

COMHIEWS Issue 8: November 2014



navigate stories

Welcome to the latest edition of our CoMH Newsletter

- Blue September Cancer Awareness Month
- 2. Dental Students' Outreach in Ghana a great success
- 3. First Photographic Exhibition for Medical Student
- 4. The first online Masters in Public Health launched
- 5. Dr Dawn Farrell awarded an HRB Cochrane Fellowship
- 6. CoMH Recognition Awards

Other News



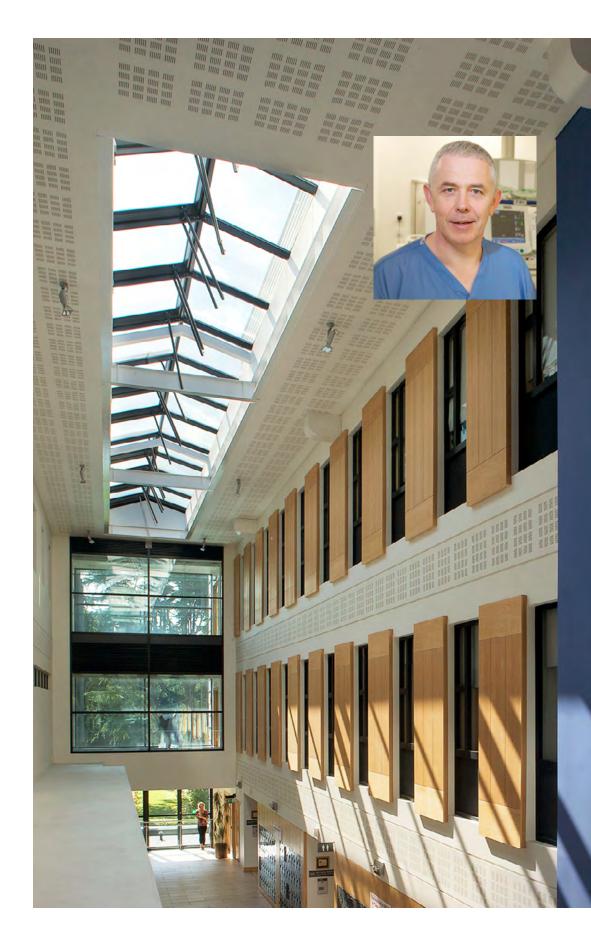












Dear Colleagues

I want to update you on progress of three strategic goals of the College of Medicine & Health:

Five in Five: We are focused and committed to developing and growing five research themes to institute status. The College of Medicine & Health Executive has signed off on new governance arrangements for all research units. These proposals have been developed by the Vice President for Research and Innovation. We anticipate that they will be considered and hopefully approved by the UMTO at its next meeting. This sets a framework in place which will allow research themes to have appropriate structures to grow, expand and maintain the ambition and energy they have shown.

Lifelong Learning: We welcome the appointment of Dr Teresa Barbosa who has just started as Director of Graduate Education. This is a key post for the College of Medicine & Health. Teresa will work with all schools in the area of lifelong learning. At College level, the academic leadership for lifelong learning and CPD is delegated to Professor Mary Horgan, Vice Head for Clinical Affairs.

Academic Healthcare Centres: The South/South West Hospitals Group, working closely with UCC, is starting to put a shape on its management and leadership structures. Over the course of the coming months, all clinical services will directly engage with the Leadership Team and we anticipate that future plans, proposals or service developments will all be framed within the broader setting of the South/South West Hospitals Group.

