



The award-winning newsletter of
students and staff of UCC's Department
of Government and Politics

Issue 77, Friday 27 September 2019

GOVERNMENT TIMES

OUR STUDENTS ARE MAKING THEIR MARK ON THE WORLD STAGE

- ◆ Sarah Collins (BSc Govt I) at UN Youth Climate Summit in New York
- ◆ Mary Murphy (BSc Govt II), world's youngest Sky Women in Tech Scholar



Sarah Collins (left) attended the United Nations Youth Climate Summit in New York on Saturday. Read all about it on page 4! On page 5, we feature **Mary Murphy** who was awarded a 'Sky Women in Tech Scholarship'. In addition, Mary is also a Quercus Innovation/Entrepreneurship Scholar at UCC and was the winner of the UCC Student Entrepreneur of the Year 2019.



GET INVOLVED IN GOVERNMENT TIMES

Welcome to the 2019/2020 academic year in the Department of Government and Politics. Issue 77 of **Government Times** is the first one of the year and I hope you all enjoy it. While I have taken the lead for this issue, the idea behind this monthly newsletter is that it is a joint student and staff production. With that in mind, for any students who would like to be a student editor on **Government Times** or would like to contribute to it, please e-mail me by Friday 4 October – a.quinlivan@ucc.ie. In the e-mail, please include a paragraph about why you would like to be involved and how you would like to contribute. I look forward to hearing from you!

Since our last issue, a few things have changed in the Department of Government and Politics. Our primary under-graduate degree is now called the BSc Government and Political Science. This is the title of the programme for the new first year class; the other years retain the title BSc Government. The degree is, and will continue to be a BSc, representing the academic discipline of Political Science. Two of our academic staff members have also been promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer. Congratulations to Dr. Theresa Reidy and Dr. Mary C. Murphy who join Dr. Andrew Cottey and Dr. Clodagh Harris as Senior Lecturers. The promotions for Theresa and Mary are a just reward for their excellence in teaching and research over the years.

As for this issue of **Government Times**, there is a lot in there! We highlight Sarah Collins who was selected to attend the UN Youth Climate Summit in New York. Mary Murphy is also featured – she is the world's youngest Sky Women in Tech Scholar. Speaking of youth, the youngest councillor in Cork County Council is Ben Dalton O'Sullivan. As a First Year student, Ben successfully contested the local elections in May. Congratulations, councillor – we are very proud of you. One of the other things highlighted in this issue is the Annual Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Competition. This is a fun competition and I encourage you to take part as it is very important to us to keep Patrick's memory alive. Patrick was a second year BSc Government student when he sadly died in March 2001.

Enjoy this issue of **Government Times** and please send me an e-mail if you would like to get involved.

Aodh

Dr. Aodh Quinlivan, Editor, Government Times

Remembering Patrick O'Sullivan – please enter the annual essay competition.

Congratulations to our two new senior lecturers – Dr. Theresa Reidy and Dr. Mary C. Murphy.



IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1	COVER PAGE – Our students making their mark globally
Page 2	Editorial – Get involved!
Page 3	Contents Page
Page 4	Cover Story – Sarah Collins, climate action activist
Page 5	Cover Story – Mary Murphy, entrepreneur and Quercus scholar
Page 6	Work Placement Report from Áras an Uachtaráin by Thérèse O’Donoghue
Page 7	Remembering when John Bercow visited us in 2013
Page 8	CLRG News: Spanish collaboration and public lecture in Dublin
Page 9	CLRG News: Two books and annual lecture series in 2020
Page 10	Councillor Ben Dalton O’Sullivan and Catriona Reid
Page 11	Administrative staff in the Department of Government and Politics
Page 12	A night at the theatre discussing politics!
Page 13	Dr. Mary C. Murphy to the fore on Brexit debate
Page 14	Art O’Leary joins department as Adjunct Professor
Page 15	The Politics of Food – Patrick O’Sullivan Essay Competition
Page 16	Previous winners – Patrick O’Sullivan Essay Competition
Page 17	BSc Government (and Political Science), 1999-2019
Page 18	Robert Elgie, 1965-2019
Page 19	Oxford Fellowship for Dr. Laurence Davis; PhD for Anne Gannon
Page 20	Government and Politics Society

COVER STORY

SARAH COLLINS AT UN YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT IN NEW YORK



‘One of the main things I learned was how climate change is affecting women most. The UN provided figures which show that 80% of people most affected by climate change are women. Women are being forced to walk for miles upon miles in dangerous heat to fetch water as their towns are suffering from drought’ – Sarah Collins

First year BSc Government and Political Science student, Sarah Collins, was among 100 young people chosen from 7,000 applicants around the world to bring their experiences of climate activism to New York on Saturday for the United Nations Climate Summit.

