

UCC eNewsletter

April 2021



NAVIGATE STORIES

Note from the Head of Student Recruitment

Live Q&As for CAO Applicants – 5 May & 23 June

BComm Convention 2021 – Commerce CK201

Entrance Scholarships – UCC celebrates success

Nurturing Bright Futures Programme Launch

Technology to Make Learning Easier - Free Online Course/Resource

BA (Hons) in Home Economics and Business

BSc in Public Health Sciences

Irish Language Schools' Liaison Scheme

Note from the Head of Student Recruitment

Dear colleagues and friends,

I hope that our newsletter finds you all well. It is incredible to think what we have all collectively endured and achieved in the last twelve months. You have been providing a live line to many of your students during these challenging times, guiding them through the complex and ever-changing landscape. Thank you for that!

Thank you also for your patience in waiting for our printed Prospectus 2021 copies. They should have arrived in your schools together with a small fold out brochure listing requirements and a Nurturing Bright Futures booklet. We hope the Prospectus 2021 will still be useful to some of your students in 6th year when the CAO Change of Mind facility opens. We also have the **CAO portal** for this cohort. Next year's Prospectus 2022 will arrive in your schools in September/early October, hopefully prior to our **Virtual Open Day** pencilled in for **Saturday 9 October 2021**.

Please let me know what you and your students thought of the Prospectus. We put a lot of effort into the front section to demonstrate the breadth of services, facilities and what UCC is all about, not just in terms of academia but also about its social and community aspects. Feel free to send me an email (lenka.forrest@ucc.ie) with what you liked and what we may be still missing and could be included in the next 2022 version.

We will be running several events in May and June to help students with their Change of Mind queries, some course talks etc. All the relevant details are contained in this newsletter.

Hope to see you and your students at some of them.

Kind Regards,

Lenka Forrest



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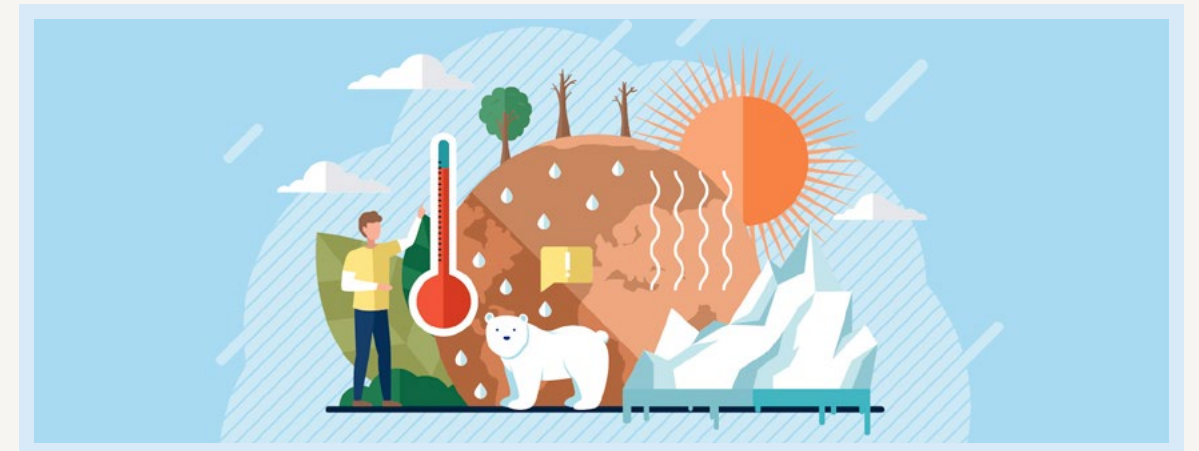
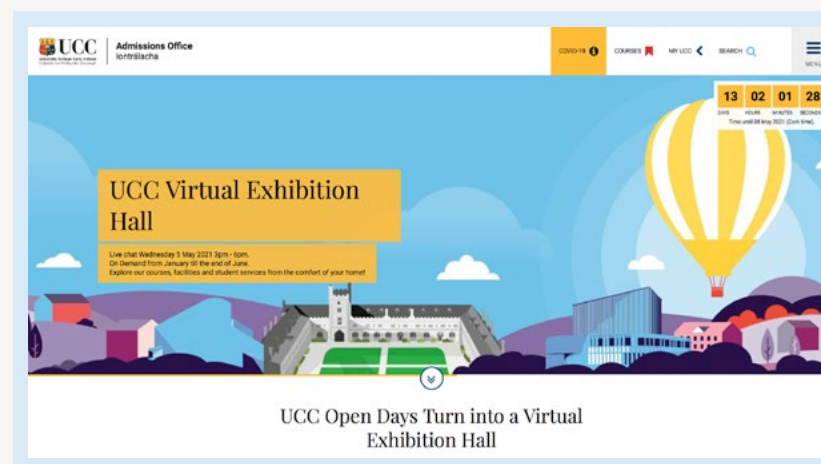
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LIVE Q&As FOR CAO APPLICANTS 5 May & 23 June

