

# UCD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## REPORT



# 2017/18



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
1. Foreward	3
2. Introduction	4
3. Community Partnerships & University Projects	5
HeadstARTS	5
Age & Opportunity Touchstone Course	6
UCD Intergenerational Jigsaw Club	6
Mount Merrion Seniors Friendship Club	7
Health Awareness Check	8
Project Fun Direction Sports Blitz	9
Special Olympics Ireland Games - Volunteer Training	9
Inner City Helping Homeless - UCD Cinema Visit	10
Inner City Helping Homeless - Information Leaflet Design	11
The Homeless Girls Society Workshop	12
UCD Welcomes the Killiney Ladies Guild	12
The Trial Visual Art Installation	13
UCD Physiotherapy Hub Community Outreach Projects	14
UCD Landscape Architecture, Fieldwork & Strategies and the Great Willow Weave	18
Understanding syringe needle exchange and helping drug addicts	19
Seminar on Disability and Ethnic Minority	19
4. Events & Activities	20
Volunteer Fair 2017	20
Stand Up, Speak Up Workshop	21
Making Connections - Give an Hour, Gain an Hour campaign	21
Enactus UCD	22
UCD Fáilte Refugees	23
English Classes in collaboration with the Applied Language Centre	24
Engage@UCD Day - November 2017	24
Northeastern University (N.U.in program) Students Volunteering Placements	24
Public Engagement Day	25
Symposium on Student Volunteering	25
Living Knowledge Conference, Budapest	25
5. Flagship Events	26
Summer Party for the Homeless	26
Walk While You Can	27
6. Appeals	28
Homeless Period Ireland Initiative	29
7. Volunteering	30
Student volunteering	30
studentvolunteer.ie	31
Employee Volunteering	32
The Chill Pills	3
UCD in the Community Student Volunteering Information Event	31
Bachelor of Social Science Stage 2 Pathway Talk	31
8. Cormac Kilty Discovery Suite Outreach Lab and Classroom - UCD Explore	32
9. Appendix	33

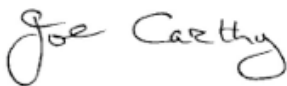
# UCD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT 2017/2018

I am very pleased to present this report on UCD's engagement in the wider community. Throughout our long history, UCD staff and students have contributed in many ways to thousands of initiatives and organisations. However, we have been remiss in our record keeping of such activities. The purpose of this report is to record and highlight the many contributions of our staff and students outside of the university. This is actually a very difficult task because of the number of staff and students involved and the lack of a formal data collection method.

This report is a first step in addressing this deficit. We are well aware that it is only a snapshot of the activities that took place from September 2017 to August 2018. We are now asking all UCD staff involved in community activities to contribute to the report next year for the academic year 2018/19 so that these activities can be recorded. Submissions may be made by emailing [uccdic@ucd.ie](mailto:uccdic@ucd.ie) by Monday 30th September 2019.

This will allow us publish a more comprehensive report for 2018/19 later in the year.

We look forward to receiving your submissions.



Professor Joe Carthy,  
College Principal and Dean of Science,  
UCD



# INTRODUCTION

UCD in the Community was established in 2016, to support and promote civic engagement across the UCD community. Civic engagement is defined as:

“A mutually beneficial knowledge-based collaboration between the higher education institution with the wider community, through community-campus partnerships including the activities of community based learning, community engaged research, volunteering, community/economic regeneration, capacity-building and access/widening participation”.

The objective of UCD in the Community is to connect UCD staff and students with the wider community for mutual benefit, bringing their skills and expertise to support community-based organisations (CBOs), and in exchange, empowering the UCD community as socially aware citizens. Simultaneously, we aim to showcase current projects, teaching and research that work in a collaborative manner and contribute to positive and sustainable social outcomes. UCD in the Community supports and complements UCD’s involvement in the IUA Campus Engage programme.

UCD in the Community focuses on the development of five key areas:

- Community Partnerships
- Events and Activities
- Appeals
- Volunteering
- Cormac Kilty Discovery Suite Outreach Lab and Classroom - UCD Explore

As we aim to showcase current projects, teaching and research that work collaboratively with the community across the university, we have included a snapshot in this report of some of the community engagement activities that took place during the academic year 2017/18.

We acknowledge that there are a vast number of community engagement activities taking place across the university, in all sizes and shapes, and we welcome your submissions for inclusion in the final report for 2018/19,

---

1. Lyons, A. & McIlrath, L (2011). Survey of Civic Engagement Activities in Higher Education in Ireland. Retrieved from Campus Engage website: <http://www.campusengage.ie/sites/default/files/resources/Civic%20Engagement%20Survey.pdf>

# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

Between September 2017 and August 2018, UCD in the Community have held exploratory conversations, meetings and/or activities with 141 community based organisations (see Appendix A) and assessed how UCD can be of assistance to them. As a result of this, 41 community-university projects have been discussed and are currently in operation, as described below.

## HeadstARTS

HeadstARTS was an Enactus DCU project, originally founded there in 2013, to provide art, craft, dance and drama classes to people with intellectual disabilities. It came following a needs assessment, that determined there were many sport opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities, but less opportunities in the creative sphere.

