York, I didn’t own one piece of furniture. The only thing that was taking up space in the boxes was books.

Favourite place in the world?

It depends on the season. I love Paris in December. It is an excuse to wear fabulous layers and sit outside and people-watch while drinking champagne and eating cheese.

I love Italy in the summer. I love what the Italians can do with tomatoes.



A RoBUST tribute to genius

George Boole is here to stay, as a sculpture in his honour takes pride of place, writes **John Fitzgerald**

He was the centre of attention at UCC, and further afield, for the whole of last year, but the impact and memory of George Boole, the forefather of the digital age and first professor of mathematics at our university, is here to stay – thanks to this magnificent bust, created by sculptor Paul Ferriter.

Although the life and legacy of one of UCC's original Independent Thinkers (1815-1864) was celebrated with a major programme of events, raising local, national and global awareness on his 200th birthday, it was the realisation of how he laid the foundation stone for our indispensable digital devices that bridged the centuries between his genius and 20th-century life.

It was because of Boole's ideas that our students now have mobile devices to take selfies beside the bronze bust of this famous man – unveiled last April as a lasting physical tribute to him and his celebratory year.

Sited between the Boole Library and the Main Quad, this newest feature on the campus tourist trail has also already taken its place in the student mythology, as it has quickly become a charm for pre-examination students who have been seen to rub the logician's nose, John Harvard-style, in order to bring good luck in exams.

In fact some students maintain that to copper-fasten their good luck, they have to actually rub it with their own nose – Eskimo kiss style!

Paul Ferriter, who worked from three drawings and one photographic portrait, sculpted first in clay, then used silicon and wax in what is known as “the lost wax method” to create a mould into which molten bronze was poured to make the shape of the final piece.

The bust is one and a half life-size and rests on a column of Kilkenny

limestone engraved by Cork-based sculptor Matthew Thompson. The project was made possible through the generous support of two UCC alumni, Shemas Eivers and Teddy McCarthy. The logistics were managed by Barrie Curley and Ross O'Donovan in the Office of Buildings and Estates at UCC.

In recognition of Boole's dual Lincoln and Cork affiliations, the piece was unveiled jointly by Ireland's Ambassador to the UK (and UCC alumnus) Dan Mulhall and Sir Dominick Chilcott, British Ambassador to Ireland.

It stands as a lasting tribute not just to Boole and his legacy, but to all of the staff and friends of UCC who successfully brought his association with this university to global recognition during 2015. ■

For more on George Boole and his legacy in UCC visit georgeboole.com

- **First-year Genetics student Ciara Judge tests the new 'tradition' that says rubbing the nose of George Boole's statue will bring good luck in exams. Picture: Emmet Curtin**



An Independent Thinker with fearless ideas



► UCC's president elect, Professor Patrick O'Shea, says the idea of the university being a place of Independent Thinking, is hugely important to him.

Proud Corkman and UCC physics graduate Professor Patrick O'Shea has been appointed the 15th President of University College Cork with effect from next February. Currently Vice President and Chief Research Officer at the University of Maryland, USA, he gives here some of his perspectives on life. In conversation with **Nancy Hawkes**

In the 1920s, my grandmother, Mary Shea (which later became O'Shea) was raising a young family of three sons near Glengarriff in West Cork when her husband Patrick died of tuberculosis. She opened a sweet shop to make a living and was fairly successful until she was evicted from the building she rented. She moved to Pope's Quay in Cork city where she made her living as a maid. It was a pretty rough life for the family.

My parents met as the result of a tragedy. Both my uncles, Paddy and Dermot, were killed in accidents a few months apart. Paddy died in a mine in England, and Dermot was killed in an accident on the island of Mauritius. Dermot's best friend sent a letter to my grandmother in French. Someone told my father, Michael, that there was a young lady called Jo (Josephine) Watkins, who grew up on the South Terrace, who could read French. They first met on Brown Street in the Legion of Mary Hall, to translate the letter.

One of my earliest memories is of my father. Just like his own father, he contracted tuberculosis when I was a baby and spent two years in a TB sanatorium in Glanmire. My mother would cycle to see him with me on the back of her bike. We weren't allowed into the hospital because the disease was so contagious. So, I remember looking up at his room and seeing him standing on a balcony.

My parents were really motivated to make sure that their children got ahead. They valued education even though they didn't have much themselves. They were very interested in books and in knowledge and learning, and they made sure their children had a good education.

I met my wife Miriam Smyth, in UCC. She got her undergraduate degree in Marine Biology. We moved to Maryland to do our PhDs. She is currently head of clinical research strategic planning in the US Department of Veteran Affairs which runs an extensive medical system for military veterans.

We have had a happy and productive life in the US. We have a son Ronan, who's 19 years old. He has just started his second year at Brown University studying neuroscience. He runs for the track and field team there, so he's inherited some of the family running genes!

I'm an introvert - basically a physics and mathematics nerd!

I remember sitting in a lecture theatre in the Kane Building, listening to Dr John Delaney, who was my first-year physics teacher, and thinking: "I'd love to be like him. I'd love to be a teacher." However, I never thought I could work up the courage to stand up in front of a class. So I've had to work every single day of my life to "fake" being an extrovert. The quality of teaching I saw at UCC

as a student was an inspiration to me to become an academic.

I have four important guiding principles: Be entrepreneurial. By that I mean: be someone who sees a problem that you want to solve, who is willing to take a risk to solve it and who creates more value than you consume in the process. That's my definition of entrepreneur. It's not necessarily a term that connotes "business". Anyone can be an entrepreneur in his or her own way.

Be unreasonable. Reasonable people adapt and get along. Unreasonable people are unhappy with the status quo and want to change things. As George Bernard Shaw said: "Reasonable people adapt themselves to the world. Unreasonable people attempt to adapt the world to themselves. All progress, therefore, depends on unreasonable people."

Be tenacious. "Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better", to quote Samuel Beckett. This could be applied to Phil Healy. Her recent extraordinary athletic performance went viral on social media. I've shown the video clip to many people as a great example of the quality of tenacity and perseverance when all seems lost.

Be collaborative and think big, to quote Goethe: "Dream no small dreams, for they have no power to move the hearts of men." Think of Newgrange, the world's oldest astronomically aligned structure. Imagine 5,000 years ago, when

the men and women of Meath decided to build it. People probably looked at them and wondered why they were wasting their time. Newgrange represents the strength of the Irish culture and economy; that they could marshal resources and build the partnerships to something amazing.

Perceptions of Ireland abroad have really changed. 100 years ago Irish people were pretty far down the totem pole. But that's not the case anymore. Ireland is now viewed as a sophisticated European country. When people heard that I was taking the job in UCC, it was viewed as a very positive step by my US friends and colleagues.

There is a term "American exceptionalism" and the same thing exists in Cork. Cork people think of themselves as being exceptional. And I agree that Cork is more important globally than people imagine. When I was a child in the early 60s, I remember hearing a story that Cork was one of the

best places to survive a nuclear apocalypse. Recently I found an article from *Esquire* magazine in 1962, which cites Cork as one of the few places in the world that had sufficient infrastructure as a base from which to rebuild civilisation. This concept has been in my head since I was a child, so now is my chance to help Cork take its rightful place among the great cities of the world.

When you're in a leadership position, you're sometimes not sure what's going to happen next.

One of the lines I like to use is the last sentence from the book *2001: A Space Odyssey*. It reads: "For though he was master of the world, he was not quite sure what to do next. But he would think of something." Some of the essence of leadership is to lead when you don't have enough information to make an absolutely definitive decision. Exploration is like that too.

Some people are content to be tourists. It's comfortable. But

"I HAVE FOUR IMPORTANT GUIDING PRINCIPLES: BE ENTREPRENEURIAL, BE UNREASONABLE, BE PERSISTENT, AND THINK BIG"

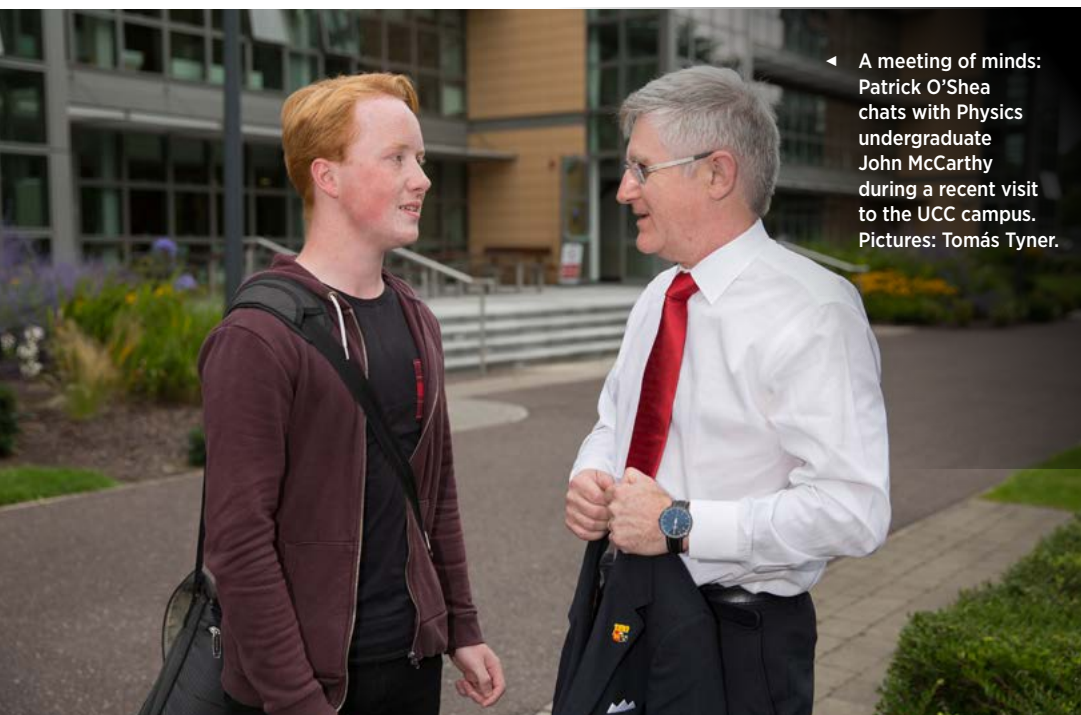
when you get to the edge of the map, it gets very scary. A research institution like UCC is involved in the creation and understanding of knowledge, and the creation of people who have the mindset and educational background to be creative explorers.

Universities should be of and for the community.

I was involved in a panel discussion recently, and the question was: "Where do good ideas come from?" I simply said: "Cities," by which I mean communities. The sparks that ignite great ideas come when groups of people rub up against one another, arguing and disputing. So the university should be of the community and city. The University should create more value for the people than it consumes. That could be my motto or epitaph: create more value than you consume.

The idea of UCC as a place of Independent Thinking is hugely important to me.

It meshes with the Fearless Ideas concept that is a hallmark of the University of Maryland. They both connect well to the "creative explorers" concept I mentioned earlier, i.e., explorers have to be both fearless and independent thinkers. It will be exciting to combine these concepts in my new role. ▣



◀ A meeting of minds: Patrick O'Shea chats with Physics undergraduate John McCarthy during a recent visit to the UCC campus. Pictures: Tomás Tyner.

Hitting a *high note* on the Quad



A Summer's Evening on the Quad, which clocked up 11 years this summer, has so far raised over €550,000 for local charities. This year's event, which featured Rebecca Storm, Michael McCarthy and Keith Hanley, boasted a 2,000-strong attendance. To date, over 20,000 music-lovers have enjoyed this unique annual event.

The support of sponsors like construction company BAM, The *Evening Echo* newspaper, the River Lee Hotel, Cork's 96FM and more recently Cork University Business School (CUBS) ensures that all ticket sales go directly to the nominated charities each year.

A large team of volunteers among UCC staff worked in collaboration with An Garda Síochána Bridewell Community Policing, who volunteer their time in co-ordinating, promoting and hosting the event. Cork Cancer Research Centre, Special Olympics (Munster), Cork Simon Community, Down Syndrome Cork and the Children's Leukaemia Association have all benefited from the event in past years.

▲ Music-lovers at this year's Summer's Evening on The Quad were clearly having a good time at the annual event, which is a fundraiser for local charities. Pictures: Provision

Event organiser Pat Cotter points out that a contributory factor to the concerts being so successful with the public is that the beneficiaries are Cork charities. "At the end of the day, it's about Cork people supporting Cork charities," he adds.

