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Publications



Lancet Stillbirth Series



'Prep-For Med'



Dear Colleagues,

We are already well into 2016, and I am pleased to see both students and staff so full of energy and determination to take on the challenges of the New Year.

One initiative which has made great progress is the teaching of Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS). In May 2011, the College Council took the decision to incorporate VTS teaching into the curriculum for each undergraduate programme in the College. This was an unusual step as normally the curriculum is driven by developments in specific disciplines and the regulatory needs of the profession. However, the evidence for VTS was compelling with 'exposure to VTS significantly increasing observations made of patient images' (Klugman et al, Acad Med 2011). Prestigious Schools such as Harvard Medical have included visual arts education in their curriculum and have again found a measurable improvement in observational skills.

The College has been fortunate that a cadre of committed staff have worked hard to integrate VTS in its schools. These staff have also conducted research studies at School level the results of which have been presented and well received at international conferences. These studies validate the decision to deliver VTS teaching to students. This year, a cross disciplinary research study is underway and I await the outcome with interest.

The intent of VTS is to develop critical thinking, observational, language and literacy skills. I believe that introducing VTS has been one of the more satisfying and beneficial initiatives introduced in the College and that Louis Pasteur said it best in 1854 when he said 'In the field of observation, chance favours the prepared mind.' VTS is preparing our students well.

John R Higgins
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Head College of Medicine and Health



UCC ACKNOWLEDGES ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH INNOVATION HUB IRELAND



Professor John R Higgins, Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Head College of Medicine and Health.

UCC has welcomed the announcement by Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Richard Bruton, and Minister for Health Leo Varadkar regarding the establishment of Health Innovation Hub Ireland.

Health Innovation Hub Ireland (HIHI) supports the development of pioneering research and innovation healthcare projects by creating access to cutting-edge research and innovation for the Irish health service. By developing the next generation of leaders in healthcare and industry, HIHI has the potential to advance and transform health outcomes for patients by developing revolutionary solutions to medical problems; in addition to impacting on the health of the Irish economy by nurturing and supporting industry developments.

Health Innovation Hub Ireland will be headquartered in UCC with its partnering institutes being Cork Institute of Technology, NUI Galway and Trinity College Dublin. It is embedded within 23 hospitals nationally via the South/Southwest Hospital Group, Saolta University Health Care Group and Dublin Midlands Hospital Group, in addition to three clinical research facilities, based at Mercy University Hospital Cork, University Hospital Galway and St. James's Hospital Dublin. The Principal Investigator for the research consortium is Professor John R. Higgins, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology & Head of College of Medicine and Health UCC.

UCC's ASSERT signs Partnership Agreement with Mentice Sweden



Above: The signing of UCC's ASSERT and Mentice AB Foundation Partnership Agreement took place in the President's Office, UCC. Seated (l-r) Dr Michael Murphy, UCC President, Mr Lawrence D. Howell, Chairman, Mentice AB, and Mr Goran Malmberg, CEO & President, Mentice AB. Standing (l-r): Mr Dave Power, Centre Manager, ASSERT, Ms Audrey Huggard, Solicitor, UCC, Ms Nora Geary, Deputy Corporate Secretary, UCC, Dr Peter Kearney, Cardiologist, CUH, Ms Angela Crowley, Business Manager, ASSERT, and Professor Tony Gallagher, Director of Research, ASSERT. (Photo: Tomas Tyner)

UCC's ASSERT has signed an agreement with Mentice AB, Gothenburg, Sweden, a world leader in cardiovascular and endovascular healthcare simulation training. The announcement represents a substantial commitment to ASSERT by Mentice in a multi-million deal over a five year period. The collaboration will advance procedural skills training for all healthcare professionals by ensuring that medical training is effective and relevant.

