

# COMHIEWS Issue 24: May 2017



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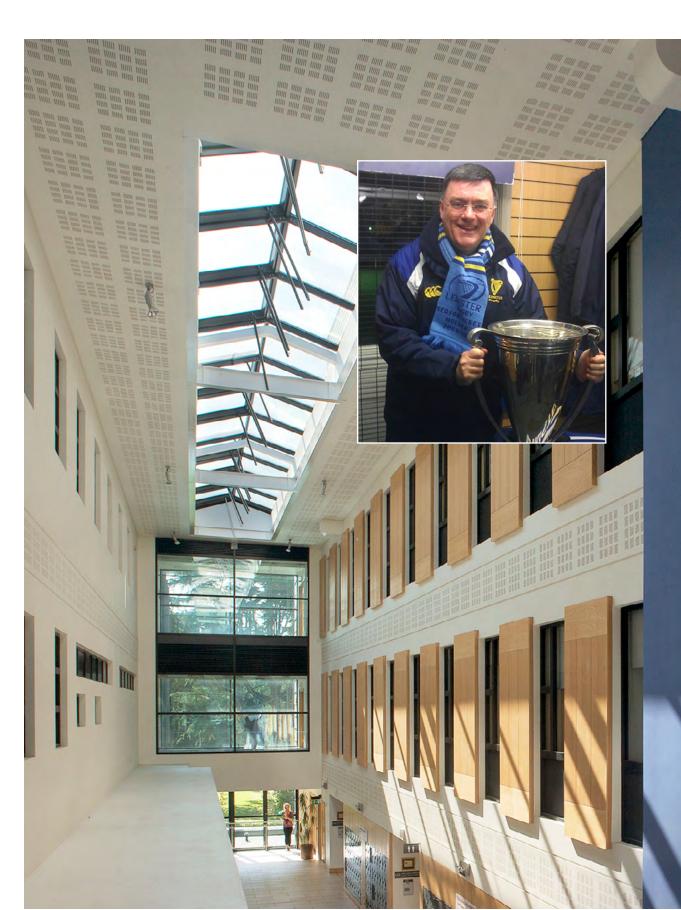






Course of the Year





Dear Colleagues,

We have come to the end of exam season and staff and students alike are slowly starting to unwind after a hectic but productive spring. We can now look forward to the forthcoming conferring ceremonies which mark the hard work and success of our graduands as they come to the end of their long journey as students.

The May edition of the newsletter highlights a number of achievements, new appointments and new partnerships that have been established in the past few months. For example, we can read about new animations that optimise care of lung disease patients at Cork University Hospital (CUH), which is a collaborative project among CUH, Health Innovation Hub Ireland, GSK and Lincor. This edition also features a number of outreach projects involving local primary and secondary schools, which is a great way of bridging the gap between our College and the Community.

Once again, I am delighted the see the broad range of activities our staff and students are engaged in and I would like to conclude by encouraging you all to keep up the good work!

Dr Francis Burke

Head of College of Medicine and Health

University College Cork

Headofcollege-comh@ucc.ie



Professor Patricia Kearney, Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, UCC.

# GUIDELINES FOR THYROID DISORDERS IN OLDER PEOPLE OUTDATED

According to current guidelines, nine of every ten women with the condition receive thyroid hormone tablets, typically levothyroxine, which has become the most prescribed drug in the USA and the third most prescribed drug in the UK. A large 5-year European study now shows that the common treatment of this condition with levothyroxine provides no apparent benefits, calling for a re-evaluation of the guidelines. The main results of the study were launched recently with a publication in *The New England Journal of Medicine* along with simultaneous presentation at the Endocrine Society meeting (ENDO 2017) in Orlando, USA.

TRUST (Thyroid Hormone Replacement for Subclinical Hypo-Thyroidism Trial), an international consortium, consists of experts in ageing, thyroid problems and vascular disease from around Europe. Professor Patricia Kearney, Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, UCC leads the Irish trial.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-756591-en.html





Above: PiNPoINT Investigator Team (Photo: Paul Sherwood Photography)

# Partnership Announced between INFANT & Global Partners to Explore Optimal Nutrition for Premature Infants

The INFANT Centre at UCC has announced the launch of the Personalised Nutrition for the Preterm Infant (PiNPoINT) Study. The study aims to develop software to aid personalised nutritional management of preterm infants who have a very low birth weight. Science Foundation Ireland will invest more than €1M in the project with further support coming from three leading international partners: Creme Global, Danone Nutricia and Fresenius Kabi.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-756822-en.html