And in using our beautiful 19th-century stone-face quadrangle as the venue, we maintain that link between UCC and the community which has always been a unique feature of our university, down through the decades. ■

Plans for A Summer's Evening on the Quad 2017 are already underway.

See summeronquad.ucc.ie

Facebook: @ASummersEveningOnTheQuad

Twitter: @ASummersEvening

CUBS' scout for city centre building is a landmark success

The proposed transfer of Cork University Business School to the heart of the city's finance centre and its ongoing recruitment of top-class professorial staff is placing it at the centre of its field in education, both locally and globally, reports **Helen O'Callaghan**

A bold decision by Cork University Business School (CUBS) to locate its executive education facility in a landmark building, in an area rapidly becoming Cork City's centre of business activity, says a lot about where CUBS sees itself.

The acquisition of the iconic Lapp's Quay heritage building - formerly Cork Savings Bank - combined with CUBS' determination to find a city centre location for its proposed €120m business school, is an ambitious move. Clearly it's setting its sights on being a world-class player.

Having a strong physical presence "downtown" in the heart

of the finance and business district is paramount, says head of CUBS, Professor Ciaran Murphy. "It's important that a business school should be close to the commercial activity of the city. It ensures students have an opportunity on a daily basis to imbibe the entrepreneurial experience and culture of Cork."

It might be easier, he concedes, to find a green site if CUBS were

to consider moving further out. "But I think you lose something by not being part of the dynamic presence in any city."

In a sense, CUBS is giving new life and fuller meaning to the old real estate adage, "location, location, location", which describes the three most important aspects of any property and which was coined by tycoon Harold Samuel. Because relocating its School from the heart of UCC's campus, right into the city's business hub - a 15-minute walk from UCC and a five-minute hop to Cork's renowned English Market - is emblematic of where it is positioning itself in the sphere of business education.

- ▶ **Having a strong physical presence "downtown" in the heart of Cork's finance and business district is paramount, says head of CUBS, Professor Ciaran Murphy.**



CUBS' vision begins from the position that Cork and the southern region need a top-class business school of an international standard. "That for us is the key driver," says Ciaran. He sees its reach going further. The business education delivered here will mark it out as a significant player on the national stage and it will have a global impact: be world class "from" Cork, rather than "in" Cork.

"Our students will be challenged to excel - but supportively. We're going to produce graduates who'll be thinkers, shapers, designers and developers of the future - essentially movers and shakers in the business sphere. We will emphasise the need for students to be inventive and entrepreneurial in their approach to business."

Ciaran quotes the words of management consultant and educator Peter Drucker: "Since we live in an age of innovation, a practical education must prepare a man for work that does not yet exist and cannot yet be clearly defined."

These words, he says, encapsulate what CUBS is about: "None of us can predict the milieu of progress that will happen in all sorts of areas - and what jobs will result. At CUBS, we want to educate students to be agile thinkers, to move with developments and to help invent their own futures."

CUBS' world-class education will be underlined by the offer to undergraduates of work placements and university (business school) placements abroad. "We want to develop more linkages with top business schools internationally, so students can do shared projects with students from business schools [abroad]. Many of

our BComm students are already going abroad to business schools, mainly in Europe and the US, but some in Asia too."

One vital element on which this world-class experience is predicated is recruitment of professorial staff. CUBS is committed to hiring 30 new professorial-level posts over the next four years. "We're doing global searches for staff. We've had applications from all five continents. We've filled the first 10 posts - the vast bulk of appointees have international experience. We're now embarking on a second round of recruitment."

Also essential in delivering this high-level education is what Ciaran terms "a smart building for smart students". Currently spread over two buildings on UCC's campus, CUBS has never had a purpose-designed/built business school building. And a vital element of the proposed new building will be a top-class digital infrastructure, enabling students to "be in contact with students anywhere in the world at any time and ensuring incredibly fast access to information".

Meanwhile, acquisition of the former Cork Savings Bank building - with an investment of €5m - represents "great historical connectivity" with UCC, he says. "It was designed by the Dean brothers, who were also architects of UCC's quadrangle buildings."

A firm of heritage architects has been commissioned to repurpose the building.

Housed in a building that historically played an important role in the business and community life of Cork, the CUBS facility will now meet the region's ongoing business education needs. Generic and customised programmes



▲ The iconic heritage building, formerly Cork Saving Bank, (seen here and on next page), has been bought as the new city centre location for Cork University Business School.

will position it as the go-to for executive education. "Staff at all levels of multinational and indigenous companies in Cork need continual up-skilling. And our offering isn't just to the business community - large public sector organisations like the HSE and Cork City Council have a big requirement for ongoing training."

The business school is in discussions with the Irish Management Institute (IMI) with a view to a merger with UCC. CUBS is already alma mater to the largest number of undergraduate students

in any business school in Ireland – undergraduate intake increased by 15% in the last two years. Now, with the strength of the IMI brand and with the size of IMI’s client base, a merger will see UCC become the largest provider of executive education in Ireland. It will be UCC’s first Dublin campus and will make the university accessible to companies based in the greater Dublin region. “We’ll be able to tap into our alumni in a way we haven’t been before.”

Ciaran says a business school must be a two-way street. He sees an important role for adjunct professors in giving real-world experience to the scholarly mix. “It’s not just about CUBS providing graduates who’ll go out to the business world. We want to bring business to our students, so we’ll appoint top-class business leaders as adjunct professors. They will share experience, wisdom and views of the future with students and staff.”

CUBS is in the process of finalising an advisory board of distinguished external business

leaders, drawn from national and international communities, whose input will help shape future direction of the School. This board, says Ciaran, will have a key role in keeping CUBS honest. “Our performance needs to be measured. We need to be held accountable to our vision and commitment – I will insist we are.”

In keeping with its unrelentingly outward focus, CUBS is actively seeking international students – and affiliations with other institutions of note. On the research front, the School wants to partner up with business universities globally. It has already teamed up with Zhejiang University, one of the top three universities in China, to conduct research into new technologies and services for the financial industry. “This summer we hosted a number of their staff and students in UCC for three weeks. And 10 of our research students, accompanied by staff, spent two weeks in Hangzhou. It’s an example of the type of research partnership we are seeking to develop.”

**“WE’RE GOING TO
PRODUCE GRADUATES
WHO WILL BE THINKERS,
SHAPERS, DESIGNERS
AND DEVELOPERS OF
THE FUTURE”**

The School is also hoping to have completed a process of gaining international accreditation by 2018. The AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accreditation is an international standard, but American-based. CUBS project manager Áine McCarthy says it’s the largest accrediting body for business schools in the world. “It’s regarded as a benchmark for business school quality across the academic community.” ■

CUBS has developed a new brand and logo, along with its own website:
<https://www.cubsucc.com/>

- The renovated and repurposed former Cork Savings Bank will be the go-to centre for executive business education in the region. Pictures: Clare Keogh



Marie Martin,

Quercus Scholar and inventor

The 20-year-old UCC student who has invented a product for making chemical spraying safer for farmers talks about her entrepreneurial spirit and being a farmer at heart
In conversation with **Denise Goggin**

► Marie Martin is as comfortable with being at home on the farm, as with studying business in UCC, where she has excelled as a promising young entrepreneur. Picture: Clare Keogh



Growing up in Dingle, farming has been in my family for generations. My father is a farmer, my grandfather is a farmer and I hope that farming will always be a big part of my life.

The idea for the Safe Scrub Sprayer came about after my father, Pádraig, was out doing his daily work, spraying weed-killer. He became very unwell after being exposed to the chemicals. I started doing research into finding something that would protect my dad, but I couldn't find anything. I started messing around in the garage at home with equipment and I came up with a prototype.

I won the Young Entrepreneur Competition in January, 2012. I got a lot of help from my dad, family and friends and Don Holland in Kerry Tractors in Tralee, setting up the business. To date, I have sold over 1,000 units of the sprayer.

Being taken seriously at pitching competitions when I was 15 was a huge hurdle to overcome. It took me a while to break into the market. I'd chat to the farmers at trade shows. I'd read the *Farmers Journal*, religiously, so I could hold up my end of the conversation! They would then realise that I knew what I was talking about. I love the underdog, and proving people wrong.

A lot of my sales come from word of mouth. Farmers are complete boasters! Around the ringside of

mart, they would all be chatting about what products they are using.

I applied for the Quercus Scholarship Programme in my first year in UCC. I was selected for the Innovation Entrepreneurial Scholarship after I sat my Leaving Cert. I wanted a broad business degree, so I chose Commerce. We get a lot of benefits being a Quercus scholar. I am part of a great community as there are Quercus scholars in a number of different areas. If we need support, it is there.

I am representing the UCC Blackstone LaunchPad [a campus-based entrepreneurship programme], in the Forbes 30 under 30 competition. I worked with Peter Finnegan and Trish Gibbons for the launch of the Blackstone Launchpad, UCC, and built a great relationship with them. I now work with them as a student ambassador promoting the service. What they are doing is amazing. My role is to encourage start-ups to sign up and to use this great facility on campus.

You can have a great product, but if you're not willing to talk to people, and put yourself out there, you are not going to succeed. I would advise anyone with a business idea to just give it a go. Also, don't be afraid to ask for help. ■

All in a DAY'S WORK

UCC graduate Dr Anna Marie Naughton has been working for the past two years with the homeless in Cork. **Michelle McDonagh** spent a morning with her and some of her patients in her medical clinic at the Simon emergency shelter in the city centre

Although Anna Marie had been a GP for over 10 years before she started working with the adult homeless services in Cork and as she puts it herself “was no innocent”, her current role has been a total eye-opener.

As well as making her far more conscious of the weather – because she knows which of her patients will be sleeping out in the cold and wet – she has come to view the city differently.

“It’s like a parallel universe. I look at the city with different eyes now. These people are society’s most disadvantaged; they have the hardest lives ever. They are children of people with addiction and mental health problems, they often have a history of childhood abuse and are self-medicating with alcohol or drugs or both. They are hugely traumatised people just trying to survive.”

With her black skinny jeans, orange Converse and youthful appearance, Anna Marie looks more like a recent college graduate than an experienced GP who graduated from UCC in 1998. She certainly does not look like the hard-working 43-year-old mother of five children (aged from 20 down to five-year-old twins), that she is.

Anna Marie had been a GP locum for ten years before taking on her current role. She started in November 2014 doing one clinic a week, but is now doing five clinics – three at the Simon shelter on Anderson’s Quay on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and two at St Vincent’s Hostel.

“IT CAN BE HARD TO SWITCH OFF THOUGH. LAST WINTER, I WAS WAKING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT THINKING ABOUT MY PATIENTS WHO I KNEW WERE SLEEPING OUT...”

Since March 2002, a general practice service has been provided on-site to the homeless population in Cork. This is in keeping with the aim of the Department of Health and Children HSE Social Inclusion Services, to improve access to mainstream services and to target services to marginalised groups. The GP and nurse operate as part of the Adult Homeless Integrated

Team which includes mental health professionals, administration staff and lately a social worker. Dr Don Coffey was the sole GP in the service until June 2014 when he took a career break.

“I have never had a career plan, I just found myself here. I really like the work, it’s very different. There’s always a crisis, I’m certainly never bored, whether it’s a guy brought in with seizures or somebody suicidal downstairs. It can be hard to switch off though. Last winter, I was waking in the middle of the night thinking about my patients who I knew were sleeping out, and ringing the soup run to see if so-and-so turned up. I was taking too much home, but it can be hard not to be overwhelmed by the sadness,” Anna Marie admits.

Despite the incredible work that Cork Simon do at the coalface of the country’s homeless crisis, there are simply not enough beds for the increasing numbers looking for them. The current lack of private rental accommodation means the situation is more dire than ever.

Anna Marie explains: “There are different types of homelessness. You have the people who don’t have a home of their own and are sofa surfing, maybe staying with friends until they run out of sofas. Then you have the rough

sleepers who sleep out on the streets, many of these have serious mental health issues and are quite unwell. The classic picture of a homeless person was the older alcoholic, but they are getting younger all the time and we are seeing more women. They are hugely vulnerable. Many have come through the youth addiction services but have ended up here at the end of the line, addicted and homeless. No matter how hard they try, they just can't get past it."