Professor Anthony G Gallagher, Director of Research at ASSERT, has been the leading proponent for the conception, design and development of proficiency based training over the past 20 years. Ground breaking research in the US led by Professor Gallagher has proven that this method of training is superior to the 100 year old apprenticeship model for surgical training which has been seen as the long-standing gold standard worldwide. ASSERT will seek to combine sophisticated cutting edge simulation with the academic and practical implementation of training to proficiency, setting new and desired benchmarks in the procedural skills training arena, and ensuring that training is more than an educational experience, bridging the critical and largely unmet training need for the surgeons and physicians of today and tomorrow.

The common goal of Mentice and ASSERT is to deliver better and safer healthcare through the application of the latest technological capacities combined with academic excellence. ASSERT provides a complete set of education and training facilities including internal and external high fidelity simulation suites (operating theatres, wards and role players), e-learning laboratories, and a multifunctional laboratory suitable for cadaveric and part task training.

DR CIARA O'TOOLE RECIPIENT OF NATIONAL TEACHING EXPERT AWARD



On Thursday 10th December 2015, Dr Ciara O'Toole from the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, UCC was awarded a National Teaching Expert Award as part of Ireland's National Learning Impact Awards in Higher Education. The awards recognise expert teachers who are models of excellence in teaching and whose knowledge about learning impact is strong and evidence based. Ciara was one of two winners from UCC and was nominated for her work on Problem Based Learning on the undergraduate curriculum in speech and language therapy.

The award identification process was rigorous and highly selective. Once submitted by their institutions, nominations were reviewed by a Teaching Expert Awards evaluation panel with reference to internationally acknowledged best practice. Nominees submitted teaching exemplars demonstrating their work and gave a live presentation outlining the learning impact that their teaching has for students. The exemplars and recorded presentation will be made available on the National Forum's website to share with other teachers.

Left: Dr Ciara O'Toole, (left) pictured with National Forum Chairperson Professor Sarah Moore.

INFANT NEWS

2015 was a great year for the INFANT (Irish Centre for Fetal and Neonatal Translational Research) Centre. November and December saw quite a few awards:



Above: Professor Geraldine Boylan and Professor Louise Kenny receiving the award. Right: Professor Mark Ferguson (SFI), Professor Geraldine Boylan (INFANT), Professor Louise Kenny (INFANT), Damien English (TD). (Photos: Jason Clarke)



SFI RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Minister for Skills, Research and Innovation, Damien English, announced Professor Geraldine Boylan and Professor Louise Kenny as the Science Foundation Ireland Joint Researchers of the Year 2015 at the SFI Science Summit. The award is in recognition of their global leadership in reducing the burden of disease and disability associated with the period just before and after birth. This award was a first in two respects: the first time it has been given as a joint prize, but also the first time it has ever been awarded to women.

www.infantcentre.ie/infant-directors-win-researchers-of-the-year-2015/





Professor Louise Kenny wins Irish Tatler Woman of the Year Award 2015 for STEM

Professor Louise Kenny was honoured at the Irish Tatler Women of the Year Awards ceremony on 7 November 2015 in recognition of her work on preeclampsia. Up to 70,000 women die each year as a direct cause of preeclampsia – a life-threatening condition that occurs during pregnancy. Premature babies are 10 times less likely to survive than full-term infants and are more likely to suffer brain injury. Preeclampsia is a complex condition, which is not yet fully understood. Prof Kenny is working to develop a clinically robust, predictive blood test for preeclampsia. If she and her team are successful, the test could dramatically reduce mortality rates among mothers and their babies.



Conference Ambassador

Prof. Geraldine Boylan

9th International Conference on Brain Monitoring and Neuroprotection in the Newborn

Delegates: 280 **Conference Value: €392K**

The 2015 conference in Cork achieved the highest number of abstracts submitted, highest number of attendees, delegates from 23 different countries. The conference will be returning to Cork in 2017 which is the first time a European venue has hosted this conference twice!

Whether you're Cork born, Cork bred or Cork in spirit you too can become a Cork Ambassador!