Left: Mr Aidan Lynch, General Manager GSK, Professor Barry Plant, Consultant Respiratory Physician CUH, Dr Colman Casey, Director Health Innovation Hub Ireland, and Mr Pat O'Donnell Co-Founder and SVP of Patient Connectivity Lincor. (Photo: Gerard McCarthy)

# New Animations to Optimise Care of Lung Disease Patients Launched at CUH

An innovative new series of locally developed patient education animations that will accompany chronic lung disease patients on their care journey from hospital to home has been launched at Cork University Hospital (CUH). The animations will help to optimise the management of patients with respiratory diseases like Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), lung cancer, Cystic Fibrosis (CF) and interstitial lung disease, by providing them with information about their conditions at their fingertips. The project is a collaboration between the respiratory medicine teams at CUH, Health Information Hub Ireland, University College Cork, GSK and Lincor, a global leader in patient engagement technology.

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-762437-en.html

## OATMEAL, HEALTHY BUGS AND A HAPPY HEART



Pictured (I-r): Dr Paul Ryan, APC Microbiome Institute, UCC; Professor Catherine Stanton, Leader of the research, APC Microbiome Institute and Teagasc Food Research Centre, Moorepark, Co. Cork; Professor Noel Caplice, Professor of Cardiovascular Science, Director of the Centre for Research in Vascular Biology and investigator APC Microbiome Institute, UCC. (Photo: Cathal Noonan)

APC Microbiome Institute scientists have confirmed that gut microbes play a role in heart health. They also demonstrated that we should consume porridge regularly to get the benefits of oat beta glucan for heart and gut health.

The study, published in Microbiome, found that consumption of oat beta glucan not only lowered blood cholesterol in mice, it also helped keep body weight down and benefited the gut microbiota, the community of microbes living in the intestines. Oat beta glucan altered both the composition and functionality of the gut microbiota. The level of butyrate, a type of fatty acid produced by gut bacteria which has been previously shown to protect against diet-induced obesity in mice, was elevated in this study. Oat beta glucan also acted as a prebiotic, and increased bacteria in the gut which are being explored by others to treat obesity.

Plant sterol esters, which too were tested in this study, were found to be the most effective in lowering blood cholesterol and helping to avoid plaque build-up, but caused the greatest weight and adiposity gains and adversely affected the gut microbiota composition of the mice.

http://apc.ucc.ie/oatmeal-healthy-bugs-happy-heart/



## Graduate of the Year 2016: Seán Whelan Intercalated Neuroscience graduate

Congratulations to Seán Whelan, 4th year medical student and BSc (Intercalated) Neuroscience Graduate 2016 who has been awarded the College of SEFS (Science, Engineering & Food Science) Graduate of the Year 2016 Award. Top-ranked students in each discipline are eligible for the award which recognises both academic excellence and extracurricular activities, and the recipient is selected by a panel from across the College.

www.ucc.ie/en/medical/news/fullstory-756596-en.html



# Professor John F Cryan elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy

Congratulations to Professor John F Cryan, Chair of Department of Anatomy & Neuroscience, UCC who has been elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, having been identified and recognised by the Academy as one of Ireland's world class researchers. Professor Cryan said that he is delighted and honoured to be elected to the Academy and looks forward to participating in their activities, supporting scholarship and promoting awareness of how science and the humanities enrich our lives and benefit society. Professor Cryan will be formally welcomed as a member of the Royal Irish Academy at an Admittance Ceremony on Friday 26th May 2017.

www.ucc.ie/en/anatomy/news/fullstory-750612-en.html



# The Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Awards



Pictured above: UCC Winners (I-r): Dr Richard Scriven (Department of Geography), Dr Karen Matvienko-Sikar, Dr David McNulty (Department of Chemistry), Professor Mary Daly (President of RIA), Dr Helen Lynch, Dr Sheena McHugh and Dr Leonard Browne.

The Royal Irish Academy's Charlemont Grants scheme was established in 2007 and is aimed at early career postdoctoral researchers. Each year up to 30 awards are granted and the awards serve to promote excellence in all areas of Irish scholarship and to facilitate international research. This year, seven UCC staff members were recipients of a Charlemont Grant Award, with four awards being distributed to staff members from the College of Medicine and Health:

#### **Dr Leonard Browne**

Department of Epidemiology and Public Health

**Project Title:** Analysing Physical Activity Patterns Of An Irish Cohort Of Middle Aged Men And Women: A Functional Data Analysis Approach

Travelling to: Columbia University, New York, USA.