A young woman called Susan, who is staying in the shelter, comes into the clinic limping and complaining of a sore foot. She doesn't know what she did, but can't put any weight on her foot and is in a lot of pain. She tells Anna Marie she is "off the pin completely" (which Anna Marie explains means she is not using needles to inject heroin) and feeling a lot better.

When Anna Marie asks Susan about a recent spate of addicts injecting through the groin, a highly risky practice, Susan says she wouldn't dream of injecting into her groin, only into her arms or neck (causing Anna Marie to wince). She tells me that her best friend lost both legs from injecting into the groin and eventually "OD'd" and died. As Anna Marie says, it is a parallel universe.

Susan mentions that she has been losing weight and has no clothes that fit her and asks Anna Marie for a prescription for nutritional supplement drinks.

After she leaves with a letter for the Mercy Urgent Care Clinic and some Nurofen, Anna Marie explains that she has had to become something of a detective since she started working in the homeless services. Susan could



▲ UCC graduate Dr Anna Marie Naughton started running a clinic once a week with Simon in Cork city in November 2014. She now runs five clinics. Pictures: Clare Keogh

be genuine about her weight loss or she might be trying to get the supplements to sell on and a clothing grant to spend on something other than clothing. The clinic's nurse, Elaine Conlon, who has been working there for over ten years, has hard-earned insight into patients' motivation.

"Our patients have great respect for my role and especially for the role of the nurse. I have to be conscious that what they tell me is not necessarily true and what they are looking for might not be

going to them. If I see somebody in normal general practice, I can effectively believe most of what they tell me and they usually have good recall. That is not always the case here, although, to be fair, most people are very straight with me," Anna Marie says.

However, she takes the compassionate "there but for the Grace of God" viewpoint; that her patients are just doing what they can to survive a desperate situation, and that any of us would do the same in their circumstances.



“Is their trying to play the system any worse than the wealthy trying to dodge paying taxes? Is the woman with the perfectly manicured nails in the big house with the Range Rover in the driveway, drinking a bottle of wine a night, any different to the women I see in my clinic who drink on the streets? They are just coming from a different place and different social supports. These people are starting out in life so far behind, it’s like a poverty of hope.”

Anna Marie is involved in a research study being carried out by the School of Applied Psychology at UCC and Cork Simon, titled Exploring the Effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Those Using Homeless Services. The aim of the study is to examine the prevalence and severity of trauma within the homeless community in Cork and to identify a relationship between childhood trauma and homeless and other adult life events.

Her next patient is a beaming woman in her 30’s called Caroline who has a bed in a homeless shelter for women in the city. She is complaining of pain in her back and legs and looking for painkillers containing codeine which Anna Marie will not prescribe to somebody in addiction. The wide beam on her face is because she is madly in love with a man she met sleeping rough on the street, who she believes has been protecting her.

When Anna Marie goes next door to the nurse’s room to get some painkillers (not containing codeine), I ask Caroline how she ended up homeless. She explains quite matter-of-factly that her father, a heavy drinker, brutally attacked her a few weeks previously and she had to leave the house. She mentions that she has five children in foster care, and is “praying to Our Lord” to get her own place.

After she leaves, Anna Marie explains that Caroline is “a car crash in terms of service issues” and while it can be easy to get caught up in her turmoil, she has learnt to meet her and her other patients where they are. Her priority for Caroline was to treat her pain, to get some background information, offer her a long-acting contraceptive and to encourage her to return.

Like any patient, it takes time to build up a relationship of trust, and while all of her patients were singing her praises on the morning that I observed Anna Marie at work, she points out there have been a few occasions where she and Elaine were “effed out of it”. While she has never been physically threatened, Anna Marie has had personal safety training

and there is an alarm button on the wall above her desk.

While I chat to Anna Marie in between patients, she gets a call from one of the Simon key workers downstairs to tell her she is with a young homeless woman who was raped the previous night in the city centre. Anna Marie rings the Sexual Assault Treatment Unit at the South Infirmary where she explains the situation to a nurse there and is advised on the next steps the victim should take. It’s all in a morning’s work for a GP working with people who live such precarious lives.

One major bugbear for Anna Marie is the lack of integration of services for homeless people and the fragmentation of care.

“The homeless services are like an orphan service. You have child services, prison services, probation, addiction, casualty, psychiatry, social work, all probably dealing with the same people who are constantly running from pillar to post. There are a lot of people working in the area of homelessness, but little link-up in communication and services.”

Anna Marie was involved in organising the second Irish Street Medicine Symposium which took place at UCC last September 24th.

As I leave the shelter, Caroline is sitting outside on the kerb in her strappy sundress on a rare sunny day, waiting for her “fella”, who is inside. She will wait all day if she has to, she says, beaming widely. ■

All patients referred to in the article gave their permission for the reporter to observe Dr Anna Marie Naughton during their consultation. All names have been changed to protect the identity of all patients.

When talent comes out *in the wash*

Cork novelist, playwright and documentary maker Cónal Creedon has been appointed as Writer in Residence at UCC for the current academic year. He tells Mike Ryan about what has inspired his career as a writer, including opening a laundrette in the city centre 30 years ago



As you walk along Half Moon Street just behind Cork Opera House, in the city centre, you'll notice a series of murals depicting Irish literary illuminati - with Joyce, Beckett, Wilde and Yeats predictably present. But amongst those pillars of Irish literature is also the visage of local man Cónal Creedon.

Cork city chooses its sentinels of culture very carefully. Writers, performers and artists can spend their lives grafting in the various theatres, concert venues and bars, and yet however hard they work, they never manage to crack the paint around the fortress of Cork's artistic heritage. For Cónal, writing was never work; it was a compulsive urge.

"Genuinely, I'd say I'm the least 'writerly' person you'd meet, if there is such a thing," he confesses. "I look at the world, and I assume that writers are a certain type of person. I would never have seen myself as that person, because it just wasn't my thing. At least, I didn't think that it was my thing."

But life can send us messages in interesting ways: for Cónal it was when he opened a laundrette 30 years ago. "I remember very soon after that, the film *My Beautiful*

Laundrette came out, and I

remember thinking 'You know what? Maybe my inspiration was really to write that film script', because I had started writing sort of... compulsively. I found myself in the car writing, and in the laundrette while the machines were going 'round. I wasn't writing for competition or publication, I just kept writing and eventually I had a lot of stuff written."

That compulsion is clearly still strong. Over the past three decades he has written for theatre, TV and radio, as well as publishing multiple books. Cónal's stories resonate with readers in his own unique way. It's understandable, seeing as the content of his writing is somehow universally local, and was

even litmus tested in its early days by those about whom he was writing.

"I remember I used to bring them around the corner from where I live, to get typed, and I wouldn't put my name on it because they knew me. I said 'Oh, my friend dropped this in and asked me to get it typed up for him', but then eventually they realised that these stories were mine, because they were all about here, and they started telling me 'I liked the last one now, but this one now isn't great'."

From the start, Cónal's work has often dealt with the theme of family. His *Second City Trilogy*, which was performed as part of Cork's stint as European Capital of Culture in 2005, and has since been staged in New York and Shanghai, is a collection of three short plays, *The Cure*; *When I Was God*, and *After Luke*, which each look at the intimate nature and influences of parents on their children, as they move through adulthood themselves. Coming from a brood of 12 himself, he has no shortage of inspiration to draw on.

"My greatest source of inspiration has to be the mother and father. I dunno how they did it. Twelve kids, all different ages, so at any one time there's a first tooth, a first birthday, a first confirmation, a first holy communion, a first date, a first heartbreak, first leaving cert. This is going on all the time. And I see people now with one child, and they have these events coming up, and the whole focus is on this big event, and I'm saying to myself 'How did they do it?', and truthfully, they just seemed to take it in their stride."

The writer has his own way of dealing with life's ups and downs: "When I hit a bad day in life or in my own self-confidence or whatever, I just think 'Cónal, you don't even know what a bad day is, brother, get out of it'. And when I hit a good day, I start to realise, you know, a good day is when you've a sick child in hospital, and you have somebody else there with you, and you're dealing with it. Don't mind taking a bow in some theatre. That's not a good day, that's your ego talking. You're dealing with adversity head on and you're getting out the far side."

Death is also a frequent presence in his work, though having grown up right beside a funeral parlour, where he still lives in the city centre, he feels that death is not something to be feared.



▲ This old photograph of Cónal Creedon, outside the Cork city centre laundrette where he used to write while the machines were running, is a nostalgic reminder of his early creative urge

“Every night coming out the gate – not that it’s even worth saying – but you do meet people crying every night because their father, their mother, their brother, their son, is next door, and after a while, it isn’t that you become cynical or anything, but you become slightly desensitised to it. I mean if you meet someone on the street and they’re crying, the first time it’s going to traumatise you a bit, but after years of it, all you can be is respectfully sympathetic, and empathetic, because of that desensitisation. When my mother died, and when my father died, they were removed from next door. There’s very much an awareness of death in a lot of my stuff.”

His most recent book, *The Immortal Deed of Michael O’Leary*, is a historical biography of the first Irish man to be awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery during the First World War. It’s a far cry from the cerebral world of his previous novel, *Passion Play*, in which the protagonist decides to go on an acid trip before taking his own life, and winds up encountering a series of long-deceased friends and acquaintances.

“Somebody said to me recently ‘I hope there aren’t as many dead people in this new book, how does it compare to *Passion Play*?’ And I said ‘Well, in *Passion Play* there’s about 20 people dead, and in this one I think it’s 3.5 million dead.’”

Being chosen this year for the position of Writer in Residence in UCC has taken him by surprise. For many it would seem like a natural fit, but he is humbled by the unique opportunity – one that he says he had never really expected to be offered.

“It comes up every year, and I never really applied for it because realistically I didn’t think I’d be what they wanted.” Then about two years ago he met Frank McGrath – who used to work in UCC and tragically died in an accident there afterwards. “Frank said to me ‘You know, Cónal you should apply for that’, but I didn’t, because I thought I’d apply for it, and then I’d spend the next six months telling people that I didn’t get it. And sometimes you’re better off just sticking with the work, rather than anticipating a rejection slip, you know?”

But there was no rejection: “Truthfully, I do think they could have selected somebody of a much higher profile, of a national and

international profile, and for them to select me is a huge endorsement of their faith in my integrity really. In my line of business, if you want to call it that, you know why you’re doing it; you’re doing it because you can’t stop, but sometimes you question the validity of what you’re doing. Sometimes you do need a certain amount of validation from third parties, so this for me is one of those moments.”

In his younger days, Cónal used to play soccer on the site where the Glucksman Gallery is now, and “get chased out” by the security men. “That’s about it – I was never a part of UCC. What I find is really interesting is that every town, village and crossroads have a number of worlds. Some of them are cultural, some industrial, some commercial, some sporting – right? And in most cases, somebody who’s in the middle of all that would have a finger in all of those worlds, and I suppose what has amazed me is that I thought I was in the middle of all that, and then when I was accepted as Writer in Residence I realised that, actually, that’s one world I know nothing about. So I’m looking forward to engaging with this new world. It’s a learning process for me really.” ■

“MY GREATEST SOURCE OF INSPIRATION HAS TO BE THE MOTHER AND FATHER. I DUNNO HOW THEY DID IT. TWELVE KIDS, ALL DIFFERENT AGES...”

▼ UCC’s new Writer In Residence, Cónal Creedon (main picture), on the campus grounds, and below, with his dog Judy in the Glucksman Gallery cafe, which is built on the green site where he used to play football in his youth. Pictures: Clare Keogh



Keep in Touch with UCC...

All alumni automatically become lifelong members of the UCC Alumni Association. **Update your details, register for events or make a donation at community.ucc.ie**



Alumni Association
Cumann Alumni

As a member of the UCC Alumni Association you can:

- attend cultural, educational and networking events in Ireland and abroad.
- request assistance in planning your class reunion.
- join alumni chapters around the world.
- avail of a UCC email account for life.
- stay connected through UCC's social networks for alumni.
- enjoy preferential rates at the Mardyke Arena Health and Leisure Centre.
- reserve the UCC Alumni Association Room on campus for special meetings and events.

To find out more about any of the benefits listed above contact the UCC Alumni Office.