We will host a Live Q&A session for CAO Applicants on **Wednesday 5 May from 3-6pm** and again in June. Our student recruitment and support teams will be available to chat to students and steer them in the right direction in relation to student supports, scholarships, accommodation and lots more. We will also provide whatever additional information students require around our courses. This is an opportunity to get in touch and chat with staff. The chat will happen in our Virtual Exhibition Hall platform and students can register at www.ucc.ie/openday



Geoscience Information Evening in June

Are your students interested in how our planet works? Where will we get energy in the future? How does climate change happen, and how does life on Earth respond to environmental change?

If these questions matter to your students, then they may consider a degree in geoscience!

Come along to our Geoscience Information Evening, on

Thursday 3rd June 2021 from 7:00 – 8:15 pm.

This event will include short talks by our lecturers and will feature current students and graduates of our programme. This is a great opportunity to learn about what subjects and topics you will study, our work placement programme, research experience, and career opportunities for our graduates.

This is a virtual event. Registration is free! To book a place, your students should email Mary McSweeney, m.mcsweeney@ucc.ie

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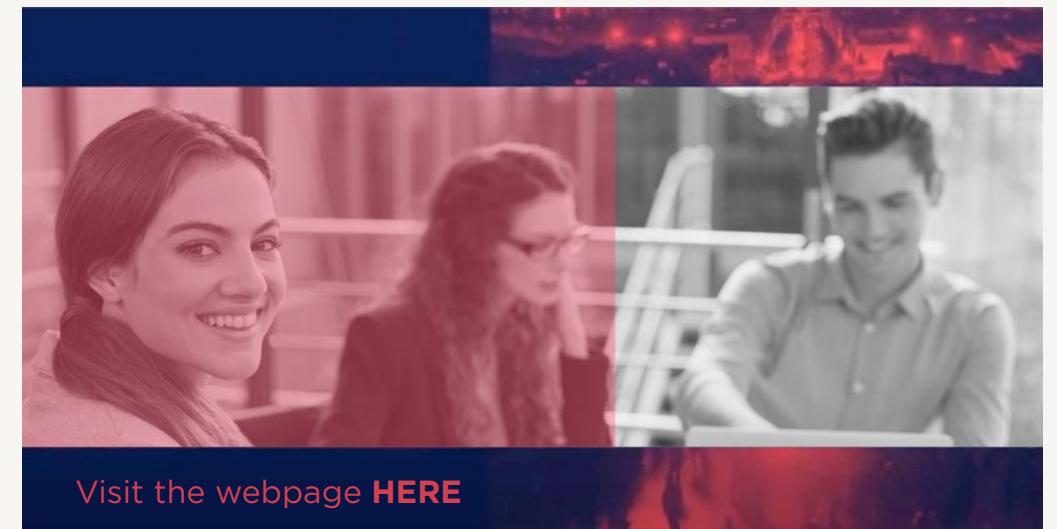
Our annual BComm Convention is on-line again this year and includes a series of 3 captivating interview and a live Q&A with academic directors, students, employers and alumni.