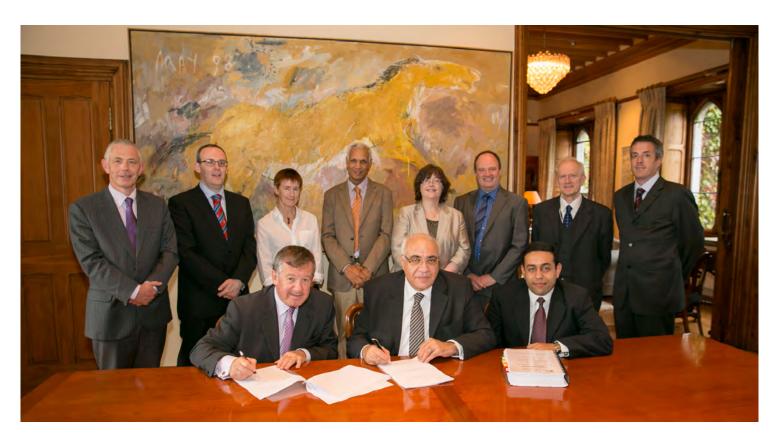
John R Higgins

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Head College of Medicine and Health



UCC PARTNERS WITH FUTURE UNIVERSITY IN EGYPT





The official ceremony for the signing of a Cooperation Agreement between UCC and Future University in Egypt (FUE) was recently held at UCC. Professor Ebada Sarhan, President of FUE and Professor Michael Murphy, UCC, signed an agreement whereby the School of Pharmacy, UCC will support the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmaceutical Industries, in the delivery of an enhanced BSc Pharmacy degree programme by FUE in Cairo.

www.ucc.ie/en/pharmacy/news/fullstory-497991-en.html

Pictured left, back row (I-r): Professor John Higgins, Head of College of Medicine and Health; Professor Stephen Byrne, Head of School of Pharmacy, UCC; Professor Caitriona O'Driscoll, Professor of Pharmaceutics, UCC; Professor Kamal Sabra, Future University in Egypt, Cairo; Professor Anita Maguire, VP for Research and Innovation; Mr Paul O'Donovan, Academic Secretary; Mr Michael Hanna, College of Medicine and Health, Emeritus, UCC; Dr Brendan Griffin, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy, UCC. Front row (I-r): Dr Michael Murphy, President of UCC; Dr Ebada Sarhan, President of Futures University in Egypt, Cairo; Mr Mostafa Mohamed Hassanien, Third Secretary, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Dublin.

Pictured right, back row (I-r): Professor Kamal Sabra, Future University in Egypt, Cairo; Mr Michael Hanna, College of Medicine and Health, Emeritus, UCC; Dr Brendan Griffin, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy, UCC. Front row (I-r): Dr Ebada Sarhan, President of Futures University in Egypt, Cairo; Professor Caitriona O'Driscoll, Professor of Pharmaceutics, UCC; Professor Stephen Byrne, Head of School of Pharmacy, UCC.

THE FIRST ONLINE MASTERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH



The Online Masters in Public Health was recently officially launched at Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, College of Medicine and Health, UCC. This new degree programme, hosted by the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, is the first and only wholly online Masters in this discipline to be offered on the Island of Ireland. The programme provides professionals, whom already have an undergraduate degree with a flexible approach to learning. Colette Cunningham, Online Education Co-ordinator says: "Our online MPH has already generated international interest. We have enrolled students who are based in Australia, Africa and Ireland, each with varying academic and professional backgrounds."

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-497965-en.html









Photos. Far left top (I-r): Rebecca Dennehy and Sharon Cadogan. Far left lower: Staff and students of the Online MPH. Centre top (I-r): Professor John O'Halloran, Vice President, UCC, Katherine Neville, Ali Khashan and Maura Smiddy. Left: Professor John O'Halloran. Above (I-r): Colette Cunningham, Ivan Perry and Rose Walsh. (Photos: Gerard McCarthy)



Dr Anne Moore with microneedle patches on her hand. (Photo: Tomás Tyner)

UCC RESEARCH HELPS MALARIA VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

Researchers at UCC have developed a microneedle-based patch that results in increased vaccine-induced protection against malaria infection using lower doses of vaccine in pre-clinical testing. The lead researcher, Dr Anne Moore, visited Silicon Valley to meet venture capitalists and leading technology companies with a view to commercialising the research.