#### Dr Helen Lynch

Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

Project Title: Playgrounds of inclusion: A study of social inclusion,

disability and the environment

**Travelling to:** Lulea University of Technology, Lulea, Sweden.

#### **Dr Karen Matvienko-Sikar**

Department of Epidemiology & Public Health

Project Title: Determining the most feasible and acceptable methods of

cortisol sampling in pregnancy

**Travelling to:** University of Westminster, London, UK.

#### **Dr Sheena McHugh**

Department of Epidemiology & Public Health

**Project Title:** Characterising a Falls Prevention Intervention for Older People to Improve Implementation Success in the Health Service

Travelling to: Gillings School of Global Public Health, North Carolina, USA.



## Cork University Dental School & Hospital Staff Awards



Above: Dr Eimear Hurley from CUDSH was awarded the RSCI/IADR (Irish Div) Postgraduate Clinical Prize 2016. Pictured (I-r): Dr Christine McCreary, Dr Eimear Hurley, and Professor Pat O'Shea.



Above: Ms Phil Scannell from CUDSH recently graduated with a Masters in Teaching & Learning in Higher Education in February 2017.









Congratulations to CUDSH staff Dr Anne Hegarty, Dr Derek Mulcahy, Mr Keith Evans and Dr Mairead Harding who were awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in February 2017. They are pictured here with the President of UCC, Professor Patrick O'Shea.

# **CoMHnews**

## **GRADUATIONS**

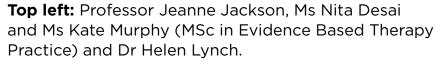
Congratulations to our Graduates from the College of Medicine and Health, who recently graduated at UCC's Conferring.



**Above:** Dr Sean Kelleher graduates with a Doctorate of Nursing. Pictured here with Dr Brendan Noonan, Professor Josephine Hegarty and Professor Eileen Savage. (Photo: Gerard McCarthy)







**Top right:** Issha Ismail and Aini Abbullah from Malaysia (MB BCh BAO in Medicine). (Photo: Gerard McCarthy)

**Above:** Megan Kiely, Adam Kiely, Marion Kiely (MSc in Occupational Health) and Niamh Hayes. (Photo: Gerard McCarthy)

**Right:** Dr Liam Fanning, School of Medicine, received a DSc in Immunovirology. (Photo: Gerard McCarthy)









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### **CUDSH HIGHLY COMMENDED AT PLAIN ENGLISH AWARDS**

Congratulations to Cork University Dental School and Hospital (CUDSH), who were highly commended at the recent National Adult Literacy Agency's Plain English Awards in Dublin for their patient information leaflet on "Oral Lichen Planus". Dr Catherine Gallagher, Lecturer/ Specialist in Oral Surgery, CUDSH, accepted the award on behalf of CUDSH.

Pictured above (I-r): Dr Catherine Gallagher, CUDSH, Ms Fiona Hegarty, South Tipperary Speech & Language Services, Mr Declan Black, Managing Partner of Mason, Hayes & Curran law firm -Sponsors of the National Adult Literacy Agency's Plain English Awards, and Ms Catriona Heraghty (South Tipperary Speech & Language Services).

### LEE PRIZE FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Grainne Moran and Emma Ryan, first year students in the Department of Occupational Sciences and Occupational Therapy, were shortlisted in UCC PLUS+ "Lee Prize for Civic Engagement" and were awarded €1,000 for their work on the Bishopstown Homework Club. There were five members of the club and each person will get €200 each. The "Lee Prize for Civic Engagement" is a new annual award from UCC which is offered to students who have made an outstanding contribution to the social, cultural or economic life of the region.

### DIPLOMA IN DENTAL **NURSING GRADUATION**



Congratulations to all who graduated with a Diploma in Dental Nursing this year. The graduation took place in the Aula Maxima in UCC on 14th March 2017.

Pictured above: Class of 2017



# UCC MEDICINE GRADUATE WINS HIPPOCRATES POETRY PRIZE

Congratulations to Dr Kathy D'Arcy, UCC Medicine Graduate (2003), who came first in the healthcare professional category of the Hippocrates Poetry Prize, an international award for poetry about medicine and healthcare. Dr D'Arcy is currently completing a Creative Writing PhD in the School of English, UCC.