While Swedish activist, Greta Thunberg, attracted much media attention, Sarah and the two other Irish delegates made their voices heard too. Speaking before departing for the Big Apple, Sarah said:

‘We’ll be meeting young people who are directly affected by climate change and we’ll be able to hear their stories and bring them back to Ireland. Hopefully, we’ll also get our message across to world leaders so that they understand how Irish people feel about the climate crisis, how passionate we are and how we want change now.’

Well done, Sarah, keep up the great work.

'Ireland's Gretas': Activists take mission to save the planet to youth summit in America

Irish Independent, 19 September, by Caroline O’Doherty

<https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/irelands-gretas-activists-take-mission-to-save-the-planet-to-youth-summit-in-america-38513023.html>



SKY IS THE LIMIT FOR ENTREPRENEUR MARY



In June, Sky has announced its second cohort of Women in Technology Scholars, awarding five talented women, two of whom are Irish, a total of £125,000 (€140,000) to accelerate a business idea that harnesses technology innovation.

Of the two successful Irish women is **Mary Murphy** (BSc Government 2). At 20 years of age, Mary is the youngest Sky Women in Tech Scholar (on far right of picture above). She designed and manufactured a sheep-marking gun with her sister to combat everyday problems she and her family faced on their county Mayo farm. Unlike the standard option available, the sheep-marking gun is a single-handed device, allowing the farmer to hold the sheep in one hand and mark it with the other. As part of the scholarship, Mary plans to continue engineering agritech products, including a GPS tracker system for sheep to prevent them being stolen or attacked by predators.

Mary is also a Quercus Innovation/Entrepreneurship Scholar and the winner of the 2019 UCC Student Entrepreneur of the Year.

Congratulations, Mary!

Work Placement Report from Áras an Uachtaráin

By **Thérèse O'Donoghue**

MSc International Public Policy and Diplomacy



Thérèse at Áras an Uachtaráin and, in the second picture, with Dr. Niall Duggan

I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to undertake my work placement as a Temporary Executive Officer at Áras an Uachtaráin from April to September of this year as part of my MSc in International Public Policy and Diplomacy.

Essentially, I was tasked with how to effectively aid the three presidential initiatives, beginning with 'Achieving Equality: Participation and Transformation'. Throughout the placement, I was placed in charge of co-ordinating a seminar on the subject of the Spanish Flu, working closely alongside the Deputy Secretary-General. I assembled a publication on the Spanish Flu seminar and I personally drafted the Presidential Foreword. I enhanced my research and time-management skills in the composition of forewords and speeches and I assisted protocol in the organisation and implementation of various events, including seven Garden Parties.

Certainly, the work experience was unique and thoroughly enjoyable, something which was made possible because of all the staff and my tranquil surroundings in Phoenix Park. I believe that work placements such as that which I conducted in Áras an Uachtaráin, strengthen the learning acquired in academic studies and are a necessary and practical component. My experience has proven beneficial and positive and I am certain that the skills and experience I have acquired will be transferable to future work opportunities.

Remembering when the Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow MP, visited us in 2013

The Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture – the showcase event each year for the Department of Government and Politics – was delivered in 2013 by the Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow MP. He spoke about the relationship between the legislature and the executive and his words are extremely relevant today.

He said, ‘A legislature which simply passed laws but had no interest in or influence over the implementation of those Acts and policy more generally would be an unimpressive institution. A serious legislature must be capable of intensive scrutiny and have the capacity to challenge the executive. Ministerial appearances in the House should be a courteous nerve-wracking experience.’