The microneedle-based patch also overcomes one of the main problems with this type of vaccine, which relates to overcoming pre-existing immunity to the vaccine. The scientists combined two vaccine technologies to determine if immunity could be further enhanced and the research suggests that using a microneedle patch would overcome the need to make and use multiple different vaccine types to induce protective immunity to some of the world's biggest killers. This could have significant consequences on the costs and logistics of vaccination.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-495520-en.html



Professor Noel Caplice, UCC with the medical

UCC DEVICE TO HELP CORONARY DISEASE

In what promises to be a major step forward in the treatment of coronary disease, UCC's Centre for Research in Vascular Biology has developed a new device that promotes the bypass of arterial obstructions, potentially removing the need for major surgery.

Worldwide, there are approximately three million open-heart coronary bypass and peripheral artery bypass operations each year. These procedures involve major surgery with inherent risks of anaesthesia, ventilation, surgical trauma and potential complications such as kidney failure and wound infection. Around 20% of all patients requiring surgery are unable to undergo such bypass procedures because of the poor status of their arteries or co-existing illness that would make the risk of surgery too great.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-494170-en.html





Pictured (I-r): Dr Olivia O'Leary, Dr Daniela Felice and Professor John F. Cryan

UCC NEUROSCIENTISTS INVESTIGATE WHY SOME PEOPLE CAN RESIST STRESS

Scientists based at the Department of Anatomy & Neuroscience and the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre in UCC have identified a novel molecular mechanism that determines how the brain responds to chronic stress. It is well known that severe or chronic stressful life events can increase susceptibility to developing psychiatric disorders such as depression. However, many other individuals remain resilient to such negative effects of stress. Thus, scientists are working hard to understand the mechanisms in the brain that determine whether we succumb or resist the negative effects of stress.

Professor John Cryan and Dr Olivia O'Leary, together with their PhD student Daniela Felice and their colleagues have shown that certain receptors in the brain play an important role in determining how we respond to different types of stress.

Their research was published in the prestigious international journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-500879-en.html

ROISIN GREANEY

UCC medical student Roisin Greaney has recently completed a study on 'Drugs Associated Homicidal Deaths'. She will be presenting the study as a poster at the RCPI Faculty of Public Health Medicine Winter Scientific Meeting in Dublin in December 2014.



Roisin Greaney

Roisin talks to us about her study:

This is a study I conducted whilst on my medical fourth year elective in the Department of State Pathology in Dublin. I worked under the supervision of both Professor Cassidy the State Pathologist and Dr Curtis the Deputy State Pathologist.

The research looked retrospectively at the proportion of victims who had substances in their system at the time of death, whether illegal, legal or prescribed drugs. All homicidal deaths over a five-year period of 2008 until 2012 were included, with exclusion criteria being accidental deaths, misadventures, suicides or negative toxicology results.

The results of my study showed that 38% of homicidal deaths had positive toxicology findings post mortem. There was a massive male dominance in the cohort, with males representing 87%.

There was a wide range of substances identified across the 109 positive study samples, with Benzodiazepines and Barbiturates the most commonly abused. Gunshot wounds were the cause of death for close to 50% of the cohort.

The majority of the sample was within the age range of 41 years and over, differing from other studies that emphasize younger populations at the highest risk.

UCC AWARDS CEREMONY

To celebrate staff and students, UCC held an Awards Ceremony on Thursday 9th October 2014 in the Aula Maxima. The following members from the College of Medicine and Health were recognised for their hard work:

- Ms Kathryn Neville,
 College of Medicine and Health Leadership Award
- Professor Ivan Perry,
 Department of Epidemiology and Public Health Leadership Award
- Dr Karen McCarthy,
 Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy –
 Award for Excellence in Teaching 2013/14
- Dr Nora McCarthy (School of Medicine), Nuala Walshe and Sinéad O'Brien (School of Nursing and Midwifery) – Award for Research into Innovative Forms of Teaching 2014/15
- Dr Ali Kashan,
 Department of Epidemiology and Public Health –
 Research Supervisor of the Year
- Ms Aoife McGillicuddy,
 Pharmacy (Supervisor Dr Laura Sahm) UCC SRF PhD Scholarship
- Ms Caroline Hurley,
 Epidemiology and Public Health
 (Supervisor Professor Joseph Eustace) –
 UCC SRF PhD Scholarship.