E: alumni@ucc.ie • T: +353 (0)21 490 2040



01



02

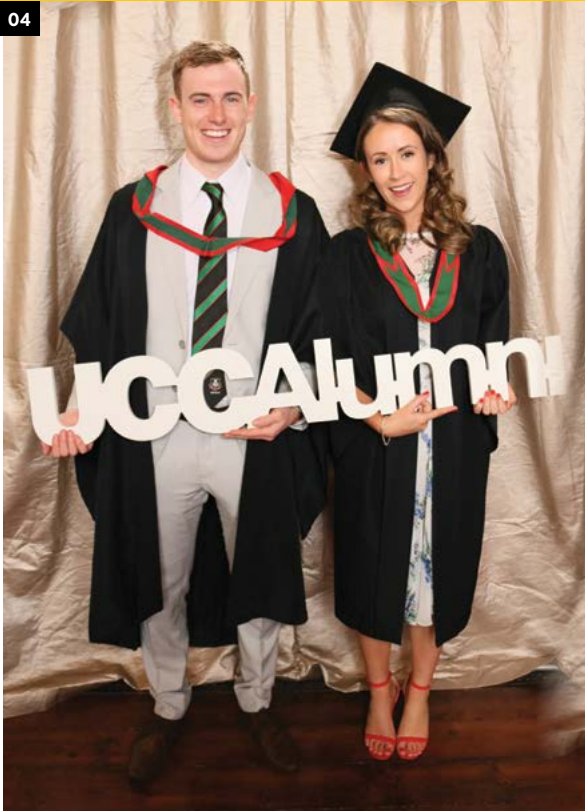


03

- 01 2016 Spring Conferings Róisín Claffey, Laura Tejada O'Connor, Zoë Murphy, Lynn Kennedy and Brian McCann
- 02 2016 Medical Conferings Cáitríona McGettigan, Siobhán McGettigan and Aisling McGettigan
- 03 2015 Autumn Conferings Karthik Venkitesh and Pooja Shenoy
- 04 2016 Medical Conferings Jess McCarthy and Ciara McCarthy
- 05 2016 Medical Conferings Darragh Enright and Nicola Ní Riain

- 06 2016 Medical Conferings Gillian Bennett and Nabihah Abdul Razak
- 07 2015 Autumn Conferings Jerry Harrington and Ciarán Dalton
- 08 2016 Spring Conferings Aisling Collins, Liv Creed and Sheena McCauley
- 09 2015 Autumn Conferings Gearoid Power and Oliver Pemble

04



05



06



07



09



08



Making a Difference

University College Cork is investing in students, helping them to develop their potential and find solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges.

Thanks to the generous contributions of alumni, students, staff and friends, UCC can support a range of exciting projects.

Nurturing talent

Providing scholarships for students who face hardship, for students who are overcoming challenges and for students who display immense academic, sporting or creative promise.

Enabling research

Setting researchers of all disciplines on the path to discovery. These journeys may lead to the development of new treatments for life-threatening illnesses or the unearthing of vital evidence from the distant past.

Fostering innovative learning

Encouraging the development of world-class teaching and learning environments that will ensure our students are world ready and work ready when they leave UCC.

Enriching culture and heritage

Opening doors, both physical and virtual, to diverse aspects of culture and heritage, by funding the digitisation of significant archives, the publication of knowledge and the exhibition of modern and ancient art, literature and artefacts.

Enhancing the environment

Supporting the evolution of the university's magnificent campus for the benefit of students, alumni, citizens and tourists.

Giving a donation to UCC is an investment in the future.



There are several ways to donate to the UCC Annual Fund:

Give a Regular Monthly Gift via Direct Debit



If you are based in Ireland you can make a monthly contribution to UCC. Simply complete the attached donation form and return to the address provided.

Give via Cheque

To donate by cheque, please consult the table below, complete the attached donation form and return your cheque to the address provided.

Give Online

You may make an online contribution by going to <https://community.ucc.ie/support>

			
Giving options in Ireland	Giving options in the UK	Giving options in the USA	Giving options in the rest of the world
<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Direct debit» Cheque» Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Cheque» Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Cheque» Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Cheque» Online
Cheques must be made payable to Cork University Foundation.	Cheques must be made payable to UCC Educational Foundation.	Cheques must be made payable to Irish Educational Foundation.	Cheques must be made payable to Cork University Foundation.
Cork University Foundation is a registered charity CHY11831.	UCC Educational Foundation is a registered charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Registration no. 1021681.	Irish Educational Foundation is a registered charity with 501 (c) 3 status in the USA. Federal ID number is 04-3115638.	

If you would like to find out more about giving to UCC please contact the Development and Alumni Office:

E: k.kelly@ucc.ie, T: +353 (0)21 490 3643

How blessed we are

On the centenary year of the Honan Chapel, situated on campus grounds, **Virginia Teehan**, Director of Cultural Projects at UCC, explains how it houses a valuable and unique record of the best of ecclesiastical art from the Irish revival

The Honan Chapel, located on our campus, which was consecrated in November 1916, is a jewel in the crown of 20th-century Irish art and architecture, set against the background of the Irish rebellion and the turbulence of a society on the cusp of independence.

The chapel and its contents include the best examples of artworks of the Irish revival. The layered stories behind its origins include its rich benefactress Isabella Honan, the men responsible for the commission (Sir John O'Connell and Sir Bertram Windle), the architect, John F McMullen and the builder, John F Sisk. The builders, as well as the many designers, craft workers and artists, all worked together.

Among the many outstanding pieces of artwork, for which the

Honan Chapel is famous, are Harry Clarke's brilliant windows, which are generally acknowledged as the finest examples of stained glass work in Ireland. The work *An Túr Gloine* (The Tower of Glass) studio is represented with eight windows. The influence of William Scott, first professor of architecture at University College Dublin, is intriguing, for although trained as an architect, he may have been instrumental in providing the design for the spectacular mosaic floors, the work of the firm Ludwig Oppenheimer Ltd, of Manchester.

Little is known of the designers of the pews, the lectern, or the magnificent ceremonial chairs and kneelers: however, Sisk's of Cork, as the main building contractors, constructed them all. The woodcarvers were possibly trained at the Crawford

School of Art in Cork, where there were apprentice classes initiated by John Lenihan and continued by Michael McNamara, between 1900 and 1925.

“THE CHAPEL AND ITS CONTENTS INCLUDE THE BEST EXAMPLES OF ARTWORKS OF THE IRISH REVIVAL”

The Honan Chapel metal work was primarily designed by Scott and made by Edmond Johnson Ltd, a leading Dublin-based firm of silversmiths. The Processional Cross, a silver and enamel replica of the Cross of Cong, hallmarked 1916

◀ **Floor mosaics (taken from the roof space) at the threshold of the chapel symbolising the earthly paradise of creation represented by the sun and moon. Pictures: Andrew Bradley**

by Johnson, is one of the glittering jewels of the Honan collection.

Another remarkable piece of metal work is the wrought-iron set of gates, designed by William Scott, which hung in the Chapel doorway. Consisting of asymmetrical, stylised, Celtic interlace patterns, these gates cast a gossamer shadow over the mosaics. The altar plate by William Egan and Sons, Cork, including the beautifully designed ciborium, is decorated with panels of repoussé knotwork, garnets and armorial shields in enamel. Its lid is topped with a miniature Celtic cross and its form references to the base and knob of the Ardagh Chalice.

Central to the chapel are its wonderful collection of textiles. There are two groups of designers and fabricators – the local Cork firm of William Egan and Sons, and Dublin’s Dun Emer Industries, under the direction of Evelyn Gleeson.

Recent research has indicated that the major designers of the Honan textiles were Evelyn Gleeson, Katherine MacCormack and Ethel Scally. James Barry Lees of Egan’s Cork was also responsible for some designs. Egan’s seamstresses, sometimes listed by name in inscriptions on the garments’ lining, are yet another group of Irish women involved with the textiles.

Furnishings for the altar and chancel were commissioned from Dun Emer, to match each set of vestments

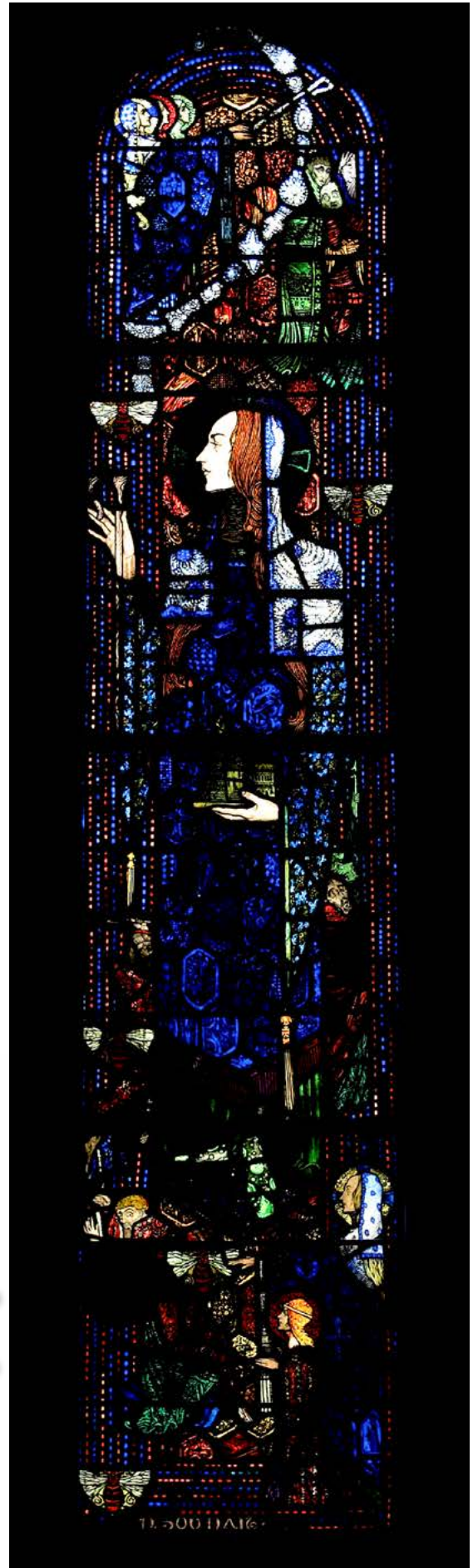
produced in Egan’s workshop. Employing local Irish women in its workshops, Dun Emer also provided three carpets for the areas in front of the altar, the altar steps, and the sanctuary.

Other craftsmen and women were Oswald Reeves, the enamel artist who made the tabernacle door; Eleanor Kelly of Dublin, who was responsible for the tooled bindings of the missals; and Joseph Tierney, who designed and illuminated a set of altar cards.

Although the collection is composed of work by various artists working in a wide range of differing designs and techniques, all are, nonetheless, in sympathy. It provides a valuable and unique record of the best of Irish ecclesiastical art at the time. Fortunately for Cork, most of the collection remains within the context of its original home – the Honan Chapel – where it most appropriately belongs. ◻

▶ **St Gobnait’s stained glass window by Harry Clarke.**

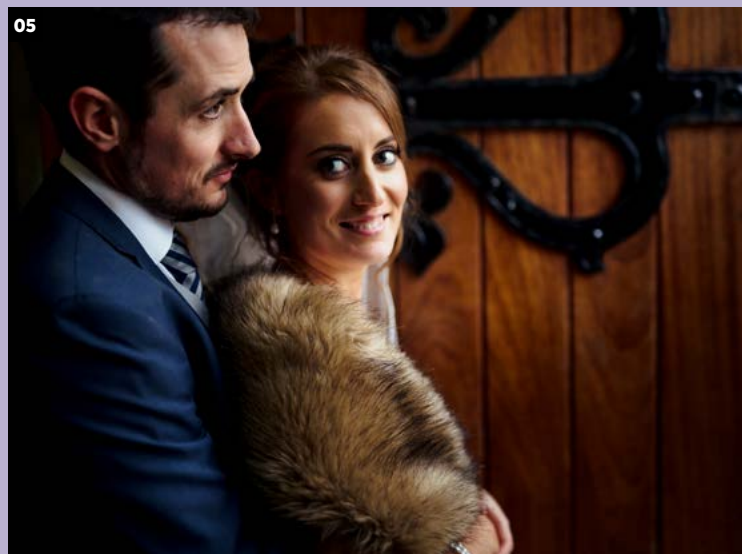
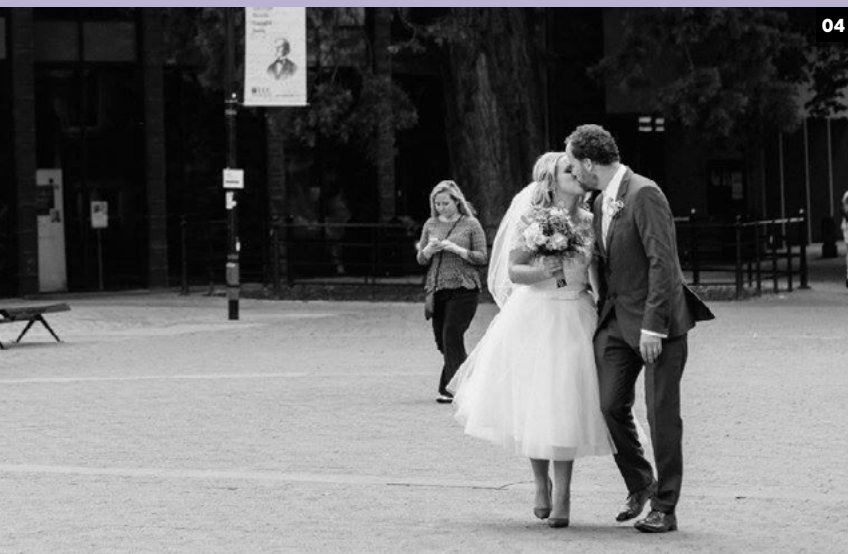
▼ **Replica of the Cross of Cong, made by Edmund Johnson for the Honan Chapel, 1916.**



I Do!

