Inside this issue

Frank McGrath RIP ……………….. 1
Capital Projects ………………….   1
Binless Office ……………………   2
Energy ………………………….     3
CampusBike ……………………     3
Enterprise Café ………………….   4
Flood Protection …………………. 4
Heritage Services…………………. 4
Other News ……………………….4

Buildings & Estates Office
Newsletter
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Frank McGrath—RIP

It was with a huge sense of overwhelming shock and sadness that the Buildings & Estates Office learnt of the loss of a wonderful colleague and friend – Frank McGrath, in March, following a tragic accident at work. Frank joined the staff of UCC in 1986 and over the past 27 years became one of the most respected members of the University community as an ever obliging, effective and reliable member of our team of General Operatives. Immensely popular among all staff, he was elected on two occasions to membership of the Governing Body where he shared his wisdom, pragmatism and above all his loyalty to, and pride in UCC.

Frank was a unique individual. He put no-one on a pedestal and judged people exactly as he found them, irrespective of rank or role. He was exceptionally well-informed. His political judgement was acute, but he also had time for everyone, a word for everyone and an exceptionally warm and sympathetic personality.

Many thanks to all those who expressed their sympathies to the Buildings & Estates Office on the sad occasion of Frank’s death. He will be missed. May he rest in Peace.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Kane and Food Science Buildings

This project included the refurbishment of approx 1000m² of existing laboratories and ancillary areas within the existing Kane and Food Science Buildings. The refurbishment works are spread throughout the two buildings with works being carried out in a number of Physics and Chemistry Labs on Ground and First Floor Levels of the Kane Building, and Levels 1 and 2 of the Food Science Building.

Upgrades include

- Revamping existing work benches and the installation of items of loose furniture and storage
- Replacement of Fume cupboards and installation of associated air conditioning/ balancing systems
- Replacement of floor coverings
- Installation of AV systems including projectors, screens, speakers and visualizers.
- Installation of wireless routers.
- Access Control Systems
- Lighting upgrade

Beaufort Laboratory—Ringaskiddy

The 4500m² Beaufort Laboratory will bring together, under one roof, the Hydraulic & Maritime Research Centre (HMRC), The Coastal & Marine Research Centre (CMRC) and The Sustainable Energy Research Group (SERG). The facility will be located on the 1.2 ha site adjacent to NMCI in Ringaskiddy. The Design Team of Architects - McCullough Mulvin, Civil & Structural Engineers - Arup, Mechanical & Electrical Engineers - RPS and Quantity Surveyors - JJ Casey & Co., have brought the project to tender stage. Construction is scheduled for Summer 2013 with completion in August 2014.
Cork Science & Innovation Park Masterplan Process

In December 2011 the University acquired c.50 acres of land at Curraheen in order to relocate existing sports pitches and to free up our existing lands for the development of the Cork Science & Innovation Park (CSIP). B&E have appointed a team led by Reddy Architecture to prepare a Masterplan of the existing lands to accommodate research, innovation etc. in line with the County Council’s framework plan.

B&E also propose to proceed with the appointment of a design team to progress the development of enhanced sports facilities on the new site. The appointment will include the development of an overall masterplan with associated optional cost plans. This process will allow us to consider a range of options for funding and phasing of the development. The facilities to be provided will replace the existing pitches and changing facilities and include enhanced all-weather and indoor facilities. We will also consult with the Munster Agricultural Society, the owner of the adjoining lands, regarding possible shared facilities.

Campus Accommodation (UCC ) Ltd.

Campus Accommodation (UCC) Ltd is undertaking the refurbishment of the Victoria Lodge Student Accommodation complex. A design team, lead by Architects Scott, Tallon, Walker with M&E Consultants - EDC and QS - JJ Casey & Co. was appointed in January. The project involves full refurbishment of the 87 apartments in 2 phases (40 no. apartments in Summer 2013 and 47 in 2014).

Mardyke Track

UCC’s old Mardyke track was damaged by the flood in 2009. On 13th April 2013 the new international standard, 400 metre running track was re-opened and named the Sonia O’Sullivan Athletics Track. UCC has invested €650,000 in the track. The opening of the Sonia O’Sullivan Athletics Track is the latest investment and development of sporting facilities at UCC. Last year UCC celebrated a centenary of sporting success, since the purchase of the Mardyke grounds in December 1911. During the UCC Sport 1911-2011 centenary year a number of significant capital investment projects, including the redevelopment of the Mardyke Pavilion and the opening of the Mardyke Arena Phase III were completed.

Binless Office Scheme

Building and Estates have just launched a new Binless Office initiative in its own offices. The O’Rahilly building is about to be launched also and should the project prove a success it will be implemented across Campus as soon as possible.

The concept of the “Binless Office” is simple and efficient. It involves the removal of the under desk waste bins and the introduction of a “Desk Tray Recycler”, whereby all materials are placed in the tray throughout the working day. At the end of the day, or when the tray is full, you bring your tray to the “Waste and Recycling Bin” located in a central area nearest to your office and the materials in the tray are segregated into bins specific to each waste stream.