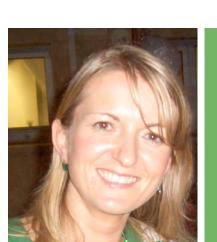






Pictured at the UCC Awards Ceremony receiving their awards from Dr Michael Murphy, President, UCC are: (1) Ms Kathryn Neville; (2) Professor Ivan Perry; (3) Dr Karen McCarthy; (4) Dr Nora McCarthy and Nuala Walshe; (5) Dr Ali Kashan; (6) Ms Caroline Hurley; (7) Ms Aoife McGillicuddy. (Photos: Gerard McCarthy)





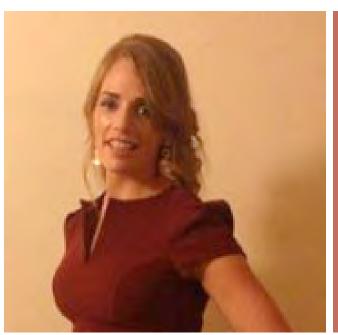
Dr Ciara O'Toole awarded an HRB Cochrane Fellowship

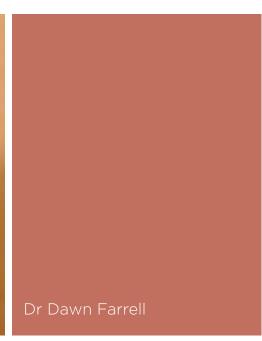
Dr Ciara O'Toole

this review.

tions in health care. The aim of the decision makers and researchers. Fellowship is to build capacity on

The school of Clinical Therapies in the island of Ireland in conducting UCC has won their first HRB Cochrane systematic reviews for inclusion in Fellowship. Dr Ciara O'Toole from the the Cochrane Library. To date, 107 Department of Speech and Hearing Fellows have been funded by the will begin her review of 'Parent train- HRB and HSC R&D Division at a cost ing to promote spoken language in of approximately €5 million. There preschool children with Down syn- have been a number of Fellowships drome' in January 2015. Ciara worked awarded to the College of Medicine for many years as a speech and lan- and Health, but this is the first award guage therapist with children with for the Department of Speech and Down syndrome before coming to Hearing Sciences which was estab-UCC. She will be working with a group lished in 2003. The Department has of local and international researchers, extensive experience in conducting as well as service users to produce and publishing Cochrane systematic review in various areas of speech and language therapy practice, and Cochrane Reviews are full-text sys- it is hoped that this review will be tematic reviews, which provide an a valuable source of information for overview of the effects of interven- those receiving therapy, as well as for





Dr Dawn Farrell awarded an HRB Cochrane Fellowship

Dr Dawn Farrell from the School of Nursing and Midwifery was awarded a Cochrane Fellowship from the HRB to undertake a Cochrane Review on Interventions for fatigue in inflammatory bowel disease. The co-reviewers include: Professor Fergus Shanahan, Director of Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre, UCC; Professor Christine Norton, Chair in Clinical Nursing Practice Research, Kings College London; Professor Lars-Petter Jelsness-Jørgensen, Health Sciences, Østfold University College, Norway; Dr W. Czuber-Dochan, Research Fellow, Kings College London; and Professor Eileen Savage, School of Nursing & Midwifery, UCC.



Pictured (I-r): Professor Finbarr Allen, Dr Mairéad Harding, Dr Makiko Nishi and Maria Tobin

Professor Finbarr Allen Winner of IADR Research Award

Professor Finbarr Allen from Dental School and Hospital is the first recipient of the 'IADR Unilever Social Entreprenuer Approach to Change Oral Health Behaviour Research Award'.