UCC Weddings

The Honan Chapel has long been a popular venue for weddings on campus. As we celebrate its one hundredth anniversary this year, here are some of the happy couples who held their big day there.





06



07



08

- 01 Mary O'Connell, (BEng Civil & Env '11) and Colm Dinan (BEng Civil & Env '11)
- 02 Aoife Bambury (BDS '10) and Edward McCarthy (BSC Accounting '07)
- 03 Karen O'Regan, (BSc Finance '04) and Colin Houlihan (BSc, BIS '04)
- 04 Carol Manley (BComm and French '08) and Thomas Maloney
- 05 Kate O'Brien, (BSc Microbiology '08) and Niall Irish (BSc Finance '08)
- 06 Aisling Gould, (BEd Sports Studies - Physical Education & French '11) and Peter Fennell (BSc Mathematical Sciences '09)
- 07 Paula Lawrence (BSc Food Science '00) and John Whyte (with baby Cian)
- 08 Lynn MacCarthy (BComm '05) and William Lynch
- 09 Ruairi Hatchell (BComm '03) and Shini Selvaraj

If you are a UCC graduate and would like more information on celebrating your wedding day in the Honan Chapel please contact Yvonne McGrath at +353 (0)21 4903088 or y.mcgrath@ucc.ie

09

UCC 1965 GOLDEN JUBILEE GRADUATION REUNION

2 September 2015

Alumni and guests from the class of 1965 gathered from all corners of the world to mark a special reunion for all those celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of their graduation from UCC.



01

- 01** Eleanor Cudmore, Moneygourney, Douglas; June Hilliard, Dublin; June O'Mahony, Ballincollig; and Catriona Hanrahan, Kilworth.
- 02** Maura Corcoran, Dublin; Beatrice Alley, Durrrow; Gay Crowley, Lee Road, Cork; and Olivia Fitzpatrick, Ballincollig.
- 03** Pete Genovese, Florida, USA; Patrick O'Carroll, Cotswolds, UK; and Richard Sargeant, Florida, USA.
- 04** Kay Burke, Dublin; and Barry Ferris, Rochestown, Co Cork.
- 05** Fr Michael Browne, Dublin; and Caroline Waters, Development and Alumni Office, UCC.
- 06** Maire Ó Broin, Galway; Cassandra Roche, Melbourne, Australia; Vera O'Herlihy, Burlington, Canada; Marie O'Keeffe Sheppard, Isle of Wight, UK; and Agnes Vaughan Cronin, Dublin.



02



04



05



03



06

1985 BCOMM REUNION

17 October 2015



07



08

- 07 Brida Hickey and Clare Murphy.
- 08 Class of 1985 BComm Reunion.

2006 MEDICAL CLASS REUNION

17 June 2016



09



10

Reunions

Are you celebrating the anniversary of your graduation in 2017?

Whether your class graduated in 2007, 1997, 1987, 1977, 1967 or beyond, UCC would love to welcome you back to campus.

We can help you plan your class reunion and put you in touch with your friends and classmates.

For more information contact Bernadette O'Regan at **+353 (0)21 490 2040** or **bernadette.oregan@ucc.ie**

The Social Network

Social media means that it has never been easier to network and keep in touch after graduation. But there is nothing like catching up with friends, former classmates and teaching staff in person. Every year, UCC welcomes hundreds of graduates back to their alma mater to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation day.

For reunion photographs and more, visit: www.facebook.com/UCCAlumniNetwork

- 09 Dr Una Harrington; Dr Sonya Ryan; Dr Nuala Barry and Dr Elaine Lee Murphy.
- 10 Dr Marc O'Reilly and Dr Aisling Hamilton.





Alumni Achievement Awards 2015

01

Five distinguished graduates were honoured at the annual, black-tie UCC Alumni Achievement Awards. The gala event took place on 27 November 2015 in UCC's historic Aula Maxima.

Matt Cooper, BComm '87

Matt is a broadcaster, journalist and author. He is former editor of *The Sunday Tribune* and was National Journalist of the Year in 1991 and 2001 and Business Journalist of the Year in 1992 and 1999. He presents the weekday evening programme *The Last Word* on Today FM. He has written three best-selling books. He has presented live sports television on TV3 including the GAA Championships and the Rugby World Cup.

Cathy Kearney, BComm '85

Cathy joined Apple in May 1989, as a fixed asset accountant, at a time when the company was

expanding its printed circuit board operation. She became site controller in 1994 and in 1996 operations controller for Europe. In 2000 she took over the running of the Applestore Operations team and four years later became senior director of European operations and has also overseen the expansion of the Cork site at Hollyhill. In 2012 Cathy was promoted to vice president of European operations.

Ann B. Kelleher, BE (Elec) '87, MEng '89, PhD '93

Ann joined Intel Corporation in 1996 as a process engineer and is now corporate vice president in the Technology and Manufacturing Group and general manager of the Fab/Sort Manufacturing organisation. She is responsible for Intel's silicon wafer fabrication facilities. Before assuming her current position, she was site manager for Intel's Fab 11X



02



03

fabrication facility in Rio Rancho, New Mexico, where she was responsible for all aspects of the operation.

Pinito Ratananukul, PhD '83

Professor Pinito, who studied for his PhD in Organic Chemistry at UCC in 1983, is secretary general of the Higher Education Commission of Thailand, reporting directly to the prime minister and with responsibility for all policy matters in higher education.

He has been the executive director of the ASEAN University Network (AUN) since 2005, which has played a leading role in higher education, not only in the ASEAN countries, but also in collaboration with agencies and universities internationally.

John MacCarthy, BE Civil '79

John, who is director of John MacCarthy BE & Partners Consulting Engineers in Cork, has been an outstanding volunteer for UCC over the past two decades. John was a founding member of



04



05



06



07

UCC Soccer Alumni in 2000, has been a member of the UCC Alumni Board since 2003, serving as Chairman from 2007 to 2009 and was also a member of the UCC Governing Body from 2007 to 2012.

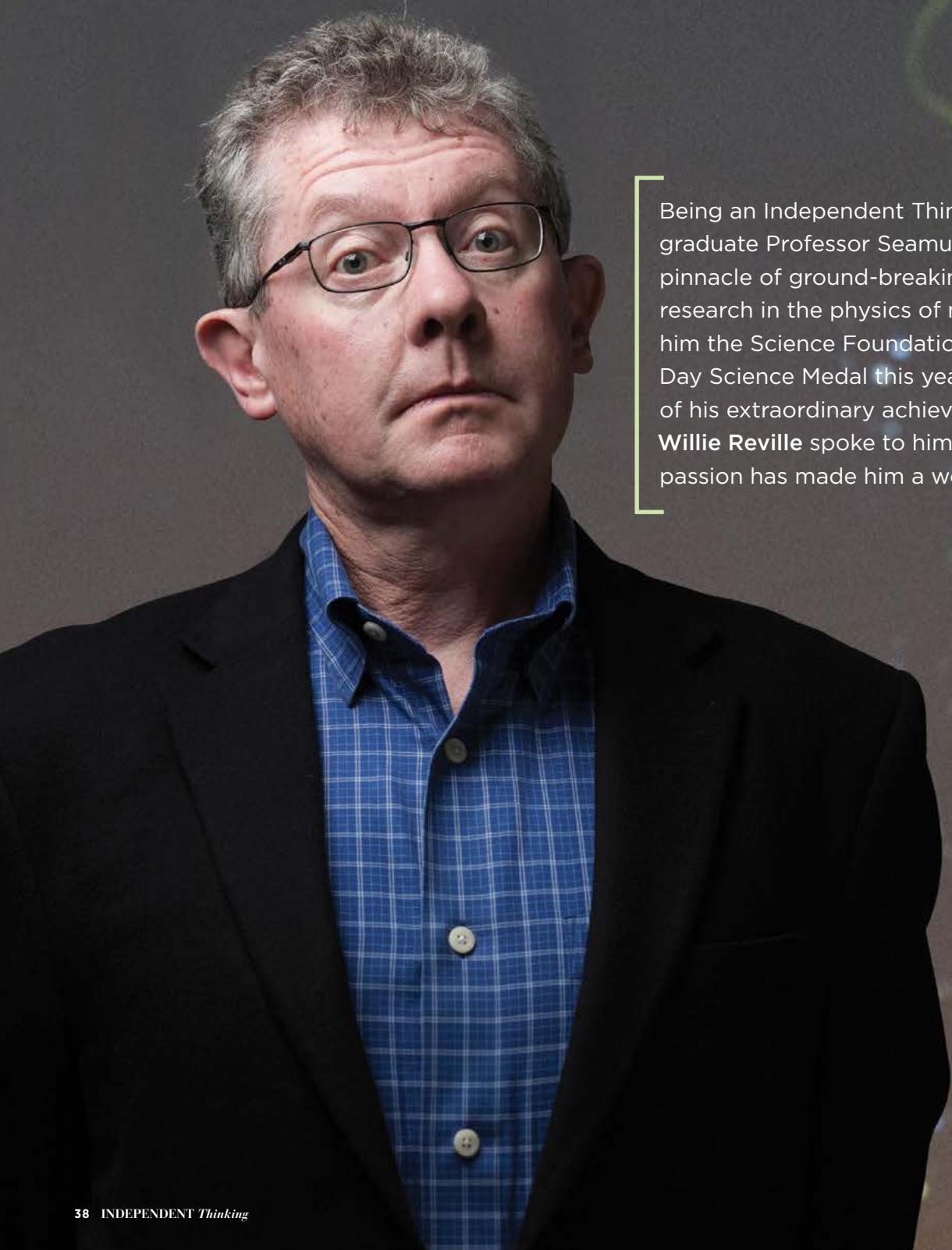
If you would like to nominate an individual for an Alumni Achievement Award in 2017 please email alumni@ucc.ie to request a nomination form.

- 01 2015 Alumni Achievement Award recipients (l-r) Matt Cooper, Dr Ann Kelleher, Dr Michael Murphy (President, UCC), Cathy Kearney, John MacCarthy and Professor Pinito Ratananukul
- 02 (l-r) Dr Eleanor Doyle, Dr Jean van Sinderen-Law and Dr Joan Buckley
- 03 Professor Pinito Ratananukul and Kantharos Ratananukul
- 04 Aileen Hickie and Matt Cooper
- 05 Kieran Mariga and Cathy Kearney with Katie, Cathal and Liam Mariga
- 06 Dr Ann Kelleher and Margaret Corkery
- 07 The Alumni Achievement Award, designed by Don O'Mahony, Silversmith, takes its inspiration from the old adage 'Mighty Oaks from Little Acorns Grow'
- 08 The MacCarthy family (l-r), John, Lynn, John, Geraldine and David



08

A quantum leap from his student days



Being an Independent Thinker has led UCC graduate Professor Seamus Davis to the pinnacle of ground-breaking international research in the physics of materials, winning him the Science Foundation Ireland St Patrick's Day Science Medal this year, in recognition of his extraordinary achievements. **Willie Reville** spoke to him about how his passion has made him a world leader in his field

◀ Professor Seamus Davis, UCC graduate and world leader of quantum mechanics.
Picture: Clare Keogh

Quantum mechanics, which describes the behaviour of matter at the atomic and subatomic level, may seem far beyond the understanding of the average person, but progress in this field enables huge advances that affect us all in our everyday lives.