It was franchised in 2017, and students from Enactus UCD began their own HeadstARTS classes in UCD, by developing a partnership with St. Michael's House, Goatstown. Following an initial visit to St. Michael's House to meet the service users and staff, the classes took place for five weeks, from February 1st 2018 for two hours. There were seven UCD students who volunteered to take part in HeadstARTS, seven service users from St Michael's House and two staff members accompanied them each week. The group all had lunch collectively in the Main Restaurant, before beginning the class. Colleagues in the Sutherland School of Law were helpful in allowing the classes to take place in an available room in the building. The classes consisted of making cards, pictures, pasta art and St Patrick's Day decorations. There was fantastic feedback from St Michael's House on the classes, and they will continue to run each semester.



# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## Age & Opportunity Touchstone Course

In February 2018, UCD welcomed 22 participants of the Age & Opportunity Touchstone Course, an 8 week course which aims to develop the skills and knowledge of people who wish to play a part in helping to make their communities more age-friendly and become active citizens. The course explored a range of topical issues and develops the participant's skills as they work together in groups towards practical projects to better their community.

This free course was developed by Age & Opportunity, Active Retirement Ireland and Third Age in collaboration with UCD and was funded by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The course was a great success and will run again in Spring 2019.

## UCD Intergenerational Jigsaw Club

UCD Institute for Discovery, with support from UCD in the Community, launched a brand new "cultivating community" initiative called 'The Intergenerational Jigsaw Club' in April 2018. The idea behind the club is to facilitate inter-generational human connection by bringing together members of the UCD community (students, staff, & alumni) with members of the wider community. The club provide jigsaw puzzles and a fun space, with people of all ages coming and enjoying the company, conversation, and puzzle completion. Students from local schools Muckross Park College and Gonzaga College are championing this initiative and also hope to start the habit of life-long volunteering. All are welcome!



# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS



## Mount Merrion Seniors Friendship Club

The Mount Merrion Seniors Friendship Club meet weekly in the community centre in Mount Merrion to socialise and chat about the week's events. There are four clubs; two each for males and females. Following an introduction to the club via the Dublin Lions Club and a visit to the community centre to talk to the members of the male club, it was evident that the groups would be delighted with, and benefit from, a trip to UCD. Many have lived in Mount Merrion all their lives or for very long periods of time, but had never been to the Belfield campus. Indeed some individuals had attended UCD, when it was located in Newman House. Many had spouses, siblings, children or grandchildren who attended UCD. Three visits to UCD for three of the clubs took place in May 2018. The club members received a talk from two former employees of John Hinde Ireland Ltd., and watched a YouTube documentary on the late photographer. Tea, coffee and a light lunch was shared by club members in the Pi Restaurant, and they received a talk from Professor Paul McCabe (School of Biology and Environmental Science) about the UCD Evolution of Land Plants Garden. The groups all thoroughly enjoyed their visit to UCD and highly praised the campus facilities, beautiful space and Professor McCabe for his talk. UCD in the Community hopes to see our visitors from Mount Merrion Seniors Club on campus again soon.



# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## Health Awareness Check

Students and staff from the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences carried out health awareness checks across Dublin in April 2018. These checks took place in identified shopping centres in socio-economically disadvantaged areas, where students, under the supervision of Dr Phil Halligan and Mr Philip Hardie from UCD SNMHS, carried out blood pressure, BMI, heart rate and oxygen levels checks and gave advice on healthy eating and lifestyle. A really great event that benefited both the community and the UCD students involved!





# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## Project Fun Direction Sports Blitz

Project Fun Direction improves opportunities for young girls from disadvantaged areas to experience and participate in sport in their own community. With thanks to Jenna Brady from UCD Sport, Fun Direction held a sports blitz in UCD in May 2018, with over 80 young girls in attendance. Students from UCD Gymnastics organised a gymnastics workshop with the girls, which was followed by a fun nutrition session by Professor Lorraine Brennan and her colleagues, from the School of Agriculture and Food Science.



## Special Olympics Ireland Games - Volunteer Training

UCD College of Science were delighted to assist Special Olympics Ireland in preparation for the Ireland Games in summer 2018. Over 1,100 volunteers attended the meetings that took place throughout the O'Brien Centre for Science in April/May 2018. Mr Philip Hardie and 10 students from UCD SNMHS volunteered at the Games on June 15 and 16.

# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## Inner City Helping Homeless - UCD Cinema Visit

Inner City Helping Homeless (ICHH) are a volunteer-led charity, who provide provides resources & provisions to the homeless in Dublin area. UCD in the Community met with in 2018 and set about meeting their requests, the first of which was a fun activity for families living in family hubs.

On Saturday 19 May, ICHH visited UCD Cinema, with families accommodated in the hubs. The Dublin Bus Spirit of the Community bus brought them to UCD, where they received goodie bags and treats from Professor Joe Carthy before their movie of choice, *Tangled*. A brilliant morning was had by all, and UCD in the Community wish to extend our sincere thanks to UCD Cinema for accommodating the booking. We look forward to continuing to work with ICHH on various other project requests.