#### **AOTI Ann Beckett Award 2016**

The Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy (OSOT) recently won a Highly-Commended award for their community collaboration project titled 'FROM DESIRE TO DESIGN'. This project was part of a final year undergraduate thesis by Chloe Carroll and Eimear Cagney, in collaboration with the UCC OSOT team: Dr Helen Lynch, Linda Horgan and Alice Moore. The project was established in 2015, when the OSOT Department at UCC and Gaelscoil Ui Riada primary school developed a partnership to support the development of an outdoor play space on their school grounds. A community engagement project was commenced to work together to explore the outdoor play needs of the school children. Children worked with the UCC team to participate in designing their play space, in line with best practice in children's rights to participate in matters that concern them. The result was an agreed plan of action and the new play space was built and launched formally in June 2016. The Highly-Commended award was presented at the National Occupational Therapy Conference, Limerick, April 2017, where the project was praised for its innovation and inclusive approach to design.

www.gaelscoiluiriada.ie/nuachtnews/cul-anti-oscailt-oifigiuil/?lang=en

# Dental School & Hospital Student Prize Giving







Above Top: **Ms Sarah Kelly** awarded the Colm O'Sullivan Gold Medal for Highest Overall Mark in Dental Hygiene Exams in both 1st and 2nd Year. Pictured: Sarah Kelly and Dr Gerry McCarthy, President, Dental Council.

Above: **Ms Jenna Howley** awarded the TePe Oral Hygiene Prize for Second Year Students with Highest Standard in Dental Health Presentation. Pictured: Jenna Howley and Dr PJ Byrne, President of the Irish Dental Association



Above Top: **Claire Lahiff** awarded the Eilis O'Mahony Award for Students with the highest mark in Dental Nursing. Pictured: Ms Mary Harrington, Claire Lahiff and Dr Michael Murphy, Former President of UCC.

Above: **David McDonnell** awarded the Academy of Operative Dentistry Prize for outstanding performance in Operative Dentistry 3rd Years. Pictured: David McDonnell and Dr Michael Murphy, Former President of UCC.

The Dental School & Hospital, UCC recently held its annual prize giving ceremony. The following students were presented with awards:

**Aoife Brouder** Chien Yen Tan Claire Lahiff **David McDonnell Dorothea Sarrouf Eimear Staunton** Elyssa Chan Gabrielle O'Donoghue Jenna Howley Kevin O'Connell Li Ying Mah **Linda Casey** Michael Nesbitt Niamh Moore Niamh Moore Nicholas Lubbe **Orla Harrison** Patrick O'Connor Rohshini Vennu Sarah Kelly **Shannon Godfrey** Sharon Moloney Sunil Persaud Yong Yong Foo



# Consultants Open Evening at ASSERT



(Photo: Clare Keogh)

www.ucc.ie/en/med-health/news/fullstory-750692-en.html

It was a case of "all hands on deck" for surgical and medical consultants as practical demonstrations took place at the world-class training and research ASSERT Centre, College of Medicine and Health, UCC.

The open evening was the perfect opportunity for several of Munster's leading figures in surgical and medical circles to experience practical training demonstrations covering ENT, Orthopaedic and Plastic surgical procedures in the simulated operating theatres of the Surgical Skills Lab at the Centre. The consultants then had an opportunity to practice the intricate handling required in a CATH lab while performing lifesaving cardiac and neuro procedures on the simulators. Finally, the pressures and demands of the Emergency Department and Operating Theatre were simulated in the high fidelity simulation suites before the "patient" was transferred to the mock ward for observation.

The facilities at ASSERT are second to none and include hi-tec mannequins, sophisticated medical equipment and role players which creates an immersive and true to life experience allowing participants to learn in a "safe" environment. Extensive AV/IT capabilities ensure that all interactions during the training scenarios are captured and the participants are fully debriefed regarding their performance.



# ADJUNCT APPOINTMENTS AND ADJUNCT CLINICAL APPOINTMENTS

The College of Medicine and Health recently celebrated their Adjunct and Adjunct Clinical Appointments in the Jennings Gallery, Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, UCC.

Adjunct appointments are made to those who make a significant ongoing contribution to University College Cork. The appointment process is rigorous and it is a testament to the recipients' professional achievements that they have been recognised in this way. All of the College's Adjunct and Adjunct Clinical Appointments have contributed, in different ways, to the success of the College. The College is proud of its linkages to the wider community and indeed depends on external colleagues to deliver excellent health-care programmes to the students and conducting research to address societal needs.