We have posted the full lecture by John Bercow on our web site, as follows:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/government-and-politics/news/the-speaker-of-the-house-of-commons-john-bercow-mp-philip-monahan-lecture-2013.html>



Picture: The then President of UCC, Dr. Michael Murphy, with John Bercow MP and Dr. Aodh Quinlivan in February 2013.



SPANISH RESEARCH COLLABORATION

Our Centre for Local and Regional Governance (CLRG) is set for a busy academic year 2019/2020. Over the summer, the CLRG welcomed **Professor Rosario Pérez Morote** from the University of de Castilla-La-Mancha in Spain. Rosario stayed with us for five weeks and conducted research into e-government and community participation. Ireland is one of Rosario's case study countries and the CLRG looks forward to continuing its collaboration with her.

Picture: Professor Rosario Pérez Morote with the Director of the CLRG, Dr. Aodh Quinlivan.

Public Lecture in Dublin – Sir Henry Campbell: From Parnellite to Pariah

On Tuesday 8 October, Dr. Aodh Quinlivan will be delivering a public lecture in the historic council chamber of Dublin City Hall. The lecture is entitled **Sir Henry Campbell: From Parnellite to Pariah**. There were two distinct parts to Henry Campbell's life. In the first part, he served as the loyal confidant and private secretary to Charles Stewart Parnell and was also elected as a Member of the House of Commons. Campbell supported his friend and party leader during the Parnell Commission of 1888-1889 and during the infamous divorce case, which followed Parnell's affair with Kitty O'Shea. After the demise and death of Parnell, Campbell was appointed as Town Clerk of Dublin Corporation, a position he held for 28 years. He was sacked in December 1920 for refusing to obey the decision of the Sinn Féin majority council not to submit the accounts of the Corporation to the Local Government Board for auditing.



**2020 – Two Books and the Fifth Annual
Public Lecture Series**

Two books will be coming out of the CLRG in 2020, both written by Dr. Aodh Quinlivan. *Vindicating Dublin: The Story Behind the Controversial Dissolution of the Corporation in 1924* will be published in the spring, through Dublin City Libraries and Four Courts Press. As the title indicates, the book chronicles the public inquiry which led to the dissolution of Dublin Corporation in 1924. The Corporation was suspended until 1930 when it returned, with Gerald Sherlock appointed as the capital’s first City Manager. The book has already received many favourable reviews, including:

‘A fascinating look at a little-known episode which reveals new insights into the history of the newly independent State. Essential reading for anyone interested in the development of the Free State, and local government in Ireland’ – **David McCullagh, Journalist and author.**

‘*Vindicating Dublin* provides an intriguing insight into the process of centralising political power in the new Irish state, a process which has resulted in Ireland having very weak local government, and particularly so in its national capital’ – **David Farrell, Professor of Politics, University College Dublin**

‘*Vindicating Dublin* reveals the tensions between newly-independent Irish Free State and Dublin Corporation which controlled the capital city – an interesting insight into the Irish relationship between national and local politics, and a hidden part of the history of modern Ireland and modern Dublin’ – **Mary E. Daly, Professor of Modern Irish History, University College Dublin**



The second book coming out of the CLRG in 2020 charts the political life of Donal Óg O’Callaghan. O’Callaghan is Cork’s forgotten Lord Mayor, being the third person to hold that office in 1920, following the deaths of his two predecessors, Tomás MacCurtain and Terence MacSwiney. O’Callaghan was Lord Mayor of Cork until 1924, during which time he was also Chairman of Cork County Council. He spent much of this period on the run, initially from British authorities and, after the Treaty, from the Irish! He also served as a TD in 1921-1922. The target is to launch the book about O’Callaghan in the council chambers of Cork City Hall on 4 November 2020 – 100 years since he was elected Lord Mayor on 4 November 1920.

- ◆ A highlight on the calendar for the CLRG is the Annual Public Lecture Series. It’s hard to believe it, but the 2020 series will be the fifth we have run. The event will take place in February or March 2020, with details to be announced in due course. As part of the proceedings, the CLRG undergraduate and postgraduate awards will be presented.

BEN DALTON O'SULLIVAN

Cork County Councillor and BSc Government Student!



Last May, while still in BSc Government I, Ben Dalton O'Sullivan became the youngest person to be elected to Cork County Council representing the Greater Carrigaline area. Running as an Independent, Ben ran a shoestring campaign armed only with eight posters, a handful of leaflets and one canvasser most nights.