"Thanks to UCD in the Community and Dublin Bus for helping us facilitate it [the cinema trip]. Everyone had a brilliant time and the feedback has been so positive from the families."

*Inner City Helping Homeless*

# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## Inner City Helping Homeless - Information Leaflet Design

Seán Ó Domhnaill (IT Services) kindly responded to UCD in the Community's call for a graphic designer who would be willing to design an information leaflet for Inner City Helping Homeless in April 2018. Seán met with ICHH in their offices and based on what they needed, designed an information leaflet for them which they now use for their clients. Seán is a shining example of how UCD employees can use their skills and expertise and volunteer to help the wider community and organisations.

# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## The Homeless Girls Society Workshop

The Homeless Girls Society, Sherrard House, is a female-only short-term, residential care home for young homeless women between the ages of 12 and 18. In March, UCD Chaplain Scott Evans, with two students, Luke and Piaras from UCDTV held a workshop with case workers in Sherrard House, on how the girls in the house, who use their mobile phones very frequently, could create content such as the content they watch on YouTube.

## UCD Welcomes the Killiney Ladies Guild

During the summer of 2017, the UCD Evolution Garden had some new visitors with thanks to Dr Caroline Elliott-Kingston of the School of Agriculture and Food Science. Dr. Elliott-Kingston hosted a group from the Killiney Ladies Guild and provided the ladies (and three gentlemen) with a detailed tour of the plants and species that make up the Evolution of Land Plants Garden that sits in front of the O'Brien Science Building. The group were absolutely thrilled with their visit to see the award winning garden, with many of them saying that they "wouldn't have missed that for anything" and that it was the "best time for ages". Mrs. Gillian Mollard of the Ladies Guild thanked Dr.Elliott-Kingston for taking the time to show them around the garden and praised her for giving them an enriching and enjoyable experience.



This is the perfect example of some of the wonderful outreach work that goes on in UCD, with employees volunteering their time to reach out to the local community and offering their knowledge and expertise to benefit others. Dr. Elliott-Kingston aims to further strengthen this relationship by providing the Ladies Guild and the Men's parish group with a tour of the orchard at Rosemount.

# COMMUNITY- UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## The Trial Visual Art Installation

The Trial is a compelling visual art installation on healthcare and human rights in the Irish criminal justice system. This four-channel synced video and sound visual art piece was created for exhibition in the Old Courtroom, Kilmainham Goal Museum. On multiple screens, three characters – Tommy, Charlie, Neili – tell the real life stories of those who have been held and worked in Irish penal institutions during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Trial was exhibited in the resonant space that is Kilmainham Gaol Courthouse. Directed and produced by visual artist Sinead McCann, The Trial is a collaborative artwork made with five men from the Bridge Project, Dublin 8, who have lived prison experience, and draws from historical research by UCD historians, Catherine Cox and Fiachra Byrne working on a Wellcome Trust funded research project, Prisoners, Medical Care and Entitlement to Health in England and Ireland, 1850-2000.

Catherine Cox, Fiachra Byrne (UCD) and Sinead McCann (visual artist) worked collaboratively with creative professionals and community groups to engage a wider audience with our historical research and examine contemporary concerns within today's prison system.

By bringing their historical research on prison health to people with direct experience of these issues, Catherine, Fiachra and Sinead developed a collaborative artwork that combined multiply perspectives. They designed a high-quality community engagement process using history, visual art, applied theatre, poetry, drama, and film. The Trial was funded by a Participation Award from the Arts Council of Ireland, and a Community Engagement award from Dublin City Council.

An important aim of The Trial was to critically engage the public about healthcare in Irish prisons, past and present. The Trial invites visitors to reflect on individual experiences across history and on the human right to health. Between 12-26 April 2018, there were 20,980 visitors to The Trial, a fantastic example of community engagement.



Image Credit: © Sinead McCann, The Trial, 2018, Old Courtroom, Kilmainham Goal Museum, Dublin 8.  
Photograph by: © Conor Mulhern, Courtesy of artist Sinead McCann

# COMMUNITY- UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## UCD Physiotherapy Hub Community Engagement Projects

Evolving from a long-standing collaboration between UCD Sport and UCD Physiotherapy, the Physio Hub was founded in 2015 by Dr Caitriona Cunningham, Dr Catherine Blake and Dr Sinead McMahon. Here, physiotherapists, supported by students, address the health needs of the local and wider community, promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles via community exercise and health promotion programmes. Student learning experience includes: pre and post exercise screening, promoting the adoption of positive exercise and health behaviours via UCD Better Bones, Better Hearts and Get in Gear programmes; supporting disability inclusion at multi-sports kids' camps; injury prevention for UCD sports teams and community outreach activities with primary schools, local sports teams and members of the travelling community.



Dr Sinead Mc Mahon, Dr Catherine Blake, Dr Caitriona Cunningham, UCD Physiotherapy, School of Public Health, Physiotherapy, Sport Science.

Under the supervision of dedicated practice tutors over fifty BSc and Professional MSc physiotherapy students have completed clinical placements at the Physio Hub since its foundation. Student experience has included over one thousand student- athlete physiotherapy contacts per year providing injury prevention, pitch side cover, sports massage and player education.