Caption: Dr Frank Burke, Head of College of Medicine and Health pictured with the Adjunct and Adjunct Clinical Appointments. (Photo: Emmet Curtin)



# Professor Nicole Müller appointed Head of Speech and Hearing Sciences

Originally from Germany, Nicole completed an MA in Bonn, and a D.Phil. in Oxford, followed by a postdoctoral scholarship in Belfast. She has held academic positions in England, Wales, the US, and most recently, Sweden. In 2014/15, she spent six months as a Fulbright Scholar at NUI Galway, conducting a field study on ageing, dementia and Irish-English bilingualism in residential nursing care. She took up her post in Speech and Hearing Sciences in UCC in February, moving to Cork from Linköping University in Sweden, where she held the position of Professor of Speech and Language Pathology. Her research interests are in clinical linguistics and phonetics, and largely centre around questions relating to the quality of life in communication, in the presence of ageing-related and adult-acquired impairments of cognition and communication, such as dementia, stroke-related aphasia, or acquired speech disorders. She is particularly interested in bilingual people and situations, including Irish. She is looking forward to building inter- and transdisciplinary partnerships in Cork.



## Professor Chris Lynch Joins CUDSH

Professor Chris Lynch (UCC BDS Graduate of 1999) has joined Cork University Dental School and Hospital (CUDSH) as Professor of Restorative Dentistry. Professor Lynch completed his specialist training in Cork Dental Hospital and passed the Intercollegiate Speciality Fellowship Examination in Restorative Dentistry in 2006. He was appointed a Senior Lecturer and Consultant in Restorative Dentistry in Cardiff in 2006, where he has worked for the past 10+ years. Professor Lynch successfully defended his PhD, on aspects of the microstructural arrangements within human enamel, in 2007. While at Cardiff, Professor Lynch has served as Head of Prosthodontics teaching since 2011. He has also been Head of the Learning & Scholarship Department for 3.5 years. In 2013, he was promoted to a Readership by Cardiff University, and in 2015 he received a promotion to Professor of Restorative Dentistry & Dental Education. CUDSH are delighted to welcome Professor Lynch to their team.

www.ucc.ie/en/dentalschool/news/fullstory-747455-en.html

## **CoMH**news

### **Amy O'Connor**



Amy O'Connor, 3rd Year Pharmacy student from UCC is a 2014 Quercus Sports' scholar as well as a UCC PLUS+ student. 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. The UCC PLUS+ Programme provides links to under-represented school-leavers and supports students entering UCC via the HEAR Scheme.

#### Q: Tell us a little about yourself?

My name is Amy O'Connor, I am 20 years old and from the north side of Cork City. I went to school in St Vincent's and am currently in my third year of Pharmacy in UCC. I play both soccer and camogie and was a member of the Irish soccer team and am currently a member of the Cork Senior Camogie team where I've been lucky enough to be part of two All-Ireland medal winning teams.

#### Q: Why did you choose UCC?

I chose UCC because I'm such a home bird. I love being at home with my parents and I've never wanted to leave Cork. UCC has always appealed to me and it was an ambition of mine to go here.

#### Q: What are your favourite things about you course?

I like many things about my course, even though it can be quite difficult at times. I love learning about new medicines and how things work. I also love being aware of different conditions.

# Q: Tell us a little bit about UCC PLUS+, and what your experience of it has been to date?

UCC PLUS+ has been excellent for me. I feel a lot of people think that because you come from a 'disadvantaged' area or school that you cannot succeed. Even in this day and age people still tend to look down on people who come from such circumstances. It is important that people from such circumstances are aware that it is OK to go to college and that they are just as capable as people from more well off areas or schools. UCC PLUS+ do an excellent job in promoting this and I am thrilled to be part of the programme where they offer students support in many different ways.

# Q: You're also a Quercus ScholarWhat's it like to be a member of such an exclusive club?

I'm very proud, lucky and honoured to be part of this programme. It allows me to combine both my sporting and academic life, with the help of many different individuals such as Declan Kidney, Michèle Power, Professor John O'Halloran and Christine O'Donovan. I'd like to thank them for everything they've done for me in the last number of years. The financial support is second to none and takes huge pressure off my parents each year.

#### Q: Do you feel that UCC PLUS+ and the Quercus programme help UCC stand out from other universities?

Definitely, I don't think any other university appreciates the diversities of their students the way in which UCC does.