Professor Allen and his team will receive an award up to \$75,000 for the research entitled 'Electronic-based Personalized Dental Education for Caries Prevention in Disadvantaged Populations: A Randomized Control Trial.'

IADR President Professor Helen Whelton says: "IADR is excited to partner with Unilever on this new research award and recognise Professor Finbarr Allen. Given the global burden of oral diseases and the worldwide inequalities, new, innovative research approaches are sorely needed and the IADR is very grateful for Unilever's generous support in an area that is often overlooked by traditional funding agencies. It is our hope that this award funding will allow Professor Allen to further his research to improve oral health for the public."



Pictured (I-r): Carol Sinnott (GP), Marsha Treacy and Eimear Keane

Carol Sinnott awarded Early Career Researcher Prize

The Departments of General Practice and Epidemiology & Public Health were well represented at this year's Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Social Medicine, held in Keble College, University of Oxford.

Carol Sinnott, Dept of GP, was awarded an Early Career Researcher prize for her high scoring abstract "Resolving Conflicts in the Multimorbid Consultation: How do GPs balance diseases, drugs and the views of other doctors?"

Marsha Treacy and Eimear Keane (both Dept of Epidemiology and Public Health) were also noted for their high scoring abstracts "Prevalence of diabetes and related complications in a nationally representative sample of adults over 50 years in Ireland" and "Multilevel influences on overweight and obesity in 8-11 year old Irish children" respectively.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/gradschool/prizes/fullstory-499871-en.html



Above: Leigh-Anne Hayes, student with Dr Eileen O'Leary, Department of Chemistry, UCC who received her award in the presence of USI President, Laura Harmon (left), Minister for Education and Skills, Ms Jan O'Sullivan TD, Patron of the National Forum, Professor Mary McAleese and Chair of the Forum, Professor Sarah Moore (right), at a special ceremony in Dublin Castle on Tuesday, September 30th. Photo by Shane O'Neill/Copyright Fennell Photography 2014

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY LECTURER RECOGNISED AS A TEACHING HERO

Dr Eileen O'Leary from the School of Pharmacy and Department of Chemistry at UCC has been recognised as a Teaching Hero by her students in the inaugural National Teaching Hero Awards.

The awards were established by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in partnership with the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) and other student bodies to recognise and celebrate students' experiences of great teaching throughout all higher education institutions.

Teaching Heroes were nominated by students and the fifty three national award winners were selected by local student working groups which identified up to two teaching heroes from within their institution. The identification process used in each institution was informed by guidelines that focused on merit and learning impact.

www.ucc.ie/en/pharmacy/news/fullstory-500639-en.html



Laura Sahm

Laura Sahm awarded the CoMH Travel Bursary

Laura Sahm was awarded the College of Medicine and Health Travel Bursary 2014-2015 worth €5000 to undertake research on 'Management of fever and febrile illness in children' at the School of Pharmacy, University of Copenhagen, Denmark in July-August 2014.

Laura talks to us about her study:

Correct management of fever and febrile illness in children is not well understood in the population despite fever being one of the most common childhood conditions treated by parents. Many caregivers find the task overwhelming, resulting in concern and anxiety. Every year there are numerous cases of unintentional over- and under-dosing of children with antipyretics. This study describes the perspectives of parents of young children with fever. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with parents, in Copenhagen, Denmark in July and August 2014. Of 24 parents approached, 21 (87.5%) parents of 21 children participated. Reasons for non-participation were parental time constraints. The average interview duration was 8 minutes and 52 seconds. There were 12 female and 9 male parents interviewed. Five themes emerged from the data: concern; help-seeking behaviour; knowledge; management and initiatives.

This work has been submitted to the International Health Services Research and Pharmacy Practice (HSRPP) Conference for 2015 and a manuscript is currently being drafted.