Contact us now for details:
Tel: 021 4318036 Twitter @CorkNeedsYou
www.corkconventionbureau.com/cork-needs-you



cork CONVENTION BUREAU

Professor Geraldine Boylan honoured as Association Ambassador of the year 2015

On 3rd December 2015, Prof Geraldine Boylan was honoured at the Cork Convention Bureau event in recognition of her bringing the International Brain Monitoring & Neuroprotection in the Newborn Conference to Cork in October 2015. Over 280 delegates attended the 3 day event. It was only the third time the biannual conference had ever been held outside of the USA and it was so successful, the organisers are hoping to return to Cork in 2017.



Cork Dentists Awarded HRB Funding

Congratulations to Dr Martina Hayes and Dr Paul Brady who were both awarded HRB KEDS (Knowledge Exchange and Dissemination Scheme) funding. Dr Martina Hayes was awarded this funding to promote evidence based oral healthcare for our older population. Dr Paul Brady was awarded the funding to increase awareness of developments in monitoring practices during intra-venous sedation.



Dr Elaine Kehily

Dr Elaine Kehily, Clinical Research Fellow in Restorative Dentistry in Cork University Dental School and Hospital was recently awarded the British Society of Periodontology Research Grant. This grant will help to support her research on dental implants. Dr Kehily's PhD supervisor is Professor Anthony Roberts, Department of Restorative Dentistry, Cork University Dental School and Hospital.



Above: Professor Lazelle Benefield from University of Oklahoma, USA addresses the graduates.

School of Nursing and Midwifery holds Presentation of Parchment Ceremony

The School of Nursing and Midwifery recently held the annual Presentation of Parchment Ceremony in the Aula Maxima, UCC. Over 130 graduates from eleven Post Graduate / Higher Diploma Programmes were presented with parchments. Professor Lazelle Benefield from University of Oklahoma, USA and Fulbright Scholar at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC was the Guest Speaker at the ceremony.



UCC CHECKS-UP TOMORROW'S DOCTORS

A hundred school children from across Ireland descended to the School of Medicine, UCC to attend the fifth annual 'Prep-For Med'.

This hugely, and increasingly popular programme, allows transition year pupils from across Ireland to experience both the life and the facilities available to medical students in the School of Medicine.

Accompanied by 50 career guidance councillors, the students were guided through Brookfield Health Sciences Complex and the FLAME anatomy laboratory, before being put through their paces in multiple teaching stations covering areas such as resuscitation, laboratory testing and anaphylaxis, allowing them to learn first-hand how skills are taught and delivered. The afternoon saw the group move to Cork University Hospital where Dr Margaret Bolster discussed the forensic examination of a crime scene, Dr Jason Van der Velde from West Cork Rapid Response Unit discussed Emergency Medicine, and Dr Matt Hewitt performed a live Caesarean Section via a video link which saw the birth of a baby girl.



(Photos: Tomas Tyner)

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-617230-en.html

ASSERT launches MSc in Technology Enhanced Learning for Health



Mentice AB VIST-C at the ASSERT Centre.
(photo: Jim McCarthy)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT



<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckx44/>



+353 21 420 5605

Prof Anthony G. Gallagher or Dr Patrick Henn



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pm7mpRd-urc>



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The aim of this programme is to enable successful graduates to have a good understanding of how the learning and practice of modern healthcare can be facilitated and augmented with the use of simple and advanced technologies.

The programme provides participants with appropriate learning opportunities and tools to acquire the knowledge and skills for Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) and a critical understanding of TEL in a healthcare context from research based practice. This MSc will enable graduates to successfully design, develop, implement and evaluate effective health care education, particularly incorporating the use of simulation techniques, supported by the appropriate application of TEL.

The MSc in TEL for Health will be delivered using a blended learning approach of e-learning and participation in workshops demonstrating the design and implementation of training, together with the assessment of training.