#### Q: What's your plan for the future?

I'm not quite sure exactly, I'd love to work in a pharmaceutical company which allows me to continue playing sports as long as I can. I think I'd like to be a QP (qualified person) in a large pharmaceutical company, but that could change. It's hard to know at this stage, I could end up working as a community pharmacist, I have also thought about opening up my own pharmacy which could be an option in the future as I've always had a business mind.

The enormous success and continued growth of the UCC Plus+ Programme has been greatly assisted through generous donations. The University is very grateful for this support. To continue to grow and expand we need your help. If you would like to support this programme, please contact Eimear Keohane at eimear.keohane@ucc.ie or 021 420 5666.

# **CoMHnews**

# Success for Medical Student Societies at UCC Society Awards

The Medical Student Societies at UCC saw great success at this year's UCC Society Awards.

The following awards were distributed:

- UCC Emergency Medicine Society: Best New Society
- UCC Surgical Society: Best Repeat Event
- Surgeon Noonan: Best Charitable Society
- UCC Friends of MSF, two awards: Best Small Society and Best Community Engagement
- UCC Medical Society, five awards: Best Mental Health Promoting Event, Best Event, Best Promotional Video, Most Improved Society and Best Academic Society.

The Chairpersons of UCC Medical Society, UCC Friends of MSF and Surgeon Noonan were all awarded Bene Merenti Awards.













#### UCC's Newest Healthcare Student Society





The UCC Emergency Care Society is UCC's newest healthcare student society. The society was born from an interest group started by a number of medical students about two years ago. The group has since established itself as a forum for healthcare students across the disciplines with an interest in emergency and pre-hospital medical care. The aims of the society are to promote a greater understanding of emergency and pre-hospital care among healthcare students through knowledge attainment and skills practice while fostering a culture of multidisciplinary collaboration.

# UCC MEDICAL SOCIETY



Congratulations to UCC Medical Society who won Most Improved Society (large College) Award at BICS National Society Awards 2017.



# Iceland - ERASMUS Administrative Staff Mobility

Ms Regina Murphy, Manager of School of Nursing & Midwifery recently visited the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, School of Health Sciences, University of Iceland, Reykjavik, with the ERASMUS Staff Mobility Grant. During the visit, she met with administrative staff in the Faculty, School and University offices. Interesting and valuable information was exchanged relating to current challenges in both countries particularly in nursing and midwifery, administrative support operations using technology, market and recent economic impacts. Regina also had the opportunity to tour the Golden Circle to see glaciers, geysers, whales & dolphins and of course the Northern Lights.

www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/news/fullstory-756522-en.html



Pictured above: Gladys Aina-Duncan (General Nursing), Asia Garrod (Paediatric Nursing) and Ellis Vernon (General Nursing).

# Students from ERASMUS+ 2016-17 visit School of Nursing and Midwifery

Nursing students from the School of Health Sciences, University of Nottingham visit UCC's School of Nursing & Midwifery on an ERASMUS+ Traineeship.



Pictured (I-r): Mr Ronan Quirke, Teacher Practitioner, Mrs Meagan McGuire, Pharm D Candidate, Ms Stephanie Rednour, Pharm D Candidate and Dr Laura Sahm, Senior Lecturer, UCC.

# UCC School of Pharmacy and Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy Collaboration

As part of their mission to enhance the international appeal of the pharmacy degree programme, the School of Pharmacy at UCC is collaborating with the Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy, East Tennessee State University.

The School welcomed Meagan McGuire and Stephanie Rednour from the Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy who were part of the pharmacy programme from February to March 2017. During this time, Meagan and Stephanie had the opportunity to visit community pharmacies including Pharmacy First Plus (Douglas and Glanmire) and O'Shea's Pharmacy (Blackpool), as well as hospital pharmacies including the South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital, Cork University Hospital and Mercy University Hospital (MUH). During their visit to the MUH they took part in the Interprofessional Educational session with pharmacy and medical students, facilitated by Dr Aoife Fleming, Ms Elizabeth Barron and Dr Aislinn Joy.



# Cultural Competency in Nursing - Visit to University of British Columbia, Vancouver



Dr Angela Flynn, Lecturer in the School of Nursing & Midwifery, recently visited the School of Nursing at University of British Columbia. The School there hosts a number of research centres, including the Critical Research in Health and Healthcare Inequities (CRiHHI) centre. The CRiHHI offers an intellectual space to draw together those interested in critical inquiry regarding health and health care inequities. Their purpose is to foster a vibrant and supportive research environment for students, faculty and others engaged in such inquiry.