UCD Get in Gear programme (900 per annum) facilitates exercise adoption among more sedentary UCD students. The Physio Hub model also facilitates ongoing evidence based community exercise programmes targeting osteoporosis prevention and management in addition to providing community based cardiac rehabilitation. Opportunities for engaging in health promotion activities with under-resourced communities are also provided.

# COMMUNITY- UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## UCD Physiotherapy Hub Disability Inclusion UCD Sports Camp

A Disability Inclusion partnership has been established with Enable Ireland leading to an enhancement of support mechanisms to facilitate inclusion of children with disability at UCD multisport Kids' camps. This initiative sees Physiotherapy students act as camp instructors as part of their clinical work placement, bringing their knowledge of adapting physical activity and a positive participatory approach to the camp team. More recently a partnership was established with Coláiste Eoin, Crumlin, a school for children with intellectual disability.

Crumlin Challenge:

Scoil and Coláiste Eoin are primary and secondary schools in Crumlin, Dublin 12, which specialise in providing education programmes and structures to cater for the individual needs of students (approximately 140 students) with mild learning difficulties, enabling those students to access mainstream school curricula and examinations where possible. UCD Physio Hub was invited to become involved with a view to further enhancing the physical education programme at the school. A partnership was established with a number of joint meetings held to establish and prioritise the Crumlin student and staff needs in relation to physical education and to plan how best UCD Physiotherapy might contribute.

Key Outputs:

- Physio Hub Physical Activity Presentation to staff and students of Scoil/Coláiste Eoin (October 2016)
- UCD Online Survey of Scoil & Coláiste Eoin staff (February 2017)
- Scoil & Coláiste Eoin Teacher Education Day
- Scoil & Coláiste Eoin student interactive physical activity day at school led by Physiotherapy students
- Activity Day at UCD Sport (April 2017)
- Physical Activity Promotion Model for schools with associated resources (e.g. accessible physical activity diaries, presentation, materials, fitness testing protocol) which will enable roll-out of similar initiatives

The Activity Day involved students and staff in Scoil & Coláiste Eoin along with UCD Sport and included:

- fun sports activities (e.g. archery and wall climbing)
- a tour of the campus
- teacher physical activity challenge
- medals award ceremony



# COMMUNITY- UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## UCD Physiotherapy Hub Traveller Health Initiative

Members of the Tallaght Traveller Community Development Programme conducted workshops with students in UCD in June 2017. This was followed by a visit to the community centre and a number of halting sites in Tallaght to meet with members of the travelling community and the community workers in order to plan an initiative for running after school physical activities in semester one 2017.

Research outputs to date include exercise and education related publications. Client satisfaction level with services provided is high. So too is students satisfaction, despite initial apprehension regarding a new placement model. The main themes identified from the student focus group data included a shift in thinking from a rehab to a health promotion and wellness approach to management, increased confidence in communication and a better understanding of the role physiotherapy can play in health promotion. Students also welcome the opportunity to work in an alternative, creative and flexible setting to address “real world” community health issues.





# COMMUNITY- UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## UCD Physiotherapy Hub and UCDVO

Since its establishment in 2003, UCD Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO) has had a close relationship with UCD Physiotherapy students, with more than 50+ physiotherapy students undertaking UCDVO projects over the past 10 years (approx 25% of volunteers per year are physiotherapy students).

Concurrent to this, many UCD physiotherapy students organise elective placements independently in developing countries as part of their undergraduate degree in June every year. Stuart Garrett, UCD Physiotherapy graduate and returned UCDVO volunteer spent approximately 6 months working in the Kisiizi hospital rehabilitation unit and in 2012 put a formal proposal to both UCD Physiotherapy and UCDVO to join forces in coordinating an elective/volunteer placement at Kisiizi. This proposal was approved by the Board of UCDVO and by UCD Physiotherapy in November 2012. Dr. Ian Spillman, Kisiizi Hospital Medical Superintendent visited UCD in January 2013 and met with UCD Physiotherapy and UCDVO representatives to confirm project details. Following an evaluation of the Uganda 2013 elective placement, UCD Physiotherapy approved two further elective placements in India for 2014.



There are currently four partner sites that UCD physio students volunteer with as part of their elective placement. In 2017/18, 14 physio students were placed across these four sites.

# COMMUNITY- UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## UCD Landscape Architecture, Fieldwork & Strategies and the Great Willow Weave

In 2010, UCD landscape architecture students left their studio drawing desks for the first time. Instead of designing on paper in the studio, they went out to interact in the city instead. Under the direction of Sophie Gräfin von Maltzan, the students go out and work at 1:1 scale in the city, preferably with the community. The each-way learning between students and community as they “explore” the neighbourhood together is immense.

In summer 2016, Phibsboro Tidy Town approached Sophie’s practice, Fieldwork & Strategies. They had received €500 funding for building a memorial for Phibsboro teenagers who were shot during the Easter Rising. After spending several weeks exploring Phibsboro and the community’s expectations from a memorial, the students came up with several proposals. With funding promised by Croke Park, UCD and Dublin City Council, they began planning the “Great Willow Weave” with the residents.