This programme is aimed at healthcare professionals (of all disciplines), educators, technicians and administrators from education and industry who have responsibility for the commissioning, design or implementation of 'learning' courses for healthcare workers. Applications will be considered from graduates of all disciplines.

Masters Degree in Dental Public Health – MDPH 2016-2017



Applications are invited for this 12-month taught masters degree programme, commencing in September 2016. The course is designed to facilitate health professionals in current employment with contact teaching hours, Thursday evenings and Friday all day. The curriculum prepares experienced health professionals to assume leadership roles as members of multidisciplinary teams and to be able to develop, implement and evaluate programmes which have an impact on the health of the population.

Subject areas to be covered include Public Health, Decision Analysis in Healthcare and Healthcare Financing, Applied Social Studies, Health Promotion, Preventive Dentistry, Health Service Structures and Management.

For informal discussion, please contact Dr Mairead Harding (+353 (0)21 4901103, m.harding@ucc.ie).

www.ucc.ie/en/dentalschool/news/fullstory-615897-en.html

NEW HORIZONS MEDICAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2015



The annual New Horizons Medical Research Conference took place recently in the Western Gateway Building, UCC. The conference showcased the diverse range of translational research from Post-graduate Research, Post-Doctoral Research and Clinical Research.

The day was divided into 3 sessions. Each session encompassed a stimulating mixture of oral presentations and lectures by prominent clinician scientists and academic staff. There was also a moderated poster session with 91 posters.

The conference was concluded with a prize-giving ceremony, where three awards were distributed for best poster and one award for best oral presentation. The poster prizes were presented to Shane Hegarty, Keelin Murphy, and Paul Ryan. Louise Daly from the School of Nutritional Science was the recipient of the Oral prize. Congratulations to all winners!

Above: Professor Mary Horgan, Dean, School of Medicine, UCC and Ms Louise Daly, School of Nutritional Science. (Photos: Emmet Curtin)