At the helm of this fascinating area of science is 55-year-old Skibbereen-born Seamus Davis, whose natural love of mathematics and physics was first nurtured by “wonderful teachers” at his local St Fachtna’s de la Salle secondary school, and afterwards at UCC which he entered at the age of 17, to major in physics.

He loved his time at UCC and pays tribute to the rigorous and inspiring teaching of the lecturers in the physics department there. It was Professor Frank Fahey, head of the Department of Physics, who encouraged his brightest students to apply to top American universities for admission to their graduate school PhD programmes.

Seamus graduated from UCC with a BSc in 1983 and started right away on one of those programmes, at the University of California at Berkeley. He had no trouble settling into American culture, being well used to visiting relatives in the USA, as his mother Joan was born in Connecticut.

The young Corkman thrived in the elite environment at Berkeley, developing his natural inclination to pursue research he considers important, rather than necessarily fashionable. Such independent thinking has stood him in good stead over the years. He was awarded his PhD in 1988 and joined the academic staff of the physics department at Berkeley.

He also met his wife at Berkeley, fellow physicist Kathy Selby, and they have two sons, Owen, 18 and Michael, 16. Thirteen years ago they moved from Berkeley to the east coast Cornell University, where they both took up professorships. He is a Professor of Physics at Cornell and Senior Physicist at Brookhaven

National Laboratory and also a Distinguished Research Professor at St Andrews University, Scotland, on a part-time basis.

Seamus is now a world leader of quantum mechanics. So how do we grasp some understanding of that world? There are compelling academic and practical reasons to understand the quantum world as fully as possible because everything in the material macro-world, including everything underpinning our technological society and economy, is governed by quantum mechanics.

Many scientists even perceive this quantum world as eerily beyond the pale of common understanding and detection. But, harnessing his independent streak, Seamus decided he

would make the quantum world accessible to our ordinary senses.

In the late 1990s, he made a remarkable discovery at Berkeley – “The Superfluid Josephson Effect”. It was predicted in the 1960s that pressurising a superfluid (a fluid that exhibits no viscosity) should spontaneously produce a pure musical

tone because of the fluid’s quantum dynamics. Seamus developed the necessary complex instrumentation and discovered this quantum sound. For the first time ever, one of the human senses experienced a quantum mechanical phenomenon!

Having heard the sound of the quantum world, the scientist was determined to see it also. He invented a new type of electron microscope in the early 2000s – the “spectroscopic imaging scanning tunnelling electron microscope”, with which he was able to see the “matter waves” of the freely moving electrons in electrically-conducting materials, and to reveal many wonderful quantum effects.

Practical applications of enormous value will flow from a detailed understanding of the quantum world. Relatively soon we will reach the limit of computing power attainable by conventional technology and

“IN 2010 HE WAS ONE OF THE YOUNGEST PHYSICISTS EVER ELECTED TO THE US NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES”



▲ Though he has soared internationally, Seamus has not forgotten his Irish roots and visits West Cork every summer.

to progress further we will have to employ quantum technology.

Superconductivity, for example, is a property of certain materials that is determined by quantum properties. Electricity flows through a superconductor without any loss of energy. Discovered in 1911, for many years the phenomenon could only be demonstrated at extremely low temperatures. Seamus is now using his science to lead an international search to discover materials that are superconductive at room temperature.

The practical use of these new materials will enable huge advances. "Room temperature superconductors would improve the power efficiency and stability of power networks worldwide, improve the efficiency of solar and wind farms to transmit their energy with no loss (you can't build a high-voltage line for every wind farm)," says Seamus.

"They would greatly improve the ability to send more power into built-up areas without digging up all the streets and would revolutionise IT, because laptops, tablets, i-Pads

and so on, would use little or no energy and furthermore would be 1,000 to 10,000 times faster than at present.

"Room temperature superconductors will also be very important for high-energy physics, fundamental science, medicine and future forms of transport."

Seamus has published his ground-breaking work in over 30 papers in *Nature* and *Science*, the two premier science journals in the world. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Physics and of the American Physical Society and in 2010 he was one of the youngest physicists ever elected to the US National Academy of Sciences.

In 2005 he was awarded the Fritz London Memorial Prize, the greatest honour in low-temperature physics, and in 2009 he was awarded the Kamerlingh Onnes Prize, named for the Nobel Laureate who discovered superconductivity.

He is also the Loeb Lecturer in Physics at Harvard, Einstein Lecturer at the Weizmann Institute in Israel, Ehrenfest Lecturer at Leiden University and the Von Borries Lecturer at Tübingen.

Though he has soared internationally, the scientist has not forgotten his Irish roots. The whole family return to West Cork every summer. Kathy is a classically trained violinist but is now also devoted to traditional Irish, Scottish and New English music, playing regular performances throughout the academic year in New England and in West Cork during the summers.

Seamus runs regularly and is a fit-looking man. He is proud to be Irish, and loves talking about physics, and with some wit. When I asked him to tell me what a superfluid is, his first answer was "a pint of Guinness". I also naïvely asked him to explain how two entangled quantum particles can communicate instantly with each other across the width of the universe, and he replied: "If I understood that I wouldn't be here talking to you, I would be in Stockholm talking to the Nobel committee." He may well visit Stockholm yet. ■

| Photographs: Clare Keogh

Green light for fresh veggies on campus

UCC is the first university in the country to have its own nearby farm, growing fresh produce for students and staff, and it's all part of maintaining its award-winning sustainability goals, writes **Margaret Jennings**

You would think that eating fresh food is the most natural thing in the world; we sow, we harvest and we savour. But in an age of multi-choices and convenience packaging we often lose track of that simple trajectory from farm to fork. Indeed, produce uprooted from the earth can often travel many air or road miles, before it lands on our shop shelves for us to ponder.

And although it is always best to eat “real” food, as opposed to processed, the nutritional and taste value can be lost, we are told, the longer it takes to land on

our plate – and from there into our mouths!

This year however UCC has become the first university in the country to have fresh vegetables harvested from its own land, five kilometres from campus, and served up daily in six of its restaurants.

Concerned parents, whose children flew the coop three months ago to start university life, must be sighing with relief; at least they are being well-fed! At the end of the day, healthy eating is about having a healthy body and mind – keeping our energy up and our brains alert – a combination that is

vital in the world of third-level education.

But of course everyone on campus can benefit from this new initiative, with 80–100 tonnes of carrots, parsnips and beetroot being harvested on demand throughout the winter months until February, when the whole cycle of ploughing and planting will begin again.

- ▶ **Waterfall Farm's Nigel Martin harvests the first crop of vegetables from UCC's eight-acre farm, destined for cafes and restaurants across campus.**



Nature does provide; the first harvested vegetables actually arrived on campus in synchronicity with the start of the academic year – in late August, delivered by the Cork family-owned company Waterfall Farms, who manage the eight-acre site at Curraheen, and deliver to KSG, the catering company which rents the land from UCC and has 13 outlets within the university.

But behind many apparently simple projects there can be a lot of thought and hard work. In this case, the healthy food initiative is actually part of a Green Campus strategy being implemented throughout the whole of the university, which is student-led, research-informed and practice-focussed.

UCC has already excellent credentials around sustainability: we were the first university in the world to achieve a Green Flag award in 2010, the first to reattain it

in 2013 and the first to reattain it a third time, in 2016. In addition we proudly hold fourth place in the world in the Green Metric World University ranking.

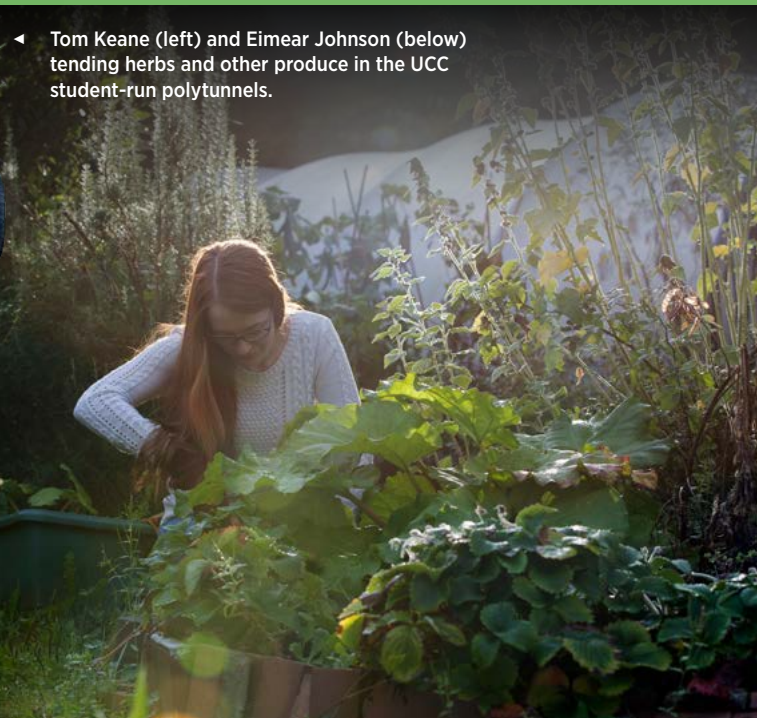
These accolades are the result of a shared commitment throughout our campus on sustainability. Its policy-making is far-reaching, involving staff and students on practical levels that include recycling and waste; energy, water and climate change; procurement and contracts; commuting; landscape and heritage; and teaching and learning. And a whopping sum of €20m is secured annually for environmental and sustainability research.

For example, our recycling rate has increased from 21% to 80% and all the leaves and branches from our beautiful landscaped grounds are composted and used on campus. And for anyone who is interested further, there is an audio and video guided Green Tour of the campus and a smartphone app tour of some of the key green features, available for all to experience.

But getting back to the eight-acre field – the “grow our own” initiative comes under the Green Campus goal of encouraging and maintaining health and wellbeing. “Growing our own vegetables means that we are connecting our ecosystem to food, to our students and to our staff on campus,” says Professor John O’Halloran, Vice President for Teaching and Learning, and one of the promoters of the sustainability strategy.

“Students and staff already had polytunnels on campus for the past 10 years where we have been growing a range of herbs and salads which are used in the restaurants. And we use a rainwater collection system which is a simple and sustainable way to provide water for the crops,” he says.

But the green field project, not far from our university gates, is a big step forward – a step that reaches out beyond the campus, involving not only the Martin family business at Waterfall Farms, but also the major Irish catering firm, KSG.



◀ Tom Keane (left) and Eimear Johnson (below) tending herbs and other produce in the UCC student-run polytunnels.

Although KSG supplies many third-level institutions in Ireland, this shared venture with UCC is an absolute first, and very exciting, says MD of the company Michael Gleeson. “We as a company have also partnered with the Sustainable Restaurant Association (SRA) which is a UK and Ireland not-for-profit organisation. It works with restaurateurs like ourselves in KSG Catering, and guides us and supports us in how to bring forward sustainable methods,” he says.

“This project - where we have eight acres of land to grow and harvest crops and bring it back into our restaurants - fits very nicely for us as a company. We were a member of the SRA for about four years, but by working in partnership with the UCC Green Campus initiative, we won the highest accolade from the SRA last March, a three-star Food Made Good award, recognising us as Ireland’s most sustainable restaurateur.”

This type of mutual interaction around sustainability, linking our university locally and even globally, under the Green Campus umbrella, is part of the overall aim, says John,

who points out that even the procurement office staff reference the sustainability status of a service, when tendering for contracts.

In the last academic year also, we piloted a very successful module on sustainability matters, delivered on campus over a six-week period and which was open free of charge to the public, as well as students and staff. One of the bonuses was that through this module - which is going ahead again this year - new relationships were developed, and existing ones strengthened, with members of key external civic organisations, extending UCC’s Green Campus influence into the wider community.

But for the 20,000-plus students and almost 3,000 academic, research and administrative staff on the ground, who want to get their teeth into all that delicious farm-fresh produce, where can they access it?

KSG chief Michael Gleeson spills the beans on that one: “The veg is being used in six of our 13 outlets - the UCC main Restaurant; the

Brookfield Restaurant; the Western Gateway Restaurant; the Tyndall Restaurant; the Bio Café and the staff Restaurant,” he says.