Willow weaving workshop dates were set for the middle of June, posters printed and put up in every shop window in Phibsboro by Phibsboro Tidy Towns, who also invited local primary schools to take part. 6 UCD students, several local residents and over 200 school children built 10 willow sculptures in Great Western Square over one week. At the weekend, the UCD students and Sophie held a fete over 2 days in conjunction with Phibsboro Tidy Towns. There were local musicians, games, weaving dreamcatchers, headbands, Brigid’s crosses and Harvest Nuts with Newgrange Willow Design. Originally the plan was to leave the sculptures up for 4 weeks but the residents association asked the students to leave the sculptures for longer. Over the following months, the group of students under the guidance of Sophie, came back to the Square every fortnight to monitor the project and gradually took down the sculptures as they decayed over the months. Every time much to the resistance of the community. Especially the local children who visited the park every day were upset. The group did repair sessions with the residents between the end of June 2017 and end of January 2018.

Nonetheless, the sculptures gradually decayed as they were built to be ephemeral.

The group then did a door-to-door survey on the Square asking the residents if they would like another Willow Blitz. With the answers positive, they built another 8 sculptures in June 2018 with over 400 local school children. The materials for the project were financed by Dublin City Council. There is potential for this to be an open-ended temporary project going forward. The process was participatory, playful, open ended, inventive and spontaneous. This is an excellent example of students and organisations being involved in a grassroots, community project.



# COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

## Understanding syringe needle exchange and helping drug addicts

Dr Emmanuel Reynaud, School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science (SBBS), is involved in a community-university project that aims to understand syringe needle exchange and help drug addicts in Paris. Colleagues in SBBS have been using their scientific skills to develop monitoring systems and analysis to answer questions about drug addicts and the use of syringe needle exchange programs in Paris for the last seven years on behalf of the NGO SAFE. They are also working on a postal delivery system for hard-to-reach users and have published some of their work in scientific papers. Having academics support and publish work is a huge benefit to the NGO, who Dr Reynaud says is "now taken seriously and can provide real data. We hope to move into modelling activities in real time."

Dr Reynaud also stated that "Every scientific group should work with at least one NGO or community to see what life is outside of academia and maybe learn to do their research better."

## Seminar on Disability and Ethnic Minority

In 2017 the UCD Centre for Disability Studies hosted a public seminar on disability and ethnic minority bringing together key stakeholders, including self-advocates, academics, service providers and statutory bodies who have an interest in this area.

This seminar aimed to explore the intersectionality of disability and ethnicity, a topic that has, to date, received little attention. The seminar provides a first step in establishing a network of interested parties to consider research, policy and practice in this field. Over 70 individuals attended the conference with over half registering for a follow-up meeting which will be hosted by a leading NGO in the field.

Key outcomes from this seminar included; creating awareness of the needs of individuals with disabilities from ethnic minorities; creating an opportunity for stakeholders to meet; building sustainability for ongoing networking. This seminar provided a pioneering opportunity to bring together stakeholders in the fields of disability and ethnic minority. Feedback from delegates was extremely positive and is reflected in the establishment of an ongoing network. The opportunity to provide a forum for discussion and debate in under-recognised areas is a key function of the UCD Centre for Disability Studies. Many thanks to Associate Professor Christine Linehan, UCD Centre for Disability Studies, School of Psychology for informing us of this excellent community-university partnership.

# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

UCD in the Community strives to create new, long-lasting community-university projects, by connecting UCD with the wider community, alongside supporting activities that have been integral to UCD for many years. A large number of these collaborations involve events, activities and appeals with and on behalf of the organisation. There were 35 new activities established in 2017/18.

## Volunteer Fair 2017



On Monday October 9 2017, UCD in the Community held the Volunteer Fair in the O'Brien Centre for Science. This was the first time this event was held as a stand-alone event, and there were over 30 community-based organisations in attendance. Students from across campus came to speak to individuals from the Balally Family Resource Centre, the ISPC, the Marie Keating Foundation, Sunshine House and Teenline, to name a few.

# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

## Stand Up, Speak Up Workshop

To start the new year 2018, UCD in the Community ran a public speaking workshop for volunteering students entitled, 'Stand Up, Speak Up'. The aim of the workshop was to introduce students to the art of public speaking through group activities and tasks. Dr Rhonda Wynne facilitated the workshop, which was attended by 15 students and proved very popular.

## Making Connections - Give an Hour, Gain an Hour campaign

Making Connections is a non-profit organisation working with Health Services and community groups since 2009, to alleviate loneliness and isolation in the community of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.

UCD in the Community were delighted to collaborate with Making Connections on their Give an Hour, Gain an Hour campaign for 2017. Over the October bank holiday weekend (October 27 - 30) when the clocks went back, Making Connections challenged people to use that extra hour to celebrate the valuable contribution of older people. Just one hour can help tackle stereotyping, isolation and loneliness – and inspire others to connect the generations.



## Enactus UCD

Enactus is a global, non-profit organisation, which develops future talent by enabling third level students to create, and implement, social entrepreneurial projects which positively impact our local and global communities. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as the framework for student projects. Enactus operates in 36 countries worldwide, with Enactus Ireland founded in 2011. Enactus students are trained, guided and supported by educators and business leaders. As well as using their innovative and creative energies to positively change the lives of others, students also develop the leadership, interpersonal and practical skills necessary for the workplace.