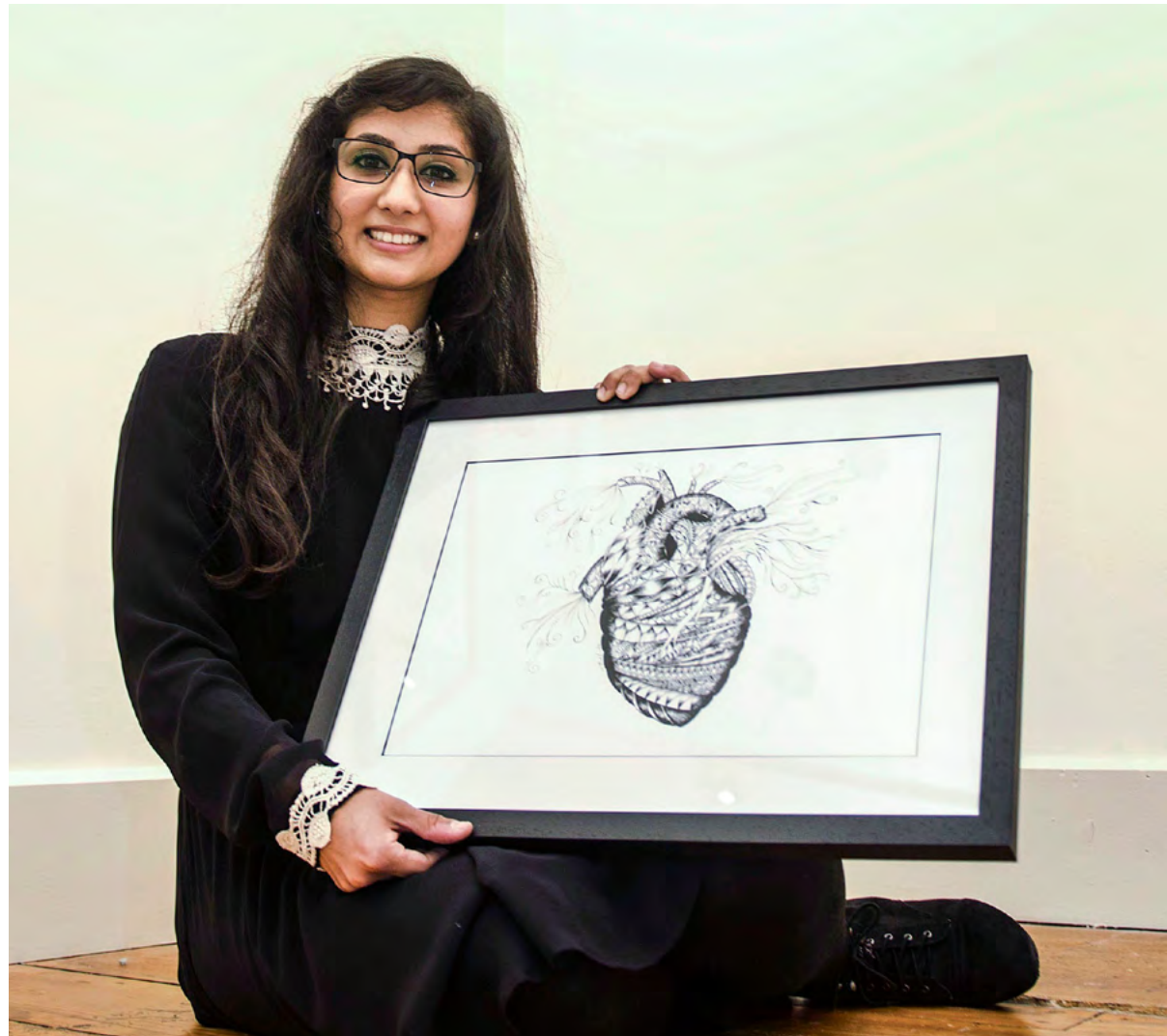


15th Annual School of Nursing and Midwifery UCC Research Conference 2015

The School of Nursing and Midwifery's 15th Annual Research Conference was recently held in Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, UCC with over 130 delegates in attendance. The conference programme was made up of contributions from leading academics and interdisciplinary practitioners as well as from early-career researchers.

Oral and poster presentations were diverse and included topics such as the use of robotics in caring for older adults and the healthcare professional's role in the war on terror. The conference also featured an innovative approach titled the 'Doctoral Dash', where doctoral students from around the country had the opportunity to present their doctoral research.

The Best Doctoral Dash oral presentation was awarded to Caragh Flannery, a HRB SPHeRE PhD Scholar, Population Health and Health Service Research Cork, on her PhD study titled 'Experiences of lifestyle management and support during pregnancy: a qualitative study of attitudes and experiences of pregnant women and healthcare professionals'. The poster prizes were awarded to Mary Reidy, Infection Control Nurse, Kerry General Hospital, for her study titled the 'Preparedness of Hospitals in the Republic of Ireland for an Influenza Pandemic, an Infection Control Perspective' and to Dr Alice Coffey and team UCC on their poster titled 'Gerontology: a future career choice in health and social care'.



Ms Kaumal Baig Mirza, 4th Year student from the Dental School & Hospital, UCC is one of the University's Quercus Scholars for 2015/2016. The Quercus Talented Students' Programme aims to support and promote excellence in academia, sport, creative and performing arts, active citizenship and innovation/entrepreneurship for both prospective undergraduate students and students already registered in UCC. Kaumal was awarded the Creative and Performing Arts Scholarship.

Kaumal Baig Mirza

Kaumal tells us a bit about herself:

1) Where are you from and what are you studying?

I was born in the UK, but grew up here in Cork. I'm currently in 4th year Dentistry in UCC.

2) What is your favourite thing about your course?