The focus of the collaboration with Professors Judith Lynam and Annette Browne centres on an exploration of cultural competence and cultural safety among Canadian and Irish undergraduate nursing students, and an examination of the theoretical approaches to, and the pedagogical strategies for, developing cultural competence/safety in nursing curricula.

Dr Angela Flynn was successful in her 2016 application to the College of Medicine and Health Research Travel Bursary which has funded her visit to the CRiHHI at UBC.



#### Reverend Dr Daniel Nuzum

Dr Daniel Nuzum, Perinatal Healthcare Chaplain working in the clinical services in the specialist perinatal bereavement team at Cork University Maternity Hospital, has recently published two papers from stillbirth research, namely 'The Spiritual and Theological Challenges of Stillbirth for Bereaved Parents' and 'Communication skills in Obstetrics: what can we learn from bereaved parents?'. The papers can be accessed online at http://link.springer.com/ article/10.1007%2Fs10943-017-0365-5 and http://imj.ie/communication-skillsin-obstetrics-what-can-we-learn-frombereaved-parents/



# Dr Patrice James

Dr Patrice James, Lead Researcher at the Oral Health Services Research Centre, UCC recently conducted a Cochrane Review entitled 'Chlorhexidine mouthrinse reduces plaque and can improve gum health in people with low levels of gingivitis', which has been published and can be accessed online at https://cochraneohg.wordpress.com/2017/04/04/chlorhexidine-mouthrinse-reduces-plaque-and-can-improve-gum-health-in-people-with-low-levels-of-gingivitis/



(Photo: Gerard McCarthy)

#### Professor Liam Kirwan Launches 'An Unholy Trinity'

'An Unholy Trinity: Medicine, Politics and Religion in Ireland', was recently launched in UCC's Jennings Gallery. Written by Professor Liam Kirwan, An Unholy Trinity is highly critical of the historic relationship between politics, the Church and the medical profession. Professor Kirwan's book argues that it is that connection which is the origin of the 'dysfunctional' health' service in Ireland today.

Professor Liam Kirwan is currently Professor of Surgery, Penang Medical College, Malaysia. Prior to that he worked for 35 years as a Consultant and Professor in Cork University Hospital. In addition to his service on innumerable administrative bodies and committees at both local and national level, Liam has worked in surgery in Ireland, Great Britain, the United States and now Malaysia. He is the author of 120 scientific papers as well as a previous book, Political Correctness and the Surgeon.



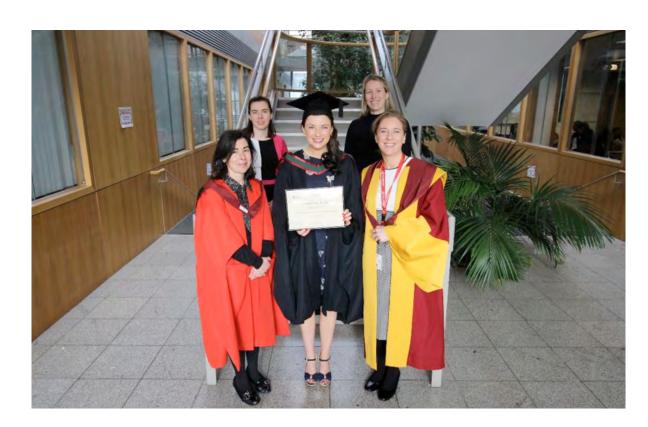
The first graduates of the online MSc in Occupational Health. Pictured (Back row I-r): Catriona Corish, Aine Molly, Brendan Deane, Dr Birgit Greiner, Academic Director, Michelle Syron, Online Programmes Coordinator, (front row I-r): Raymond Shelley, Leilia Ardnt and Brendan Deane. (Photo: Gerard McCarthy)

# Online MSc in Occupational Health

The Online MSc in Occupational Health is a wholly online part-time programme that is targeted at people working in the area of Occupational Health in a range of industries and sectors. The programme runs over 20 months and is structured to ensure consistent course participation and students participate in weekly discussions, applied case studies and formal academic work – while still allowing flexibility in timing of study. The programme's Academic Director is Dr Birgit Greiner and the Programme Coordinator is Michelle Syron.