Ben spoke to **Cork Beo** (<https://www.corkbeo.ie/news/local-news/corks-youngest-councillor-elected-16340868>) about the moment he found out he had been elected. 'It was just shock. You canvas and you talk to people and you ask them to give you their number 1 and then I just couldn't believe that people had actually given it to me. It was just shock that they chose me to represent them'.

Ben hopes to be a voice for the elderly and resolve issues that he encountered while canvassing. 'I think older people have been forgotten, older people who might be carers and are looking after a loved one. One woman in Carrigaline was in her 70s and she was caring for her daughter and when she applied to the council for a Housing Adaptation Grant they gave her a big load of forms and that was it. It is people like her who would like to have a councillor that they can go to and ask for help, it will be good for them'.



In the same electoral area as Ben, the Green Party's **Catriona Reid** very narrowly missed out on a seat in Cork County Council. Catriona is a new first year student on the BSc Government and Political Science. The *Carrigdhoun Weekly* newspaper conducted an interview with Catriona in advance of the local elections –

<http://www.carrigdhoun.com/index.php/carrigdhoun/news-feature/2019-elections-catriona-reid-green-party-candidate>

The interview was conducted by Ciaran Dineen, BSc Government IV.

Introducing the departmental administrative staff for 2019/2020



For your undergraduate administrative queries, **Kasia Pyrz** (left) and **Irene Halpin** (right) are available to help you. They are based in ORB 2:50. Kasia has responsibility for the BSc Government and Political Science and Irene for students taking Politics through the Bachelor of Arts. Their respective e-mail addresses are:

kpyrz@ucc.ie

I.Halpin@ucc.ie



Our Senior Executive Assistant, **Stefanie Wojtek** (right) is the department's Postgraduate Programme Administrator. She is based in ORB 2:48 with **Dearbhail O'Callaghan** (left) who is our Work Placement Manager.

Their respective e-mail addresses are:

s.wojtek@ucc.ie

dearbhail.ocallaghan@ucc.ie

A Night at the Theatre Discussing Politics!



On Thursday 19 September, **Dr. Emmanuelle Schön-Quinlivan** and **Dr. Philip Murphy** of the Department of Government and Politics led the post-performance discussion of 'The Alternative: A Play for Ireland' in the Everyman Theatre.

The play is a thought-provoking one with a fascinating premise:

- What if Ireland was still part of the United Kingdom?
- What if Home Rule had passed?
- What if there was no War of Independence? No Civil War?
- No partition?
- What if the island had only one soccer team?

The year is 2019 and it is the eve of the Referendum. British Prime Minister Ursula Lysaght is returning to her hometown of Dublin to convince voters to Remain. With the threat of chaos in the streets, and personal conflict behind the scenes, the final debate is set to begin at BBC Dublin: Should Ireland leave the UK?



Dr. Mary C. Murphy continues her outstanding work on Brexit



Dr Mary C. Murphy of the Department of Government and Politics has been awarded an **Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Chair for 2019-2022**. This award is focused on 'Regionalising and Strengthening the EU Debate in Ireland' through teaching, research, public engagement and outreach.

She has also been very active on the issue of Brexit, with the following **op-ed pieces**:

- 'Brexit political efforts too little, too late and too limited', *Sunday Business Post*, 22 September 2019 <https://www.businesspost.ie/opinion/brexit-political-efforts-little-late-limited-452861>
- 'Northern Ireland only backstop may be Johnson's last option', *Sunday Independent*, 8 September 2019 <https://www.independent.ie/opinion/comment/mary-c-murphy-northern-ireland-only-backstop-may-be-johnsons-last-option-38477419.html>
- 'Brexiters bear all the blame for the Irish border impasse', *Foreign Policy*, 22 August 2019 <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/08/22/brexiters-bear-all-the-blame-for-the-irish-border-impasse-backstop-brexit-ireland/>
- 'Brexit is pushing divided Britain to the verge of a breakdown', *Sunday Independent*, 28 July 2019 <https://www.independent.ie/opinion/comment/mary-c-murphy-brexit-is-pushing-divided-britain-to-the-verge-of-a-breakdown-38351871.html>

During the summer, Mary spoke at two festivals – Magill Summer School and West Cork History Festival. Last Friday she spoke at the Centre for Cross Border Studies 20th Annual Conference in Dundalk. All of these talks concerned Brexit. Busy times ahead!