I love working with people and especially being up in the hospital. It's great to be around classmates, patients and all the amazing staff up in the Dental Hospital - there's a wonderful camaraderie and a feeling of belonging! I also love the practical side of things. After spending years studying out of books, it's great to have patients, work with my hands and learn some hands on skills - a lot more refreshing than just being in lectures all day.

3) Where do you see your degree taking you in the future?

A tough question! I'm not really sure myself. I'd love to use the degree to do some travelling - it's a fantastic opportunity which I would hate to miss out on! After that, I would love to specialise in something like oral surgery - it's definitely one of my favourite modules this year. I know I'd love to work in a hospital environment more than anything else, it's just brilliant to be around many people from different walks of life. Other than that, I guess I still have a lot of figuring out to do!

4) Parting words?

'The darkest hour of night comes just before the dawn' - The Alchemist



Lisa McSharry

Ms Lisa McSharry has recently been appointed as Research and Innovation Co-Ordinator at Mercy University Hospital (MUH). Lisa has been charged initially with collating a database of all research being undertaken at MUH and will provide assistance to any member of staff wishing to undertake a research or innovation project. Lisa comes to this position following a wonderfully diverse career. Having completed a BSc in Business from Dublin Institute of Technology, Lisa spent time in America before spending eight years as a respiratory sales and support coordinator which saw her travelling to hospitals across the Munster region.

MUH is the first hospital in the South/South West Hospital Group to appoint a Research & Innovation Co-Ordinator located at the hospital campus. This development has been made possible with the support of Professor Mary Horgan, Dean, School of Medicine, UCC and Professor Joe Eustace, Director of the Health Research Board Clinical Research Facility.



Eimear Keohane

Eimear Keohane (BSocSci, MiM) has been appointed Head of Development for the College of Medicine and Health.

With over 12 years' experience in senior fundraising and management roles, Eimear will lead the Development and Alumni function of the College of Medicine and Health. Bringing experience from national and international organisations, she will manage and grow the College of Medicine and Health's corporate, philanthropic and foundations portfolio, with the aim of supporting students, research programmes and interdisciplinary programmes affiliated with the College.

Eimear is a business masters graduate and a member of Fundraising Ireland and the British Institute of Fundraising.

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Tel: +353 (0)21 490 1576



Above: Professor Paul Fletcher and Dr Ciara O'Toole at the launch of Language Development and Language Impairment. (Photo: Emmet Curtin)

UCC ACADEMICS LAUNCH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT BOOK

For most children learning a language is an effortless achievement, yet for a minority it is a task fraught with difficulty. A new book launched by UCC academics Dr Ciara O'Toole and Professor Paul Fletcher aims to alter the way in which students and clinicians understand, and interact with children who experience such difficulties.

Language Development and Language Impairment offers a problem-based introduction to the assessment and treatment of a wide variety of childhood language developmental disorders focusing primarily on the initial stages of childhood development, the period during which the foundations for language development are grounded. The book also seeks to inculcate a process amongst students to discover the information they need to identify and discover development issues that a particular speech or language issue raises, which will enhance identifying and treating children.

The book is available from
<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470656433.html>.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-615550-en.html





MATERNITY SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Maternity Services Annual Report 2014 has recently been launched. It is the first consolidated annual report of the four maternity units in the South / South West Hospital Group encompassing a wide array of data on the maternity services for the year 2014. It is intended that this becomes an annual publication of accurate and reliable data that will be widely used by patients, clinicians, managers, media and members of the public.

Left: Professor John R Higgins, Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Head of College of Medicine and Health, UCC.

UCC CONTRIBUTES TO LANCETS 'ENDING PREVENTABLE STILLBIRTHS'



Above: Dr Keelin O'Donoghue and Daniel Nuzum at the Tree of Remembrance in CUMH. (Photo: Darragh Kane)

Researchers and Clinicians from UCC have contributed to the Lancet Stillbirth Series: Ending Preventable Stillbirths, which was launched globally on Tuesday 19th January 2016.