For further information, please visit www.ucc.ie/en/ckx50/





## **MSc Clinical Pharmacy**

The MSc Clinical Pharmacy is a two-year, part-time distance learning programme specially designed for pharmacists employed in a healthcare setting, who want to enhance their clinical pharmacy knowledge and practice skills. The programme won Postgraduate Course of the Year in the Health Sciences category at the gradireland Higher Education Awards in 2016 and is currently accepting applications for the 2017 September intake.

For further information, please visit www.ucc.ie/en/ckx03/

Pictured above: The MSc Clinical Pharmacy Class of 2014-2016 graduated at UCC's Spring Conferring Ceremony on 24th February 2017. Pictured here is Sadhbh O'Leary who received the prize for achieving the highest aggregate score in the programme.



## MSc Pharmaceutical Technology and Quality Systems

This part-time programme is aimed at graduates working in the Pharmaceutical Industry who are planning a career as a QP or in Quality Management. It is approved by the HPRA in terms of fulfilling the educational requirements for QP status (as per EU Directive 2001/83/EC).

For further information, please visit www.ucc.ie/en/ckx05/

Pictured above: Graduates of the Masters in Pharmaceutical Technology and Quality Systems (I-r): Dr Brendan Griffin (Course director), Padraig Long, Deirdre Tynan, Jane Ann Fitzgerald, Carmel Kinsella. Absent from the picture: Aine Flavin, Taragh Keily, Clare Croke, Alison Boyle





Pictured above: Ms Claire Dorrity and Dr Angela Flynn

## New Interdisciplinary University-wide module launched

A new University-wide interdisciplinary module "UW0011 Inter-disciplinary Perspectives on Social Justice, Equality, Diversity and Health" was successfully launched at the end of January this year. The module breaks new ground as it is open to members of the public, staff and students and it can be taken for CPD credits, for 5 ECTS credits, or simply for general interest. With over 40 students attending the first lecture the joint module leaders, lecturers Ms Claire Dorrity (Applied Social Studies) and Dr Angela Flynn (Nursing & Midwifery), are delighted with the level of interest.

www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/news/fullstory-756581-en.html



## **Medical Surgical Nursing**

The School of Nursing & Midwifery, UCC is offering a PG Diploma and a PG Certificate in Medical Surgical Nursing that is designed to enhance the students' current knowledge and skills. The programme is relevant to every ward based nurse working in an acute hospital. It is practically based and has an immediate clinical impact. The majority of graduates have been promoted and many have progressed to complete a Masters degree.

For further information, please visit:

PG Certificate: www.ucc.ie/en/cku08/ PG Diploma: www.ucc.ie/en/ckw15/

# **CoMHnews**

## **HEADSTART FOR NURSING AND MIDWIFERY**



HeadStart for Nursing and Midwifery, organised by UCC's School of Nursing and Midwifery (SoNM), is a new programme that allows transition year and 5th year school pupils from a number of schools in the region to experience a day as a nursing and midwifery student. This year staff and students from the School of Nursing and Midwifery were on hand to rotate school pupils through a number of teaching stations including clinical skills, giving insight into the BSc programmes on offer in the School.









(Photos: Gerard McCarthy)

# **CoMHnews**



Above: Charlie MacSim on an orientation tour of the School.

# New arrival to School of Nursing and Midwifery - Laerdal SimMan® 3G

The School of Nursing & Midwifery would like to extend a warm welcome to Charlie MacSim, an advanced patient simulator with attitude, who recently joined Blake, Denni, Junior and baby MacSim. This investment, supported by Professor Eileen Savage, Head of School, will enhance the School's simulation based education for undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students.

www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/news/fullstory-748577-en.html

# ENDLESS CYCLES OF EVOLUTION?



What drives bacterial strain diversity in the gut? Although there are a number of possible explanations, a recent opinion piece published in TRENDs in Microbiology by Dr Pauline Scanlan, a Royal Society – Science Foundation Ireland Research Fellow at the APC Microbiome Institute addresses one potentially important and overlooked aspect of this unresolved question.

Dr Scanlan researches microbial evolution and ecology in experimental and natural populations. She is particularly interested in investigating the processes underpinning strain variation in the gut and in this opinion piece provides compelling evidence in support of a role for a specific process called antagonistic coevolution between bacteria and bacteriophages (phages) as a key driver of microbial diversity in the human gut.

http://apc.ucc.ie/bacteria-and-phages/