Webinar 1 was released on April 14th. An exciting discussion took place on disciplinary and integrative applications via our work placement element of the CK201 programme. You can watch back [HERE](#).

Webinar 2 was released on April 21st and explored experiential learning through our extra-curricular student led business activities. The Business Plan Competition in BComm1 and our amazing Commerce Society was the topic of conversation by academics, employers and students. You can watch back [HERE](#).

Employment Readiness will be analysed in Webinar 3, on the 28th of April, where our business mentor network and current students identify how the BComm programme builds a forward-looking critical thinking graduate ready for a diversity of career paths.

These three webinars will be followed by a Live Q&A on May 19th, where a panel of academics, students and employers will offer insight on programme content, experiential learning, integrative applications and employment opportunities. Keep an eye on www.cubsucc.com for more details.



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Entrance Scholarships – UCC Celebrates Success

University College Cork celebrated the commitment, dedication, and the achievement of 124 first year students by presenting them with Entrance Scholarships on the 30 March 2021. **Quercus Entrance Scholarships** were awarded to 114 students, 96 of whom achieved a maximum Leaving Certificate score of 625 points.

In addition to the Quercus Entrance Scholarships, 10 students received the **BEd Gaeilge** Scholarship, 5 received the **Mary Ryan Language** Scholarship, 1 student received the **Keliher** Entrance Scholarship, and 1 student received the **Monex** Scholarship. Recipients were from 78 schools from Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare, Galway, Mayo, Kildare, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford, and Waterford.

Professor John O'Halloran, Interim President, congratulated students on their outstanding performance in the Leaving Certificate despite having faced extraordinary challenges during the pandemic. He acknowledged the dedication of teachers and guidance counsellors in his address by saying 'Your success is a direct tribute to the schools you attended and to the hard work and dedication of your teachers, guidance counsellors and of course, your school principals who provide leadership in your schools.'

Their professionalism, enthusiasm, and commitment to teaching and learning deserves to be recognised and commended'. Dr Jennifer Murphy, Director of Recruitment & Admissions opened the virtual ceremony. Ms Louise Catherine Coomes, a Quercus Academic Scholarship recipient and final year OT student, gave the keynote address. She urged students to be compassionate towards others and themselves and to engage fully in student life.

You can view the virtual ceremony here:

www.ucc.ie/en/study/undergrad/events/scholarship-awards/



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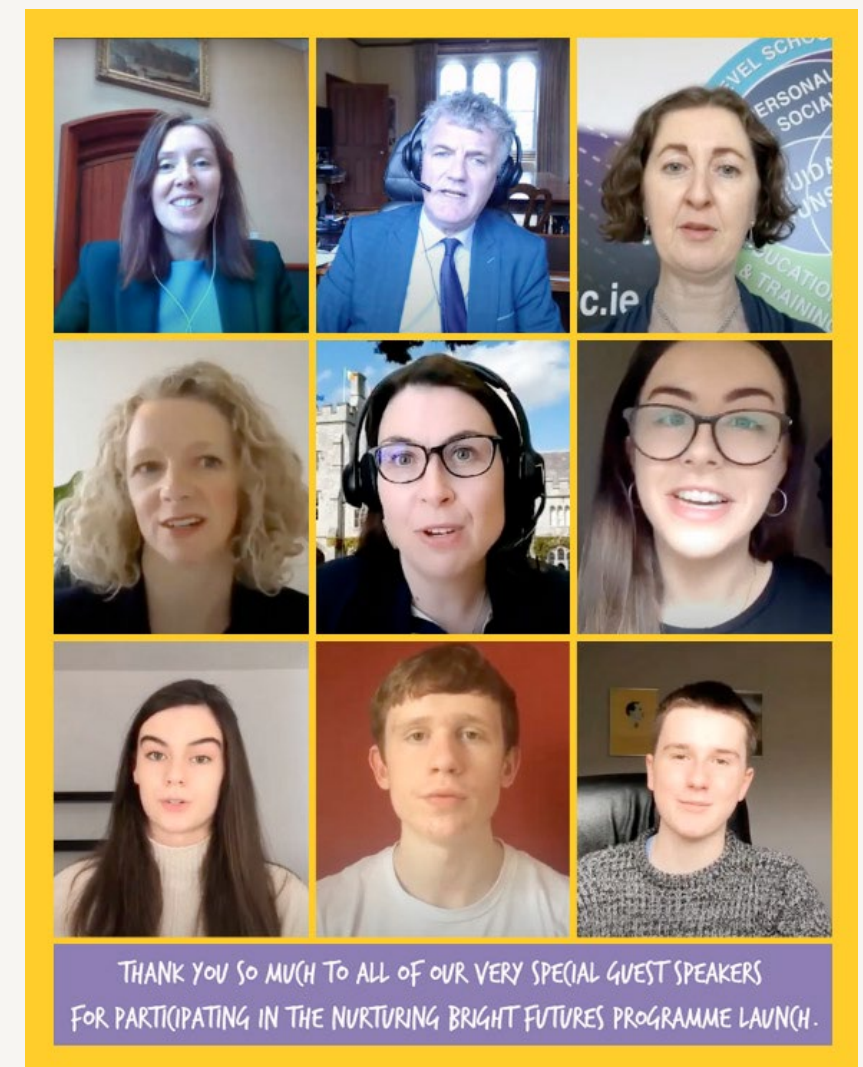
UCC launches Nurturing Bright Futures, a pre-entry programme for all students to assist in the transition to third level learning and life



After many months of design and development, the **Nurturing Bright Futures** programme was officially launched by our Interim President, Professor John O'Halloran, on Monday 22nd March. Chaired by Dr Jennifer Murphy, UCC's Director of Recruitment and Admissions,

the virtual launch included guest speakers such as Beatrice Dooley, the President of the Institute of Guidance Counsellors, and Claire McGee, Head of Education and Innovation Policy at Ibec, in addition to three inspiring Transition Year students from schools in Glanmire and Macroom, who shared their own experiences of doing the programme. UCC's Students' Union Education Officer, Eimear Curtin, also gave a very personal reflection on the value of this programme to pre-entry students and Carol Veiga, Interim Manager of the UCC **Graduate Attributes Programme**, gave a short demo on how to access, navigate and get the most out of the programme.

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This self-reflective, self-directed course will give prospective students the opportunity and space to understand more about themselves and to get to know more about higher education and the realities of life and learning at third level.

Designed to be taken over the course of a number of weeks, in bite-sized format, it will help students acquire the skills and tools they need to successfully make this transition and it will give them the confidence and the courage to own their decisions and will enable them to follow their passions, pursue their dreams and, ultimately, begin, belong and become the people they want to be.

You should have received two hard copies of our Nurturing Bright Futures **booklet** for Guidance Counsellors and hopefully you had a chance to visit us at our UCC booth during the recent IGC conference and learned more details about our new programme. We are also planning to design and print large posters to send to your school before the next school year starts.

For more information about this programme visit: www.ucc.ie/nurturingbrightfutures



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TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE LEARNING EASIER - FREE ONLINE COURSE/RESOURCE



Technology can have a positive, role in making learning easier and in giving students and educators greater choices in how, where and when they learn. In this **free course/resource**, aimed at TY students and educators (but applicable to all), we offer training videos, links and advice to make reading, writing and studying easier for students. It explores various **free technologies** either already on your computer, your phones or technology that is free to download.

Students can learn how to get their phone to read notes/ quotes/ definitions etc read aloud to them. There are tools to get the computer/phone to read aloud to you. There

are even options to have text read aloud in Irish, French, German and other languages to help prepare for oral/aural exams. Making a sound file of text to listen to learn/revise anywhere, anytime even on your phone is so easy and convenient.