“NATURE DOES PROVIDE; THE FIRST HARVESTED VEGETABLES ACTUALLY ARRIVED ON CAMPUS IN SYNCHRONICITY WITH THE START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR - IN LATE AUGUST”

“They are also being used for hospitality events and in soups which are made in the main kitchen and transferred around campus to the smaller satellite units that have limited facilities, such as the Elements Cafe, the Still Restaurant, the Pharmacy Café and the Staff Common Room.”

It sounds like there is plenty to go around and hopefully a real appreciation for the source of all that wonderful produce, just five kilometres down the road from the busy campus. ■



◀ UCC is the first university in Ireland to serve up fresh vegetables harvested from its own land. Emele Polly (left) and Ciara Kirk are seen enjoying some of the farm-to-fork produce on campus. Pictures: Clare Keogh

Hub gets to the nub of what students need

Work has already begun on the transformation of one of our original campus buildings into a modern state-of-the-art facility which will provide a central point for all students' needs. **Robert O'Sullivan** gives us a taste of what's to come

- ▼ Some of those lining up for participation in the proposed campus Student Hub are Michael Hanrahan, UCC Clubs executive president; Eolann Sheehan, UCC Students' Union president; Eoin McSweeney, editor of *Motley magazine*; Rob Burton-O'Sullivan, editor of *UCC Express* and Pat McCarthy, UCC Societies executive president. Picture: Clare Keogh

Between “five to” and “five past” the hour, the walkway between The Quad and the Kane building on our university grounds would give any metropolitan thoroughfare a run for its money – such is the hustle and bustle of that inter-lecture dash made by students every day. This should not surprise anyone, as our university, the first in Ireland to get a five-star status, channels over 20,000 students through its campus grounds annually.

And as those students walk through the gates of UCC they are following in the footsteps of generations before them, going back to its foundation in 1845.

However, the UCC campus is a far more complex place now than in the past two centuries, and thankfully there are a host of services, clubs and societies to cater for students' needs. Unfortunately though, those services are currently scattered around in different buildings, an issue that was first fully tackled



almost a decade ago when the idea of a Student Hub to centralise everything was first mooted. In an October 2007 edition of the student paper, *UCC Express*, the then-Students' Union president Kris McElhinney was quoted as saying the decision to move many student services under one roof was "a step in the right direction".

That step is getting closer now, with plans in progress to have the Student Hub housed in The Windle Building, famously once mentioned in James Joyce's classic first novel, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*.

Originally built in 1850, following a donation from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Lord Clarendon, the Windle - then known as The Clarendon, or Medical, Building - was designed by the same architects behind the nearby Quad. Over the next 30 years three other buildings, with connecting hallways, were added on. However, after many of its educational services, mainly medical and anatomy-based, were moved to other sites as the campus modernised, the Windle fell into disrepair, with no public access to most of it in recent years.



Now The Windle is due to be given a whole new lease of life - as will our students, who will have one focal point to go to for all their needs, instead of trying to navigate any number of services currently dispersed throughout the campus - a disorientating challenge for Freshers, in particular.

Bear in mind, we have over 100 societies covering a broad range of pursuits and over 50 clubs for most sporting endeavours. The value of these services cannot be underestimated; they give an added richness to the students' college experience. They also

▲ **An illustration of the architectural vision for the new Student Hub**

include support services like the Disability Support Service, Mature Student Office and student employment help, as well as creative services, like our media outlets - the *UCC Express*, *Motley magazine* and UCC 98.3FM Campus Radio - and artistic studios and spaces.

So what is planned? A technology-rich building, designed by architects O'Donnell and Tuomey (who were also behind the award-winning Lewis

WE ASKED... AND HERE'S WHAT THEY SAID . . .



Aaron O'Sullivan, Commerce IV student
 "It will be great to have everything centralised. We have a lot of student services dispersed across the campus. To have one central hub where students can deal with all of their queries will improve students' time here considerably."



Natalie McCafferty, Arts International II student
 "It means that we're gonna have a lot more space to do what we want to do. There's going to be a new mature student common room, which is important as mature students are often overlooked with regards facilities."

Glucksman Gallery, on our campus), which will bring a state-of-the-art open and spacious modern interior, in stark contrast to the twisting labyrinths of back-offices of buildings past. Space is being set aside for a piece of contemporary art, which when combined with the architectural design should ensure that the building in itself is aesthetically pleasing.

“THE WINDLE BUILDING WAS FAMOUSLY ONCE MENTIONED IN JAMES JOYCE’S CLASSIC FIRST NOVEL, A PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN”

The Student Hub will include the Careers Office, the Students’ Union, the Disability Support Service and the Mature Student Office, in addition to 21 other student-led initiatives such as its print media outlets, the UCC 98.3FM Campus

Radio, clubs and societies. These spaces will include open-plan offices for the clubs and societies, consultation rooms and offices for the Careers Office and Students’ Union, and teaching and learning rooms and offices for student publications.

The building is specifically being designed with students’ needs in mind. The rooms will flow naturally around a central reception area and there will be a co-op kitchen, based on the ground floor. The ground floor will also feature the Market Hall space, a large, multi-functional area that can house anything from pop-up exhibitions and Freshers orientation, to performances and concerts. This “common” space will have a double height ceiling with lots of natural light.

The upper floors will be filled with accessible offices for the various student services, consultation rooms and hot water points for students to make tea, coffee and get their caffeine fix! There will also be various viewpoints and mezzanines from where students can work, while taking in views of the surrounding campus and city. In addition to these spaces there are open learning and creative spaces on the upper floors, dubbed the Tower Floors.

The Student Hub project is expected to be completed in early 2018, with interior work on The Windle building and external work already having begun. Though Freshers of that year may take it for granted as part of our excellent campus, current students will be thrilled at yet another stage of UCC’s continual adaption to their needs, over 170 years. ■

To keep up to date with all the latest developments visit: studenthub.ucc.ie



Rory O'Donnell, UCC SU Welfare Officer

“Looking into the future UCC will join services within the university and integrate them into a student space, so that the separation between both student services and the students themselves is minimised.”



Mary O'Grady, Head of Disability Support Services, UCC

“The Disability Support Service will be based in the Student Success Zone. In this area UCC staff and student services will be working closer together and collaborating in meaningful ways. The hub will ensure that every student has an amazing experience here in UCC.”



JP Quinn, Head of the Visitors' Centre, UCC

“The Student Hub is the most exciting development for students in decades. The impact of the hub, as I see it, is in the visualisation of the wealth of student activities, clubs, societies, student activism and student creativity, all centred in a central nexus of campus.”

Man of the match

Marty Morrissey is one of the most popular sports commentators in Ireland. He tells **Michael Moynihan** about his earlier years at UCC and expresses some strong views on the current GAA scene



One of the most recognisable voices in Ireland – broadcaster Marty Morrissey of RTÉ – is recalling his early experiences of University College Cork: “I lived on College Road, looking out over the old college car park. Sport was the way I assimilated. Early on I went down to the Aula Maxima where Murt Murphy – now a journalist himself – and Don Good were signing up freshers for the football team. Robert Bunyan was there, Donal Buckley, Jim Nolan – later a Cork selector – Paddy Barrett and Michael Downes. These were all guys I got to know over the coming years.

“I said I was a Clare minor, and Murt and Don said, ‘if we’re stuck we’ll be in touch . . .’ I played Sigerson [Cup] with Sean Walsh, Sean Murphy who played for Cork, Johnny Mulvihill – Martin O’Doherty was in front of me, so I was safe enough.

“We became famous by accident one time – the old *Cork Examiner* had a glitch with an ad and two huge photographs covered a whole page, UCC and

UCG, from an obscure higher education league game in the Mardyke. A Mickey Mouse game but the two teams covered the page, you wouldn’t see it for an All-Ireland.”

Marty landed in UCC as a medical student but flirted with science and arts before becoming a teacher: “I didn’t know what I wanted to do at the time, to be honest. I was very young, in college at 16 – all over the shop. Eventually I did my HDip and qualified as a teacher.

“Gaelic games provided my social outlet in UCC, one hundred per cent. That was how I made friends. We played a bit of five-a-side soccer too, in the Maltings, and in the Quarry – where the Boole Library is now – which was great fun.”

Broadcasting happened by accident, he says: teaching back home in Clare, he was prevailed upon to do one match commentary, then another, and after picking up experience with Cork Multi-Channel and Clare FM, he joined RTÉ.

He is now one of the most

popular broadcasters in Ireland with a particular focus on Gaelic games. A lifetime of association with Gaelic football and hurling has given him strong views on the games on and off the field.

“GAELIC GAMES PROVIDED MY SOCIAL OUTLET IN UCC, ONE HUNDRED PER CENT. THAT WAS HOW I MADE FRIENDS”

“In goalkeeping, say, everything has changed. In our day you got a mound of earth and put the ball on top of it, and you had to learn how to kick it out. Anthony Burke was the Clare senior ‘keeper, from my own club, and he taught me how to develop a decent kick-out.

“I’d love to be playing now with the tee for kick-outs, certainly. When we were playing Kieran Dowd was involved, and he was very good to train a team – we



worked on kick-outs. For us it was a matter of trying to find Sean Walsh all the time, and we'd aim for him all the time."

Nowadays, he says, Stephen Cluxton has brought it to a whole new level, particularly the short kick-outs. "If we'd chanced that, you'd have heard about it quick enough: 'what the hell are you doing?' So it's different, more scientific.

"Billy Morgan – another UCC man – was my idol. To me he was the man who started the trend of saving the ball, and working it out the field. I credit him with starting that."

The Clare man has a view on the administration of the games also. "County managers have too much power and control, to an extent. County boards have the responsibility to manage the GAA in their counties, to organise games – and shutting down club championships in the middle of the summer can't be right," he says. "Quite apart from anything else, in the old days if you caught the eye in a club game, you could get a call-up to the county team."

On best advice he has been given:

Never give up. That's crucial.

On being criticised:

Put the criticism in your back pocket, learn from it and say "well, I won't do that again".

On being fair:

You can't blackguard people. When you have a microphone – or a pen, or laptop – you have power but you must be fair to people.

Marty admits to being "a little passionate" about the county board taking back some responsibility in this regard. "Fair enough, you have to be flexible, if you're coming into an All-Ireland final I understand the manager wants his players, but I remember being involved with my club, Kilmurry Ibrickane, one year, when we played Éire Óg of Ennis on May 12th or 13th, and we didn't play another championship game until the 28th of August. That's common now.

"I know we need the inter-county game to attract coverage and so on, but the GAA needs

to find a balance. That hasn't been found yet, and inter-county managers' power here needs to be reduced."

He caught the eye – or ear – recently when filling in for Ryan Tubridy on radio, and he says he'd like to move into other areas of broadcasting. "I'd like to try other things. I was delighted to fill in for Ryan Tubridy, I was delighted to fill in between Derek Mooney and Ray D'Arcy last year. I love radio. I have itchy feet in that I'd like to try other things in broadcasting, I've reached that stage." ■

Pictures: Clare Keogh



Full speed ahead for Phil

UCC's award-winning athlete Phil Healy became a media star after a YouTube video showing her stunning performance at the Irish intervarsity 4x400m relay event earlier this year went viral. But the outcome of the race also changed the direction of her own personal goals, she tells **Margaret Jennings**

She blazed her way through social media as well as on the track, stealing the spotlight internationally, not only for the dazzling victory she brought to the UCC athletics relay team, but for the powerful positive message she emitted; that the underdog can rise to the top.

Without the YouTube video of 21-year-old student Phil Healy's startling performance, the story of how she plucked her team-mates from fifth place – dashing to the winning post, when she took the baton in the final lap – would have remained one to be told by stunned onlookers afterwards, in astonished tones, rather than witnessed in that film footage.

Instead though, as the video coverage went online after the 4x400m relay event on April 16th at the Irish Intersvarsity Track and Field Championships, in Morton Stadium, Santry, Phil's achievement went viral, watched at least 40 million times in the aftermath.

Included in that tally are the millions of viewers who saw her performance when *Good Morning America* put it on their Facebook page, one of the many media outlets who chased her up after the event.

“By the end of the week when it had calmed down, I looked at the inspiration everyone took from it and it was unbelievable,” says Phil.