An annual national competition showcases Enactus students' social entrepreneurial projects in May each year, and adds a competitive element to the programme. Each year, a national champion goes on to represent Ireland at the prestigious Enactus World Cup, held in London in September 2017.

There are two faculty advisers in UCD for the Enactus UCD team; David Nevin (UCD Innovation Academy) and Holly Dignam (UCD in the Community), who meet weekly with the Enactus Team Leader and provide guidance and support to the team and their projects. Enactus UCD presented HeadstARTs at National Competition in May 2017.



# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

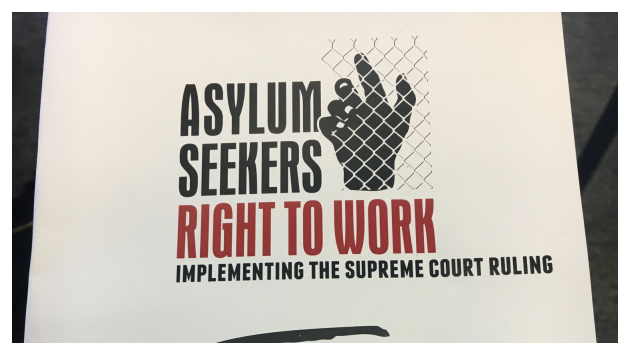
## UCD Fáilte Refugees

In 2016, two students approached Professor Joe Carthy with the idea of establishing a campaign to welcome refugees and asylum seekers to Ireland and in particular UCD. The campaign continues to thrive, with 15 active students meeting weekly. The goals of the campaign remain the same now as they did in 2016:

- Increase awareness of the global migration crisis
- Empower the students of Ireland to be agents of change
- Motivate the people of Ireland to support the Irish government to stand by its commitment of accepting at least 4,000 refugees
- Welcome refugees into every community in Ireland and support their integration into Irish society

As part of the campaign, students attended the National Demonstration to End Direct Provision on November 2017. On campus, a Refugee Awareness Week was held in February 2018 (with some events rescheduled due to unforeseen weather). This week included a fireside chat, chaired by Fáilte Refugee student, Ellen Groom, with members from the Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland (MASI), UCD students who are currently living in direct provision and Caoimhe Butterly (peace activist and film-maker). Other events included a film screening of Fire at Sea and workshops with other student societies. To finish off a successful academic year, Fáilte Refugees joined the Irish Refugee Council at the VHI Women's Mini Marathon on June 3 2018, to raise awareness and funds for the IRC Education Fund.

UCD was awarded University of Sanctuary status on March 5 2018, by Places of Sanctuary Ireland, in recognition of its range of initiatives welcoming refugees and asylum seekers into the university community. Fáilte Refugees have contributed to this, by welcoming refugees and asylum seekers and will continue to do so.



Fáilte Refugees  
Welcome Refugees

# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

## English Classes in collaboration with the Applied Language Centre

UCD in the Community collaborated with the Applied Language Centre in September 2017, to run a 12 week free English language class for UCD employees and their family members. Details of the classes were advertised across campus. Managers of the contracted companies in UCD were informed and they shared this information with their staff too. Classes took place two evenings per week, Monday and Wednesday from 4-6pm. 28 people registered for first round of classes, with an average of 7 participants per class. As this pilot was so successful, it was agreed upon that the classes would run for 10 weeks from January to March 2018. There was a slightly greater attendance at these classes, with the Monday class proving most popular.

Due to the positive feedback from the participants, the Applied Language Centre have kindly agreed to continue collaborating with UCD in the Community on the free English classes for employees and their family members and friends. More information can be found on the UCD in the Community website.

## Engage@UCD Day - November 2017

UCD in the Community were exhibitors in the Community Zone at the inaugural Engage@UCD Day, held in O'Reilly Hall on November 7th 2017. The day allowed the team to talk to employees from across the university, informing them of the work we do and how they can get involved in volunteering. 49 employees up to our quarterly employee volunteering newsletter and the team were delighted to meet so many colleagues from across campus.



## Northeastern University (N.U.in program) Students Volunteering Placements

Katherine Mulfaul (UCD International) welcomes students from Northeastern University, Boston, for one semester, as part of their N.U.in program. As part of this programme, the students are expected to partake in a volunteering placement with a community-based organisation, for two hours per week for 9 weeks. UCD in the Community placed 131 students with 19 organisations from September to November 2017.