Another section of the course shows how to get your phone /computer to type what you say to speed up project work. It also covers using free mind mapping software to plan/ structure your written work to speed up and improve your homework, projects, Continuous Based Assessment work etc.

In another part of the course students can learn to use mind maps to study

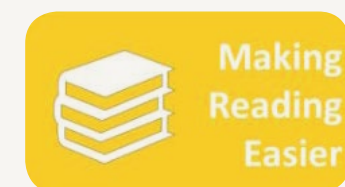
and make excellent, visual revision notes with images, video and even sound files. You can then access your mind maps study on your phone anywhere, anytime.

To allow students to make the most of these excellent, free learning tools we also examine some fundamental IT skills including touch-typing and file management. Resources to help teachers to share their teaching and learning materials digitally are also included to allow students to utilise technology to make their learning easier.

This course can be accessed via the **UCC Support Services FAQ** page by scrolling down to the Technology to Make

Learning Easier section and clicking on the Canvas link at the end of the section. Please contact Deirdre Madden if you have any queries: deirdre.madden@ucc.ie

Sincere thanks to the **SOAR Project** for funding. Created by UCC's **Disability Support Service**.



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BA (Hons) in Home Economics and Business

Munster Technological University (MTU) & University College Cork (UCC) have announced an exciting opportunity for students to become fully qualified teachers in Home Economics and Business through a unique collaboration whereby students will study at MTU for 3 years and UCC for 2 years. The programme commences in September 2021. Gaining a qualification from both universities will certainly be an appealing option for students seeking an innovative programme of third level study in the areas of Home Economics and Business.

Through the CAO, using Code CR930, students can now apply for the BA (Hons) in Home Economics and Business, which commences in September 2021, with 32 places available. The first three years will focus on developing discipline expertise in the areas of Home Economics, across the areas of food

studies, textiles fashion and design, family resource management, home design, and social studies. In Business, students will study modules in core areas such as entrepreneurship, international business, management, accounting, economics, and human resource management. All these areas of study are closely aligned with the requirements of the Teaching Council of Ireland for graduates who wish to become post-primary teachers of both Home Economics and Business.

Graduates who achieve a minimum of Second-Class Honours Grade 2 award in their MTU BA (Hons) in Home Economics and Business will automatically be offered a place on the Professional Master of Education (PME) post-primary, in UCC through a 'protected places pathway' agreement between both universities. Completion of both programmes over 5 years, will allow

graduates to meet all Teaching Council requirements to teach both Home Economics and Business to Leaving Certificate level in Irish post-primary schools.

A live webinar sharing specific details of the new and exciting programme and opportunity, will take place on Thursday 29th April at 7p.m.

www.mtu.ie/homeeconomics



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DAIRYGOLD BURSARY AWARD

This bursary will be of interest to students who are thinking of applying for the **BSc Agricultural Science programme (CK412)**. Agri-business company Dairygold awards two undergraduate bursaries to students undertaking the Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree at University College Cork. The successful students will receive an annual bursary of €3,000 for the duration of their 4-year undergraduate studies and will also be offered the opportunity of a work placement with Dairygold.

Professor Andy Wheeler, Head, School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences commented: *"We are incredibly grateful to Dairygold for their ongoing support which enables our students to pursue a career in the exciting and innovative agricultural industry. UCC is ideally situated in the dairy heartland of Ireland, allowing our students the unique opportunity to experience state-of-the art farm management practices alongside the workings of a global food business such as Dairygold."*

Further details on the bursary can be found [HERE](#).

BSc IN PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

Please share this new recently created video with your TY and 5th and 6th year students interested in Public Health - the buzz word and profession these days thanks to Covid! We have shared this with a few TY coordinators and received good feedback despite the fact that it is quite long. Viewers can always pause and continue and we will have shorter bite-size versions of the various elements of it available in the future on our website and the Open Day platform (www.ucc.ie/openday).

