



Acting Registrar and Deputy President

Professor Barbara Dooley

Dear Student,

I am delighted to welcome you to the new academic year, and especially our new students. We are entering an exciting time for this great university as President Professor Orla Feely starts her term. I encourage each of you, new and current students, undergraduate and graduate, to take your time with us seriously. We pride ourselves in the excellence of our faculty to support your learning and the opportunities open to you to develop personally.

There have been some exciting new developments on campus. Firstly, the refurbishment of Level 3 of the James Joyce Library is now complete. It is a truly transformed space, created through the vision and partnership of students and UCD Library. There are 535 study spaces, including silent study zones, areas for group work, spaces for those with sensory needs, and online meeting rooms. Visit as soon as you can and see this beautiful modern learning space, which will meet the needs of our diverse student cohort today and into the future.

You may also have noticed that construction has started on the new Centre for Future Learning close to the main Stillorgan Road entrance. The Centre is designed with active learning at its core, incorporating formal and informal learning spaces so students can acquire and practice the wide range of skills they will need to thrive in the 21st century. Finally, we are only weeks away from starting construction of Phase 3 of the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science. Completion of the Phase 3 project will result in UCD having one of the largest and most diverse Science facilities in Europe. You can expect plenty of dust and disruption on campus over the next few years, the visible sign of how we are realising our ambitions for this campus and the outstanding work that it supports.

Your wellbeing, both educational and personal, while you are a student at UCD, is of the utmost importance to us, and there is nothing that can happen that will not have happened before or that is too big or too small. Don't be afraid to reach out to your [Student Advisers](#) or contact your College or School, they are here to help and support you to ensure you reach your potential. Seeking help early is a sign of strength.

The start of a new term is always exciting, and having new experiences and making more friends is part of life at university. You will find details on lots of social and sporting activities on the [Events Calendar](#) and UCD has societies and clubs for everyone. Freshers Week runs from the 18th-22nd of September and there will be events at the Student Centre, Quad and all around campus showcasing the wide variety of [Student Societies](#) and [Sports Clubs](#) available to you (Sports Expo 18th-21st September).

Lastly, make the most of your time at UCD, get involved in all that this great university has to offer, be part of the UCD community. I encourage you to be a welcoming face to your fellow students and wish each of you a very successful and productive year.

Kind regards,
Barbara