Pictured: Rebecca Matthews (left), LloydsOnlineDoctor with Sarah Marshall, O'Sullivan's Pharmacy

UCC GRADUATE YOUNG PHARMACIST OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to School of Pharmacy graduate, Sarah Marshall, for winning the 2014 LloydsOnlineDoctor Young Pharmacist of the Year Award!

Click on link below for Irish Pharmacy News article.

http://issuu.com/pharmacynewsireland/docs/ipn_august_lores_web/38?e=6203947/8998407



Dr Martina Kelleher

Dr Martina Kelleher Winner of SSRDG Poster Competition

Dr Martina Kelleher of the Dental School and Hospital won the Poster Competition at the SRRDG (Specialist Registrars in Restorative Dentistry Group) meeting in London. Dr Kelleher's work on 'Clinical performance of root surface restorations in older adults' was supervised by Professor Finbarr Allen and Dr Frank Burke.



Medication Optimisation in Multimorbidity

Dr Carol Sinnott and Professor Colin Bradley, Department of General Practice hosted a successful inaugural meeting on Medication Optimisation in Multimorbidity in the Glucksman Gallery, UCC.

The meeting provided a forum for information sharing, with lively open floor discussion throughout the day, helping to tease out issues and potential solutions in research on this complex area of general practice.

The costs of the meeting were met by a grant obtained by Dr Sinnott from the Irish Research Council on foot of her soon to be published work exploring general practitioners decision making about prescribing for patients with multiple morbidity.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/gradschool/prizes/fullstory-499873-en.html





Pictured (I-r): Professor Colin Bradley, Dr Carol Sinnott and Dr Martin Duerden. (Photos: Tomas Tyner)









CUDSH Workshop

The Clinical Governance Committee of Cork University Dental School and Hospital recently held a training day for all staff in Brookfield. This day is part of a clinical governance continuing initiative to inform and educate UCC staff in the Dental School, who also work under contract to the HSE in preparation for the anticipated assessment by HIQA, estimated to place before the end of 2016.

During the day participants considered issues relating to the development of an appropriate consent policy for CUDSH, utilising the national consent policy as a template. Ms Anne Duffy from the State Claims Agency gave a thought provoking presentation in relation to Open Disclosure. Participants also gave feedback relating to the eight Quality Assessment and Improvement themes designed by the Quality and Patient Safety Directorate of the HSE. This has been work under progress since the last clinical governance session in October 2013.





DERVLA HOGAN

Dervla Hogan has been appointed as Department Dervla holds a Master's Degree in Occupational Health, Manager in the Department of Epidemiology and Safety and Ergonomics from National University of Public Health for a 12-month period since 1st Septem- Ireland, Galway (NUIG) and a Bachelor's Degree in ber 2014. Dervla is responsible for co-ordinating and supervising the operation of all administrative and stages of completing her PhD Thesis in the area of support functions in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health.

Since October 2010, Dervla has worked with in various research and research administration roles in UCC. Prior to joining UCC, Dervla worked as an Environmental Health and Safety Consultant with Chris Mee Safety Engineering (CMSE) in Cork for three years, initially as part of the in-house team and latterly as an associate trainer and consultant.

Physiology from UCC. Dervla is currently in the latter Occupational Health focusing on work-related musculoskeletal disorders in employed and self-employed Chartered Physiotherapists and Physical Therapists.

Mouth Cancer Awareness Day a Success!





Cork Dental School and Hospital held a successful awareness and screening day as part of the National Mouth Cancer Awareness Day. Over 300 patients visited the Dental School and Hospital for screening on the day. Staff and students from the Dental School and Hospital worked hard to ensure all patients were screened in a professional and timely manner. A big thank you to Cork Camogie player Leanne O'Sullivan for her support and visiting on the day!

STUDY DAY

A successful joint Obstetrics and Haematology Study Day, sponsored by Leo Pharmaceuticals, recently took place in Cork University Hospital.