See www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hzgb3332cRA



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Ionad na Gaeilge Labhartha, Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh (faoi choimirce Bhord na Gaeilge)

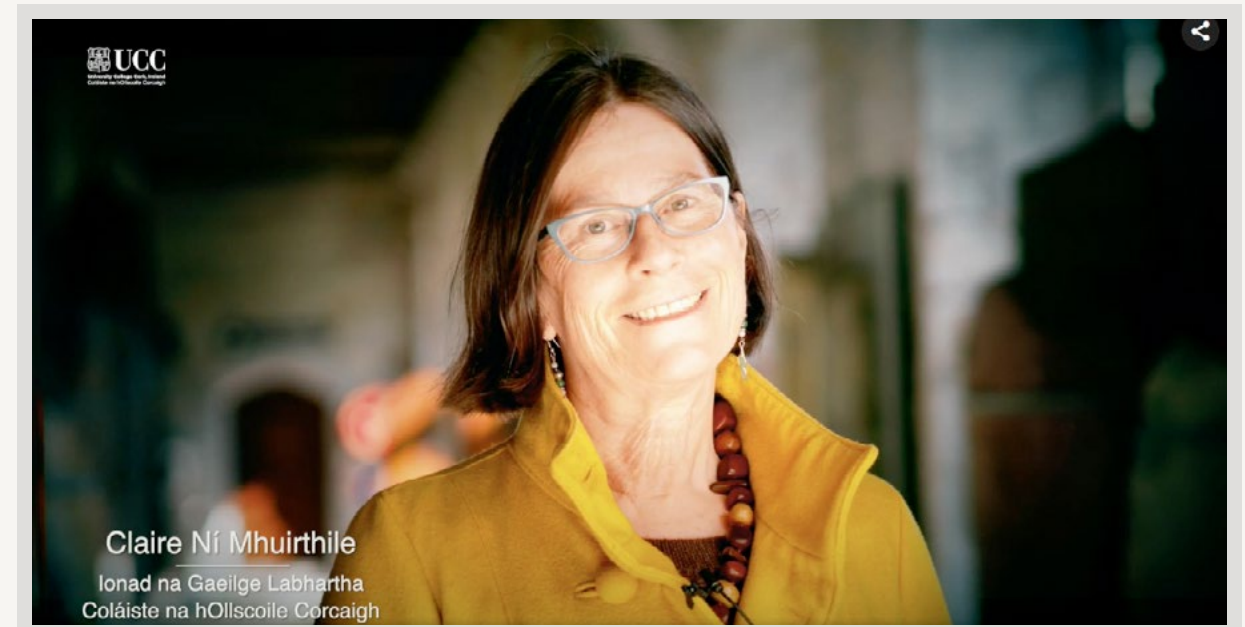
Is ann don Scéim chun tacaíocht an Choláiste le meánscoileanna lán-Ghaeilge a chur in iúl, chun saol UCC. idir acadúil, ghaelach agus shóisialta a phlé le ranganna sinsearacha na scol san agus chun mic léinn a mhealladh go dtí UCC.

Ní raibh deis againn dul ar cuairt chuig na meánscoileanna i mbliana, is baolach, de bharr na paindéime.

An méid sin ráite, dhein ceathrar mac léinn físeáin ag cur síos ar an éispéireas a bhí acu mar mhic léinn i rith na bliana seo.

Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh agus tairfe astu.

Claire Ní Mhuirthile
Riarthóir na Scéime
email: C.NiMhuirthile@ucc.ie



IRISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS' LIAISON SCHEME

This scheme shows University College Cork's support of Irish-medium post primary schools. Information is provided about academic life, college social life, along with the opportunities, schemes and courses that are available for Irish speakers in UCC. The scheme is also used to encourage students to apply for courses in UCC. While we were not able to visit schools this year due to the pandemic, four

UCC students have made videos talking about their experience of University life. You can view these along with Claire Ní Mhuirthile, Scheme Co-ordinator introduction [HERE](#).

I hope that you enjoy and benefit from listening to them.

Claire Ní Mhuirthile
Scheme Co-ordinator
email: C.NiMhuirthile@ucc.ie