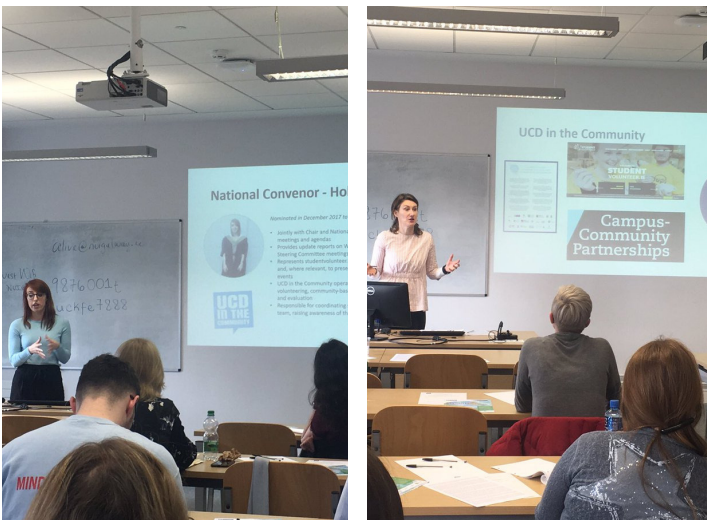
# EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

## Public Engagement Day

In order to highlight UCD's public engagement activities, a Public Engagement Census was organised by the Public Engagement Network, of which Dr Rhonda Wynne represented UCD in the Community, to record the wide range of creative engagement initiatives across the University. These activities cross a wide spectrum, from informing and inspiring audiences through lectures or articles, to co-producing and co-designing research with members of the public (including patients and other stakeholders). UCD in the Community attended the workshop held on May 29, to discuss the findings of the census and to define what public engagement means in UCD. A feedback session is expected to occur in January 2019.

## Symposium on Student Volunteering

NUI Galway held a symposium on student volunteering on March 12th 2018. The recent expansion of Irish HEI community engagement initiatives supporting student volunteering raises important questions and the Symposium was an opportunity to address these questions and examine ongoing research in the area of student volunteering. Dr Rhonda Wynne presented on the development of a new undergraduate module in UCD, Community, Volunteering and Leadership. Holly Dignam, National Convenor for the Campus Engage Student Volunteer Working Group and UCD in the Community, presented on the developments of the platform.



## Living Knowledge Conference, Budapest

The 2018 edition of the Living Knowledge Conference was hosted by the Corvinus Business School, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary, from 30th May to 1st June. The LK8 Conference was aimed at those working in the community engagement sector, including academics, activists, social innovators and NGOs. The conference looked at addressing questions around responsible research and innovation, aimed to get more insight in how academic research works and to create strong relations between the university and the civil society. During the conference UCD in the Community presented on building community partnerships and measuring the impact of community engagement in higher education.





# FLAGSHIP EVENTS

Supporting new events and activities is a priority area for UCD in the Community, which led us to develop flagship events which will run annually. These events will serve as an opportunity for students, staff and alumni to get involved in once-off events that will be of benefit to the community, whilst simultaneously aiming to nourish a sustainable culture of community spirit and volunteering in UCD.

## Summer Party for the Homeless

UCD in the Community, in collaboration with the Dublin Lions Club (known as UCDLC), hosted a Summer Party for the homeless community in the Iveagh Gardens on 26 May 2018.

100 UCD employees and student volunteers contributed to the success of the event. Over 130 homeless people attended and were provided with personal services such as haircuts, chiropody treatments, career guidance and advice.

Entertainment was provided with musical performances by UCD Community Choir, UCD Trad Soc, Declan O'Rourke and Mundy. Everyone in attendance received a hot meal, served by Off the Hoof and Shoots and Roots, with dessert provided by Smiths Ice Cream van. We wish to extend our thanks to Odhran Lawlor, UCD and Des Valley of the Irish Village Markets for facilitating this. All the guests left with care package prepared by the UCD Students Union.

UCD in the Community wish to extend our very sincere thanks to all volunteers, and in particular to the UCD volunteers who took part!



# FLAGSHIP EVENTS

## Walk While You Can

UCD staff, students and alumni came out in force to support former UCD Chaplain Fr Tony Coote during his 535km walk from Letterkenny to Ballydehob during the summer of 2018, which aimed to highlight the plight of Motor Neurone Disease sufferers in Ireland.

Following his own recent diagnosis with the disease, Fr Tony came up with the idea of walking the 535km distance under the banner of 'Walk While You Can' and the hashtag #walkwithtony.

Determined to turn his experience into 'a positive force for future generations of MND sufferers', Tony started the walk in Letterkenny, Donegal on July 10, and ended it on August 6 in Ballydehob, West Cork. UCD in the Community provided administrative support for the campaign.

Speaking about the walk, Fr Tony said he wanted to use the time he has left, and his voice, to do something positive by raising money and awareness about this disease. Finding himself part of a vastly under-resourced medical world of lengthy waiting lists, over-burdened medics and medication that is over 24 years old, he was shocked to learn that only three specialist nurses cover the 400 people living with MND in Ireland.

'By supporting the walk, you are not only lending your voice to our call for better supports and services for people living with this, and other neurological conditions, but you are helping make those supports possible.'

Reflecting on his diagnosis, Fr Coote, who has lost the control of most of his muscles and now uses an electronic wheelchair, said: 'This time last year I was fit and healthy, I had no idea what was in store for me. None of us know when it might be our turn.'

The walk has already doubled its target of €250,000 with all funds raised going directly to Research Motor Neurone for new medication research and to the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association for the care of those living with the illness.

Tony thanked his former UCD colleagues, friends, students and UCD Volunteers Overseas for supporting him in his campaign.