Speakers included Professor John Higgins, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Head of College of Medicine and Health, UCC, Dr Niamh O'Connell, Consultant Haematologist, National Centre for Hereditary Coagulation Disorders, St. James's Hospital, Dublin, Dr Kevin O'Regan, Consultant Radiologist, CUH, Dr Fionnuala Ni Ainle, Consultant Haematologist, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin, Prof Beverley Hunt, Thrombosis and Haemostasis, St. Thomas' Hospital, UK, Dr Carmen Regan, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital, Dublin, Dr Susan O'Shea, Consultant Haematologist, CUH, and Dr Des Murphy Consultant in Respiratory Medicine, CUH.









BLUE SEPTEMBER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Graduate Entry Medicine students from UCC supported the Blue September Cancer Awareness Month in Brookfield Health Sciences Complex. Blue September is an international campaign that promotes prevention and early detection of cancer in men.













DENTAL STUDENTS' OUTREACH IN GHANA







The project began with a year-long fundraising initiative to finance the dental material costs, personnel, and facilitation of outreach dentistry in Kumasi, Ghana. This was achievable due to generous donations from several individuals notably the Irish Dental Association (Munster branch), Dental Protection, CUDSH staff, dental students, friends, family, and members of the community.

The Outreach was a success, screening nearly 4000 students between five schools and an orphanage for gross caries, periodontal disease, orthodontic need, and tooth fractures. Approximately 10% of those screened required emergency treatment, primarily Atraumatic Restorative Treatment, and extractions. Many were also referred to the local dental hospital for cleanings, thorough orthodontic assessment and aesthetic anterior composite build-ups for chipped teeth.

Another major component of the outreach was dental education, engaging children in classrooms about the aetiology of dental disease, how to prevent it and answering their questions. The experience was certainly eye opening and somber. There is much to be gained from a cultural and academic exchange.



International BSc. Nursing Studies Students (Hons) arrive in UCC

Seven International students from China, India, Namibia and the United States have enrolled in UCC's 1 year BSc. Nursing Studies (non-EU) programme. The School of Nursing and Midwifery would like to extend a warm welcome to all students and wish them every success over the coming year.

Above (I-r): Seán Kelleher (International student recruitment coordinator for the School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC), Jing Cao (China), Gifi Shaju (India), Daly Darvy (India), Ancy Poul (India), Tom Joseph (India), Naomi Chisi (Namibia), Heather Dennehy (United States), Ciara McKernan (International Education Office, UCC)



Breakthrough Cancer Research Official Office Opening

Breakthrough Cancer Research, the official charity for the National Research Programmes administered by Cork Cancer Research Centre, has opened the doors to its new offices. This was accomplished with the help of long-time supporter, Sean Sherlock, TD, Minister of State at Department of Foreign Affairs with Special Responsibility for ODA, Trade Promotion and North South co-operation.

Pictured are Sean Sherlock, TD and Orla Dolan, Director of Breakthrough Cancer Research





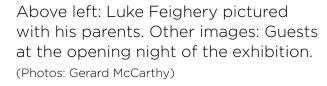


IRIS OF THE EAST

Iris of the East is medical student Luke Feighery's first exhibition of his photography. Luke studied Physiology in Trinity College Dublin and is now a Third-Year Graduate Entry student in Medicine.

The exhibition features a selection of portraits taken over the past three years in Asia; Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and most recently, India.

www.ucc.ie/en/jennings-gallery/fullstory-495789-en.html













NEW HORIZONS Translational Medical Research Conference

The New Horizons Translational Medical Research Conference will take place Thursday 11th December 2014 in Western Gateway Building, UCC.

The conference will showcase the diverse range of translational research in the School of Medicine, UCC from Postgraduate Research, Post-Doctoral Research and Clinical Research. You will learn how state of the art research is advancing our horizons in translational research and providing new opportunities to optimise patient care.