**“BY THE END OF THE WEEK,
WHEN IT HAD CALMED DOWN,
I LOOKED AT THE INSPIRATION
EVERYONE TOOK FROM MY
PERFORMANCE AND IT WAS
UNBELIEVABLE”**



“A college in America had watched it before their basketball game, another before their hockey, and a little girl from high school said she pretended she was me as she was running down the home straight. To see things like that further spurred me on and I brought that back into my own training.”

Commentator Cathal Dennehy, in the video voice-over, is heard excitedly describe Phil's performance – tearing past her opponents in that 54-second sprint – as bringing UCC back “from the depths of hell”.

Phil points out that her incredible performance helped put athletics in a very positive light as well: “With the Olympics we keep hearing about the drug allegations and it was said that the relay was not about what time I ran in the lap, but about not giving up and fighting to the end.”

Though she may have become a poster girl for resilience in the face of an immense obstacle, Phil, who up to that was a high-achieving 100m and 200m sprinter, also got huge inspiration herself about her own capacity to push boundaries.

“That 400m was super because it pushed me more towards that distance. Up to when I took that baton, I was not a 400m runner, but for the last week in May we were in Belgium and I jumped into the 400 there and I ran 53.58 which put me 11th, I think, on the Irish all-time list and just a tenth of the European standard.

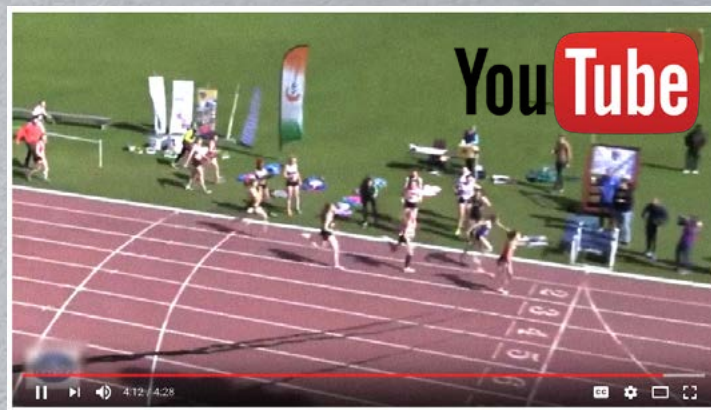
“That was really positive because I hadn't trained for 400s and that last 100m is so tough – when you're hit with lactic acid. That put me then on the Irish 4 x 400 team, so the relay opened me up to huge opportunities. It made me realise that at the end of the day I'm probably a 400 athlete and not a 100 or 200.”

So if it touched others' lives, that Irish Universities Athletics Association relay also changed her own, putting her on a different track – literally – for her athletics future.

Phil, who is a HPAE (High Performance Athlete Entry) award recipient at UCC, completed a degree in Health Sciences and has just embarked on a postgrad in Computer Science.

From outside Bandon, Co Cork, she joined the local athletics club at 11 but took up running seriously at age 16 and has a long list of achievements behind her.

Though she may not live the average college student's lifestyle – having to train six out of seven days weekly for 11 months of the year and maintain a healthy diet – it is not a



▲ A YouTube clip that captured Phil's dazzling performance went viral earlier this year.

sacrifice, she says.

Back on campus now, she never takes for granted the state-of-the-art facilities available to UCC students in the Mardyke arena. “It is less than 10 minutes' walk from my college house. Not many athletes have a top-class facility like that on their doorstep. Many might have just the track, or just the gym, but we have it all.

“The gym has everything I need and Jeff Gomez the high-performance director maintains a super atmosphere there. I'm also allowed to bring my coach Shane McCormack, who is based in Wexford, to oversee my sessions there. Recovery wise I have full access to the pool, treadmills, bikes, rowers – anything you could possibly need is there. Having all that on hand allows me to vary up my active recovery sessions from week to week.”

As part of her HPAE scholarship she also has access to performance analysis, hugely beneficial to her, she says, in terms of finding out extra information, in relation to her technique and biomechanical feedback.

She also values the huge camaraderie in the UCC club – how everyone supports each other: “I have so many friends in sport. We push each other on and it's a social outlet as much as training.”

At the end of the day, however, it is the grit, determination and application that fuels Phil's passion – qualities that came to the fore when she became a media heroine not only for UCC, but for the millions she touched emotionally, in that final relay sprint last April.

As she says herself: “I'll never get that much attention again, even if I won an Olympic medal!” 🏆

▲ UCC student Phil Healy is captured in action here, training at the university's superb Mardyke Arena indoor facilities. Picture: Clare Keogh.

Spotlight *on* Sport

UCC boasts over 60 sports clubs to cater for a broad range of interests. In addition the university has the Mardyke Arena, a state-of-the-art sports and fitness centre with both indoor and outdoor facilities which is in big demand. While the sports elite mentioned in the pages that follow continue to score at every level, there is also a wealth of opportunity for those who simply want to have fun and keep healthy



LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL The Cork ladies Gaelic football team scraped a narrow one-point victory over Dublin last September to secure their sixth All Ireland title in a row. In addition to this, it was also their 11th All Ireland title in 12 years. UCC's strong connections can't be denied when viewing Cork's dominance in ladies football, as the historical victory was secured by the experienced Rebel team which featured 14 current UCC students as well as four graduates.



KICKBOXING (Lily De La Cour): Lily is one of the most prominent female kickboxers in Ireland at present and has had a tremendous 2015/2016 season. She became Senior National Champion at 50kg in 2015 and won the World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO) Best Fighter Award at the World Cup in Rimini, Italy at 50kg in 2015. She also became WAKO Senior World Champion at 50kg. She was awarded the *Evening Echo* Ladies Sports Star Award for December 2015 and was overall Celtic Ross Hotel West Cork Sports Star of the Year Award winner in 2015. She was also awarded the Irish Kickboxing Association Overall Female title for 2015. In 2016 she was the Senior Advanced WAKO International Open Champion – 50kg. She received her second UCC Sports Star Award in 2016 and was also a UCC Sports Scholarship recipient.



UCC MEN'S HOCKEY CLUB: This has been a phenomenal year for UCC men's hockey club, with 2015/16 being the most successful year in their history. All the teams in the club did very well. The Senior team were Peard Cup winners in December 2015 – the first time in the club's history. They also won the Munster Senior League title, again a first for the club. However, not to be outshone, the club's Seconds team also performed remarkably well. They won the Munster Junior Cup on St Patrick's Day – again a first for the club – and won the Munster League second division title the following weekend, completing a memorable double for the team. The Seconds team was voted Team of the Year and were presented with their award at the Awards Evening.

UCC BASKETBALL CLUB and UCC DEMONS

(Adrian O'Sullivan): Adrian (pictured here with Michael Murphy) has had a tremendous season both for UCC and UCC Demons. He is a HPAE sports scholarship recipient and received his third UCC Sports Star Award this year. He was a member of the UCC men's basketball team who won the Intervarsity first division title and was a member of Team Hibernia 2015/2016 (Irish Premier League Select team) who participated in the FIBA Europe Cup games in Denmark, the Czech Republic and Slovenia. Adrian was also a member of the UCC Demons Men's team who retained the Premier League and Champions Trophy in 2016 and of the Irish Senior men's basketball squad who travelled to Moldova for the European Championships in June.



Download the UCC SPORT App

Stay up to date with the latest fixtures, results, news and events from all the clubs you support in UCC.

Available for iOS and Android.

UCC University College Cork, Ireland



TRIATHLON (Chris Mintern): Chris is a former UCC Sports Scholarship recipient and was awarded a Quercus Sports Scholarship in 2015 in recognition of his achievements in triathlon. He won the 18–24 age category at the Lee swim in July 2015 and is a Triathlon Ireland Development Squad athlete. Chris has represented Ireland at the European U23 Championships, as well as European Cups in Holland, Turkey and Spain in 2015 and he won several domestic triathlon events in 2015 including in Schull, Valentia Island, Athy, and Dungarvan. In 2016 so far, he has been placed first in duathlons in Youghal, Banner, Limerick and Tramore and he was also selected to represent Ireland at the World University Games.

ROAD BOWLING (Killian Kingston): Killian won the Munster senior bowling final in front of 10,000 people in Lyre, Clonakilty. He represented Munster in the All-Ireland final on July 10th. In 2010 he won a European gold medal and also became the youngest ever winner of the All-Ireland Junior A (third division). This is a really amazing achievement for someone who is only 24.



RUGBY (Paul Kiernan): Paul was a member of the Irish U20 rugby squad for the World Cup held in England during the summer. He captained the team in their victory over Georgia. The Irish team were beaten finalists. Paul plays for UCC Rugby Club, who were promoted to Division 2A of the All Ireland League for 2016/17. He was joined in the Irish U20 World Cup squad by UCC students Vincent O'Brien and Shane Daly.

HURLING (Tadhg de Búrca): Tadhg won a National Hurling League title in 2015 with Waterford and was a GPA All Star 2015 Award winner at centre half back. He was also awarded Young Player of the Year at the GAA National Awards 2015. The centre back made his senior championship debut with Waterford in May 2014 and he was also a member of the UCC team who competed in the colleges league and Fitzgibbon Cup. Tadhg was an MJ Dowling UCC Sports Scholarship recipient in 2015/16 and a member of the Waterford team who were this year's Munster finalists and beaten league finalists.





SOCCKER – CORK CITY FC (Michael McSweeney): Michael, who is a former UCC Sports Scholarship recipient, captained UCC to Collingwood Cup success in 2011 under the management of John Caulfield and was pivotal to UCC's success at the heart of the defence. He went on to represent the Irish Universities and this culminated in his selection to represent Ireland at the World Student Games in Russia in 2013. After graduating from UCC, Michael had a spell with Mervue Utd in Galway before signing for Cork City in July 2014. A squad player initially, it was this year that Michael really began to establish himself as a first-team player. He was thrown in at the deep end with injuries to Johnny Dunleavy and John Kavanagh this season and has tasted European football with the club – despite not being played in his natural position – a great achievement for a former UCC soccer club player.



ATHLETICS (Lizzie Lee): Lizzie Lee is a UCC graduate who competed in the 2016 Rio Olympics in the marathon. It was Lizzie's first Olympics – she qualified after she ran 2:32:51 at the Berlin Marathon in September – and she placed in the top 60. The 36-year-old only took up athletics 10 years ago and has not looked back. Running out of Leevale AC, her coach is Donie Walsh who also coaches in UCC Athletics Club. Lizzie captained the Irish Women's Cross Country team which secured a bronze medal in the European Cross Country Championships. Lizzie can be regularly seen training at the Mardyke track with fellow Olympian Michelle Finn.



CANOEING (Patrick O'Leary): UCC Graduate Patrick O'Leary, who was heavily involved in the UCC Canoe Club during his time at the university, competed in the Paralympic Games in 2016, finishing in sixth place in the final. Patrick took a bronze medal at a Canoe Sprint event in Rio prior to the Olympics, which was the first competition to be held at the Olympic venue. This was the first time that Canoe Sprint – which effectively is a form of kayaking on a flat surface, generally a lake – was included in the Paralympics. Competitors paddle their boats in lanes, similar to the format of a swimming event in the pool. Patrick, who lost his leg five years ago, trains on average 12-13 times per week and remains active and positive. He finished ninth at the World Canoe Sprint Championships in Milan last year.

HOCKEY IN THE MARDYKE JULY 2016: International sport was brought to UCC's Mardyke sports grounds in July when the university, in association with Munster Hockey and the Irish Hockey Union, hosted a very successful European U-18 Hockey Championships. A week-long event, spectacular hockey was played at the venue, with a resounding success for the Dutch team winning the U-18 Girls event, while Germany won the U-18 Boys event. Two senior men's international matches also drew big crowds to the Mardyke, in the build-up to the Olympics, between the Irish senior men's team, who competed in Rio, and the Netherlands. Both matches were a resounding success with large numbers attending the games.





University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

A TRADITION OF
INDEPENDENT THINKING

HIGHEST RESEARCH
INCOME PER ACADEMIC
BY THE SUNDAY TIMES
IN 2014



VOTED THE SAFEST
CAMPUS IN IRELAND
AND ONE OF THE
SAFEST IN THE
WORLD

TOP 3

GLOBALLY FOR ITS
INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
AND CAREERS AND WORK
PLACEMENT SERVICE

**YOU
WERE BORN**
TO



WORLD'S FIRST
GREEN FLAG
UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS



TOP
2%
OF THE WORLD
UNIVERSITY RANKINGS



#uccmakeyourmark
www.ucc.ie