This series builds on the original Lancet Stillbirths Series published in 2011 which reviews international progress in the area, and shows what steps should be taken to end preventable stillbirths by 2030.

Dr Keelin O'Donoghue, Consultant Obstetrician, and Daniel Nuzum, Healthcare Chaplain, both from the Pregnancy Loss Research Group at UCC, are among the co-authors of one of the five seminal papers in the Series. Other group members Margaret Murphy and Sarah Meaney formed part of the Lancet Stillbirths High Income Countries Investigator Group that contributed to another of the Series papers. Formed in 2012, the Pregnancy Loss Research Group, led by Dr O'Donoghue, is based at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, UCC and Cork University Maternity Hospital (CUMH).

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-615661-en.html

UCC RECEIVES 30% OF NEW SFI RESEARCH FUND



Pictured (l-r): Professor Geraldine Boylan, INFANT, Mr Damien English TD, Minister for Research, Innovation and Skills, Professor John Wenger, Department of Chemistry, UCC, Professor Mark Ferguson, DG of SFI, Mr Richard Bruton TD, Minister for Jobs, Professor Paul Callanan, Department of Physics, UCC, and Dr Siobhán Cusack, Office for Research and Innovation, UCC.

www.ucc.ie/en/about/uccnews/fullstory-615262-en.html

University College Cork received €8,682,332 (30%) of the €28.8m for funding research infrastructure, as announced by Mr Richard Burton TD, Minister for Jobs, Mr Damien English TD, Minister for Research, Innovation and Skills, and the SFI on Tuesday 12th January 2016. UCC researchers are leading or involved in eight of the 21 chosen projects.

The funding will create research supports to enhance research and jobs in a variety of research centres and academic units in the University which include the INFANT Centre, the APC Microbiome Institute, the Tyn dall National Institute, IPIC, the Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre, the Marine Renewables Infrastructure Network, and the Irish Atmospheric Simulation Chamber (IASC) Facility.

This infrastructure funding was awarded competitively following rigorous international review to research groups where the research equipment and facilities are required to address major research opportunities and challenges, including partnerships with industry and international funders. This new infrastructure will ensure that Irish researchers continue to be internationally competitive, with access to modern equipment and facilities, which will enable them to be successful in securing future funding from leading companies and Europe, including Horizon 2020.



Pictured (l-r): John Bowe, Jacqueline Clune, Raphy Paul and Ciara Ennis

Doctorate in Clinical Dentistry (Orthodontics)

The Cork University Dental School and Hospital welcomes four new students to the DCLinDent (Orthodontics) programme.

This is a full-time 36 month course comprising of theoretical, laboratory, clinical and research components. The student is required to accumulate 270 credits, undertake a research project and submit a thesis for the degree. The programme is approved by the Irish Committee for Specialist Training in Dentistry and meets the educational requirements for the Membership/Fellowship in Orthodontics examinations of the Royal Colleges.



UCC & Glasheen Boys School open their eyes to VTS

What if teachers taught with questions rather than lectures and what if students were asked to reflect instead of regurgitate? In order to answer those questions, academics from UCC and Glasheen Boys' Primary School have combined to design and deliver the teaching and learning method Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) in Glasheen classrooms.

Successfully implemented in schools and cultural institutions internationally, VTS provides for open-ended discussions of visual art that significantly increases students critical thinking, language and literacy skills. VTS challenges the standard model of teaching by encouraging a 'reflection and response' style of learning. Designed by art educator Philip Yenawine from the Museum of Modern Art and developmental psychologist Abigail Housen from Harvard, VTS relies on children's natural ability to observe using pictures as the starting point for learning. The process has been proven to strengthen thinking skills, language development, confidence, and collaboration.

www.ucc.ie/en/jennings-gallery/vts/news/fullstory-616077-en.html



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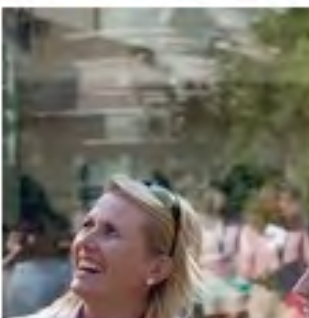
News and Events