Art O’Leary – New Adjunct Professor in the Department of Government and Politics

Senior civil servant Art O’Leary has been appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Government and Politics. Art is currently the Secretary General to the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins. Prior to his move to Áras an Uachtaráin, Art was Principal Officer in the Department of the Taoiseach. He has also served as secretary to the Convention on the Constitution.

Born in December 1966, he was educated at Ard Scoil Rís, Marino, and later received an MBA from Henley Business School. He joined the Department of Social Protection in 1984 and the Houses of the Oireachtas in 1990.



Art O’Leary (left) with Tom Arnold (right) at the launch of the report by the Convention on the Constitution in April 2014.



The Head of the Department of Government and Politics, **Dr. Clodagh Harris**, was a member of the Academic and Legal Advisory group of Ireland’s Constitutional Convention (2012-2014), which was served by Art O’Leary as secretary.

Its role was twofold: to assist in the deliberative design and format of the Convention and conduct primary research on the Convention’s deliberative processes and outcomes.

Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Writing Competition 2019/2020 Academic Year



This essay writing competition celebrates the life and spirit of Patrick O' Sullivan, who tragically died on 3 March, 2001. Patrick should have been amongst our first group of students who graduated in September 2003. Patrick had a deep interest in politics and he also possessed a great sense of humour. We try to combine both of these elements in this annual essay competition.

The Politics of Food



500-word essay, 1-2 pages

Please supply your name and class year on a separate cover page

NO need to adhere to academic assignment guidelines re: referencing etc.

Essays can be as light-hearted and as irreverent as you wish!

Submit to: Aodh Quinlivan, Room 2.54, Department of Government and Politics,
or electronically to a.quinlivan@ucc.ie

DEADLINE: - Wednesday 30 October 2019

The writer of the winning essay will receive the **Patrick O' Sullivan Perpetual Shield**
at the 21st Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture

NOTE: This competition is open to all under-graduate students of our BSc Government and Political Science degree and to Arts, Commerce and international students studying Government modules.

Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Writing Competition – who will the 18th winner be?

YEAR	WINNER
2002	Andrew O'Leary
2003	Donal Holohan
2004	John O'Sullivan
2005	John O'Sullivan
2006	Cormac Cahill
2007	Ian Mawe
2008	Niall Duggan
2009	Andrew Aherne
2010	Declan Keating
2011	Pádraig Mac Consaidín
2012	John Somers
2013	Padraig Mac Consaidín
2014	Don O'Neill
2015	Luke Foley
2016	Emily O'Regan
2017	Nathan Board
2018	Nathan Board
2019	?



Top (left to right) – Declan Keating (2010) and Luke Foley (2015)
 Bottom (left to right) – Emily O'Regan (2016) and Nathan Board (2017)

20 Years of the BSc Government 1999-2019



The BSc Government (now BSc Government and Political Science) is 20 years old! Our first intake of students was in 1999, and our first graduating class was in 2003. Over the coming months we plan to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the programme, which came to fruition mainly due to the hard work of two men – **Professor Neil Collins** and **Dr. Séamus O'Tuama**. Neil is presently the Dean at the Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University, in Kazakhstan. He continues to have close links to the Department of Government and Politics at UCC, where he holds the position of Emeritus Professor and teaches two online modules on political corruption on the BSc programme. Séamus is the Director of ACE (Adult Continuing Education) at University College Cork, Ireland's oldest University centre for the delivery of adult and continuing education. His current research is focused on applying theories of respect, recognition, dignity and rights in the field of adult education.

CK122 – 20 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

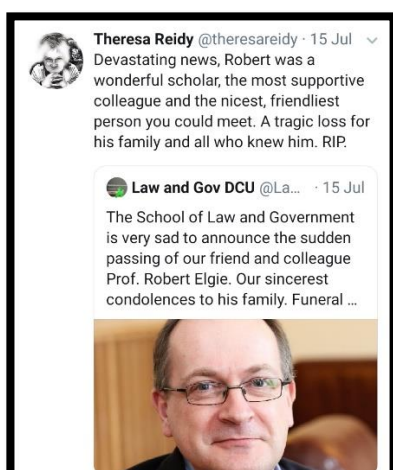


Robert Elgie 1965-2019



Picture (30 March 2017) – Dr. Aodh Quinlivan, Professor Patrick O’Donovan, Dr. Emmanuelle Schön-Quinlivan and Professor Robert Elgie, at a symposium organised by Emmanuelle about the French presidential election.