Additional Recycling Facilities:
Paper recycling boxes will be located beside photocopiers. In the Lobby of most buildings, there will be an additional location for the recycling of batteries, toners/ink cartridges, phones and cardboard.

The Advantages of the Binless Office include:

- Reduced collection frequency,
- Increased recycling rates,
- Reduced material to landfill,
- Less office consumables,
- Significant cost savings,
- Improved working environment,
- Overall waste minimization as you become more aware of the waste you generate.
ENERGY

University of Indonesia Green Metric

UCC has been recognised for its work in the area of campus sustainability over the last number of years. We became the world’s first Green Flag Campus for third level institutions in 2010, awarded by An Taisce/FEE. We also recently joined forces with the SEAI under its public sector energy partnership programme. This programme will see UCC advance efforts, on sustaining energy savings, towards the national energy efficiency target of 33% for 2020.

UCC has been recognised by the Greenmetric World University Ranking system. Now in its third year the competition has seen a marked increase in entries to the ranking system. UCC is now third in the world rising from fourth place from its 2011 rank. It is the only Irish education institution to feature in the top 50. UCC scored highly across all ranking categories, which included water usage, waste management, transportation, education, research outputs, energy management and climate change.

Green Campus Flag

UCC was awarded it’s second Green Campus Flag on 13th April 2013. This student led initiative is supported by the B&E staff. The recertification followed a rigorous reassessment lead by An Taisce.

SEAI

UCC received SEAI approval for €568,000 of energy improvement projects under the 2012 BEW Scheme, with SEAI contributing grant aid of €199,000 and the balance funded by UCC. The works are now complete and include:

- Boole Library VSD on AHU 5
- Lighting retrofit Food Science building
- Kane Building data centre cooling
- Boole Plaza external campus lighting
- Upgrade of steam traps
- LED Emergency exit signage
- Block E Boiler load control
- Energy Metering
- Civil Engineering Building Window replacement

Our overall energy usage /m² was reduced by 6% in 2012. This was a result of technical upgrades and the efforts of staff to reduce utilisation where possible.

UCC CampusBike

The UCC CampusBike scheme, the University’s communal bike lending scheme, has seen its first two years of operation in April 2013. The bikes “for staff, for the working day, for free” entered service after Easter 2011 with its first two bike stations on the Main Campus and in the ERI. The fleet now consists of 6 CampusBike stations with 12 bicycles in total. Since its start, CampusBike has proven to be extremely popular. 170 users are signed up to date, and four more bikes are currently on order. Thanks to all the staff members who made it a success by availing of the bikes on a regular basis.
Enterpise Centre—New Cafe

The recently completed Enterprise Centre Canteen Extension has increased capacity from approx 15 to 55 seats. The kitchen area has also been increased to allow for a wider range of food products. The final phase of the development will be to provide for some external seating, this we hope to complete very shortly.

Flood Protection

Flood Protection projects have recently been completed to the following buildings:
- the Laurels & Roseleigh
- the Glucksman Gallery
- Connolly Buildings including the Granary & Muskerry villas
- the Butler Building
- the Enterprise Centre

Protection works were also incorporated into capital developments at the Mardyke Pavilion and Mardyke Arena. Works consisted of a combination of:
- Installation of Flood Gates – which can be closed if a flood warning is in place.
- Installation of Flood Barriers, aluminium planks that can be dropped into “U” shaped slots to block off doors or windows.
- Installation of Concrete walls around buildings.
- Installation of non return valves on drains

Heritage Services

A new display case has recently been installed in the WGB atrium. It contains a lovely 18th-century Irish silver epergne (a table centre-piece). It is a gift from a generous friend of UCC, through Cork University Foundation. The case is part of a network of displays around college which are being upgraded at the moment.

Other News

- B&E was an Official Partner at the 1st National University Environmental Forum held in Brookfield in conjunction with EnvironSoc
- New laboratory for Film Studies in Windle Building has been completed
- New lift to Boole basement has been completed
- The Kane Building Computer Room which supports the University’s IT services is being upgraded in two phases to utilise the latest technology to maintain conductivity without the loss of data in the event of a utility power failure. Phase I of the computer room renovation project has recently been completed.
- LAMA—UCC received a LAMA (Location Authority Members Assoc.) Award in the category of Best Energy Efficiency Project
- The College of Medicine & Health is advancing plans to develop a 2000m² of Application of Science to Simulation, Education Research & Training (ASSERT) on Brookfield Health Science Complex. This facility will house state of the art specialist simulation laboratories that will be utilised for medical teaching and research.

A Summers Evening on the Quad

This year’s concert features Irish tenor Anthony Kearns and Cork’s own Cara O’Sullivan. The Concert is in aid of Cork Cimon Community & Penny Dinners. It is on Friday 21st June, tickets are €30 from the Visitor Centre Main Quad.