



UCC e-Newsletter

November 2020

Dear colleagues,

I hope that our Newsletter finds you well.

The first term of the 2020/2021 school year is behind us and the CAO season is upon us. As you know, the CAO system opened recently and our future students and their families are exploring the various options for third-level study.

We are looking forward to sharing why UCC has been voted #2 in the Irish Sunday Times ranking last week just after TCD. All 21 third-level education institutions in Ireland were measured on eight distinct criteria which included: student satisfaction levels, Leaving Certificate points achieved by incoming students, research profile, employment prospects for graduates, student to staff ratio, progression rate, expenditure on facilities and the academic achievement of their students. We are delighted to be in the top two universities in this ranking and it is a testament to how much we have to offer your students.

Here is a list of the activities and events that we have planned for you and our future students over the next 6 weeks:



Virtual Open Days: 4th & 5th December (Friday afternoon & all-day Saturday)

Open Days traditionally play an important role in the decision of a young person who wants to be sure that the university/college and their course choices feel right. Despite Covid-19 restrictions, our Open Days are still going ahead and they will be hosted entirely online. While we would have loved to have our prospective students on campus with us, this is the next best opportunity to get all the great insights they would anticipate at a regular university open day. We are busy working to design and deliver a great Open Day experience and you can expect subject information, subject talks, taster lectures, a chance to chat live with our expert academics, financial and support guidance. We will even have virtual tours of our beautiful campus and our world-class learning, teaching and research facilities.

We have listened to you and taken your feedback on board and the event will be held at times that best suit your students' availability, namely: **Friday afternoon 1pm-6pm on December 4th and again on Saturday December 5th from 10am till 4pm.** During the event we will also have a special dedicated virtual booth for you, Guidance Counsellors, where you will be able to chat live with our college specific recruitment team colleagues.

The platform will be quite easy to navigate and one of the best things about it is that everyone who registers for the event (students, you, parents) will be able to refer to all the materials and access the platform on an unlimited basis for several weeks after the event, allowing you and your students to visit and revisit the Open Day content when and where it suits and as often as you like. It will also be possible to leave questions in our virtual courses/subject booths after the event.

Please register and encourage all your senior cycle students and their families to register on [www.ucc.ie/openday].

UCC Undergraduate Prospectus



We have taken the opportunity to completely rewrite our Undergraduate Prospectus for the September 2021 cohorts. This project has taken us a little longer than we wanted, due to Covid -19 related delays, but we are confident that the wait will be worth it and that the feedback will be positive. Some of the changes that we are incorporating in it are a direct result of the consultation process we had with you in February this year. Printed copies of the Prospectus will be on the way to your school by the end of November. In the meantime, you and your students will be able to access our online PDF version and full details will be sent to you in due course. For now, you can view the non-course specific information about UCC which will appear in the Prospectus: [“We Are UCC”](#). Happy reading and we look forward to hearing your thoughts!

School Visits & Talks



As there are so many restrictions in place due to Covid-19 Level 5, most of you are looking for an online presence rather than in-person visits. Therefore, we have recorded a presentation for your students, and you can access it on our website or by clicking [here](#). However, it is still very important to us to have a real-time connection and dialogue with you and your students, which will complement our recording. Our recruitment team members are very happy to participate in live Q&As where we will answer any questions your students have after watching this presentation, especially in relation to course-specific queries. We have listed our contact details below and please don't hesitate to contact us to arrange specific course/college/topics live Q&As.

College of Business and Law: A.Wallace@ucc.ie

College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences: L.Brady@ucci.ie & selina.oregan@ucc.ie

College of Medicine and Health: M.Arnold@ucc.ie

College of Science, Engineering and Food Science: ruth.mclaughlin@ucc.ie

UCC PLUS+ Schools Outreach Co-ordinator: m.minihane@ucc.ie

Quercus Scholarship: quercus@ucc.ie

Scholarships and Prizes: scholarships@ucc.ie

General Recruitment, Open Days & Events: Lenka.forrest@ucc.ie & s.oherlihy@ucc.ie

We are planning a series of evening Q&As from January on and will keep you posted on the relevant dates to communicate with your students.

Nurturing Bright Futures



Nurturing Bright Futures is our brand new six module pre-entry online course which has been designed to equip students with the information they need as they prepare to transition into third-level education. It is intended to be an interactive resource and it creates space and opportunities for students to undertake self-reflective exercises. We hope it will stimulate conversations with their friends, family, teachers and with you, their Guidance Counsellors. We are planning to launch this course in mid-November, and it will come with a Guidance Counsellors' and Parents' Toolkit to help guide and students to maximise their return from this resource. Again, more details about this will be sent you in our next communication.

Digital One-To-Ones



We are continuing to offer digital one-to-ones to our future students. They can book an appointment with us by visiting www.ucc.ie/cao

Other Online Events

Prior to our Virtual Open Days, we will host an **'Exclusive Preview'** of the platform session for Guidance Counsellors. Please mark Tuesday afternoon/evening 1st December in your diaries. We will send you a link with the times and details on how to access a few days beforehand.

We will hold a similar session for **Parents & Guardians** on the Wednesday 3rd December (evening time).

Women in STEM Webinars

From Astronauts to Zoologists: A UCCSTEM degree leads to some of the most exciting and rewarding careers on the planet

Our understanding of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics is of fundamental importance to the way in which humankind, and this planet we call home, will develop during the 21st century and beyond.

Exciting careers await female graduates of UCC's College of Science, Engineering and Food Science. This Autumn, the College will host two short panel discussions where female scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians will talk about their fulfilling careers and the way in which they have had a significant impact in areas such as health and the environment.

“Consider what you are passionate about. A career in STEM is incredibly adaptable – you have myriad of directions to go in post-graduation. From cyber security to climate change, from photonics to astrophysics, sustainability to waste minimisation - STEM is the place to be right now”. Professor Sarah Culloty, Head of College.

This is a great opportunity for undergraduate and postgraduate students to learn more about career options after college. The 45-minute discussions will be online and you can register accordingly:

November 24th at 12.30pm: [To Attend Click Here](#)

December 8th at 6pm: [To Attend Click Here](#)



[Save the Date for Cork Discovers 2020](#)

We will be in touch soon again regarding the 'Exclusive Preview' of the Open Day virtual platform. Until then, please stay safe and do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Kind Regards,

The UCC Recruitment team