We were extremely sad this summer to learn of the untimely passing of our political science colleague in DCU, Professor Robert Elgie. Robert was a great friend of the Department of Government and Politics at UCC and he was rightly recognised as a global figure and leading authority in comparative politics. Robert enjoyed many standout moments in an exceptional career - he was the founding head of the School of Law and Government at DCU and the founding co-editor of the journal *French Politics*. His work on semi-presidentialism, presidential power and French politics was legendary and will continue to enlighten students and scholars alike for many years to come. Rest in peace, Robert.

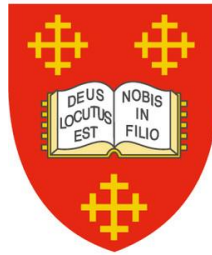


The eulogy delivered by DCU’s Gary Murphy, about his friend and colleague, Robert Elgie, is at this link.

https://www.dcu.ie/law_and_government/news/2019/Jul/Robert-Elgie-1965-2019.shtml

Prestigious Fellowship for Dr. Laurence Davis

Dr. Laurence Davis of the Department of Government and Politics has won a visiting fellowship to Mansfield College (Oxford). This highly competitive award attracts applications from across the globe. Securing it reflects the high regard in which Laurence's work on Utopianism and Anarchism is held. Laurence will be working primarily on his *Grounded Utopias* manuscript during his time in Oxford (January – July 2020).



**MANSFIELD
COLLEGE**
OXFORD

PhD Award for Anne Gannon

On 16 September, Anne Gannon – a doctoral student in the Department of Government and Politics – successfully passed her Viva oral examination, subject to minor revisions to her thesis. Anne undertook her PhD on a part-time basis over six years and was supervised by Dr. Emmanuelle Schön-Quinlivan and Dr. Aodh Quinlivan. Anne's research examined changes in the Irish university sector over the period from 2008-2014 and she used three case studies – University of Limerick, NUI Galway and Trinity College Dublin. Anne's Viva was chaired by UCC's Professor Cathal O'Connell and her three examiners were Professor Tony Bovaird (Birmingham University), Dr. Bernadette Connaughton (University of Limerick) and Dr. Clodagh Harris (University College Cork).

Congratulations, Anne, for all of your hard work over the past six years.

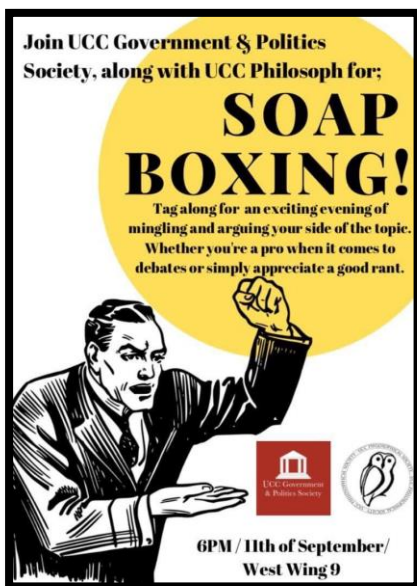


**Institutional Change in the Irish
University 2008-2014: an
examination through the lens of
institutional logics**

Anne Gannon
Department of Government & Politics, UCC



Students, get involved in the Government and Politics Society this year. There's a great committee in place and lots of super events are planned. The society has already organised one very successful event this year – Soap Boxing took place on 11 September and a fantastic time was had by all.



There are still places up for grabs on the committee for 2019/2020. Three interview positions are open, as follows:

- ⊗ Political Liaison Officer
- ⊗ *Government & Politics Online* Review Editor
- ⊗ Academic Officer

If you are interested in these positions, send an e-mail to politics@uccsocieties.ie by Friday 27 September.

Also, remember to follow the society on Twitter - @uccgovpol.