- 19 JAN** Symposium on Evidence Synthesis in Health Professions Education »
 - 27 NOV** School of Nursing & Midwifery Annual Research Conference »
 - 19 NOV** SIVUH & UCC Dermatology Gynaecology Study Day »
 - 20 OCT** New Horizons Research Conference »
- [Read more »](#) [Read more news »](#)

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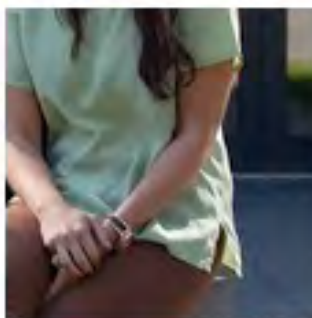
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CPD HEALTH

The College of Medicine and Health, UCC aims to support healthcare professionals and shape the reforms that are currently underway in the Irish Health System by providing programmes for lifelong learning and continuing professional development.

Following a consultation period, and the input of representatives from across the range of College disciplines, CPD Health was established as the entity that will facilitate the coherent integration of the CPD activities offered by the Schools, Departments and Research Institutes of the College. This will deliver a unifying CPD brand that is easily recognised and that will support delivery on this ambitious challenge.

The College is now delighted to announce the launch of the CPD Health website, which reflects the richness and diversity of the healthcare professions with which the College of Medicine and Health engages. This one-stop portal aims to provide clarity and easy access to all those wishing to avail of the personal and professional development opportunities that we provide. Additionally, the website will provide relevant information to those who wish to develop CPD specialised education and training courses. To this end the website includes the contact details of CPD champions within each School/Department who can be contacted directly to respond to any queries.

www.ucc.ie/en/comhcpd

UNIVERSITY STAFF EXPERIENCED WHAT THEY COULD DO RATHER THAN WHAT THEY COULDN'T DO



Dr Lynne Marsh from the School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC and Mr Paul Ryan from the Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA), recently organised a Staff Wheelchair Basketball League within the University Community. As part of their initiative to raise awareness of disability and to promote a more positive outlook to disability, the organisers were delighted that staff teams from across the University competed.

Staff from the Disability Support Service, Department of Chemistry, Department of Computer Science, School of Applied Psychology, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences of the University of Nottingham, COPE Foundation and the School of Nursing and Midwifery all supported the initiative.

The referee and facilitator Paul Ryan had staff under pressure competing in serious, set duration and competitive games of wheelchair basketball. As wheelchair users, staff experienced what they could do rather than what they couldn't do. Some of the photos captured display and give a sample of some amazing moments of determination, competitiveness and fun that highlighted ability rather than disability.



BROOKFIELD AUDIOLOGY CLINIC

Brookfield Audiology Clinic was established jointly by UCC and the HSE in September 2015. The dual purpose of Brookfield Audiology Clinic is to provide an audiology service for HSE clients in the South (Cork and Kerry region) and to provide hands-on clinical education for our audiology students in training. Audiologists provide a client-centred service in the diagnosis and management of hearing loss and balance disorders in the paediatric and adult population.

The MSc in Audiology in UCC is a two year full-time programme and is the first of its kind in the Republic of Ireland. The audiology programme was developed in response to a call from the Higher Education Authority (HEA) and the Health Service Executive (HSE) to provide clinical education in audiology following the National Audiology Review by the HSE in 2011. The aim of the programme is to develop the profession of audiology and thus bridge the gap between service needs and service provision.

In the Brookfield Audiology clinic, students are mentored and given feedback on their clinical and professional performance. The clinic facilitates gradual acquisition of clinical competencies and provides a link between classroom learning and clinical practice. There are currently 11 students in the first year of the MSc Audiology programme.