# APPEALS

UCD in the Community facilitated a number of successful appeals in 2017/18, aid of the Dublin Simon Community, The Capuchin Day Centre, The Alice Leahy Foundation, Hatch Hall (Direct Provision Centre) and Homeless Period Ireland.

These appeals provided essential supplies to those in need and demonstrated the generosity and kindness of the UCD community. The Dublin Simon appeal alone provided over 200 care packages for the rough sleepers of Dublin 2 and 4 and was ran in collaboration with Localise and Ringsend Community College transition year students. This appeal is now a flagship event and will be organised annually by UCD in the Community.

A huge thank you to all staff and students who have donated to appeals throughout the year.



**Homeless  
Period  
IRELAND**



# APPEALS - HOMELESS PERIOD IRELAND INITIATIVE

On International Women's Day 2018, Mary Gallagher-Cooke (Director, College of Social Sciences and Law), announced that UCD hoped to create numerous donation points around campus in which employees and students can donate sanitary products to women in need, as part of the Homeless Period Ireland (HPI) initiative. This initiative aims to help women experiencing period poverty and believes that tampons and towels should be made available to all women. The response has been overwhelmingly positive, with colleagues from buildings all over campus volunteering to facilitate donation points in their respective buildings. Thank you to the following colleagues and students for their willingness to get involved in the initiative:

- Marta Bustillo
- Kate Conroy
- Sarah Conroy
- Carla Gummerson & all the Mature Students Society
- Gillian Johnston
- Ciara Kirwan
- Mary McAuliffe
- Sheila Morris
- Mollie Murphy
- Eoin O' Mahony
- Lisa Plummer
- Melissa Plunkett
- Aoife Redmond
- Chiara Zaccheo



There are currently 13 donation points across the Belfield campus in the following locations:

- Gerard Manley Hopkins Building: Global Lounge - beside reception, Lower Ground Floor, UCD International
- Hannah Sheehy-Skeffington Building: Entrance hall under room numbers
- James Joyce Library: Outside, beside book swap
- Newman Building: Corridor of D1 (outside office D110)
- Newman Building: Entrance to Geography Office corridor, ground floor
- Newstead Building: (Block A beside the post department) International Study Centre, Student's Committee
- O' Brien Centre for Science: Ground floor of the Hub, beside post box
- Roebuck Office Building: Entrance hall
- School of Computer Science: Ground floor, on the right
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems: B106, B331
- Student's Union
- Tierney building: 1st floor book swap shelf area

There were over 190 sanitary items donated across campus by August 2018.

A huge thank you to all students and staff who continue to donate to this extremely worthy cause.

# VOLUNTEERING

## Student Volunteering

Higher education student volunteering and student-led engagement both inside and outside Ireland is rooted in the history and development of higher education institutions. The National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030 states that there are three interconnected core roles of higher education in Ireland - research, teaching and learning and engagement with the wider society. "Engagement with the wider community must become more firmly embedded in the mission of higher education institutions" (The National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030, 2011:21).

Within the practice of student volunteering and student-led engagement in HEIs in Ireland, student volunteers are for the most part self-directed and either respond to volunteer opportunities created by internal and/or external communities and/or create their own volunteer opportunities. There are various student volunteers across campus, such as the Science Student Leaders, UCD in the Community Student Leaders, Student Ambassadors and Access Leaders. The most common example of student-led engagement activities is campus student clubs and societies. In UCD in 2017/18, 15,576 unique members were registered to over 70 student societies and 6,396 unique members to 55 sport clubs. A sincere thank you to Paula Cashman, UCD Sport, for these figures.

## studentvolunteer.ie



Studentvolunteer.ie is an online tool, developed and launched by the Campus Engage National Volunteer and Student-Led Engagement Working Group in 2016, that supports community-based organisations (CBOs) wishing to advertise volunteer opportunities in the community to third-level students. Students in turn, use the website to find current volunteer opportunities. It is the first national volunteering database specifically created for higher education students to connect with local, national and international CBOs. There are currently 11 HEIs registered to the website; DCU, DIT, IT Tallaght, IT Tralee, Limerick IT, Maynooth University, NUI Galway, Trinity College Dublin, UL, UCC and UCD.

### Studentvolunteer.ie and UCD

UCD in the Community aimed to increase the awareness of studentvolunteer.ie across campus and in turn, increase the number of students registered to the website, thus allowing them to engage with CBOs and a wider range of volunteering opportunities. This was achieved through information stands during Orientation and Fresher's Week in September; a campus roadshow, which involved delivering a brief presentation to over 1500 students across all colleges; and a social media campaign to raise awareness of the website. We held a student volunteering information evening on 4 October 2017, to inform students of the work of UCD in the Community and student volunteering opportunities that were available to them across campus and in the wider community. Short presentations were provided by Dr Rhonda Wynne, Theresa O'Leary and Holly Dignam from UCD in the Community, and from students from various student campaigns and societies, such as UCD St Vincent de Paul Society, Enactus UCD and Fáilte Refugees. In total, 80 students registered for the event, demonstrating there is a keen interest from students to learn more about volunteering and becoming engaged with the community. Many of the CBOs we have developed relationships with now utilise studentvolunteer.ie to advertise volunteering opportunities to students. Nationwide, there are currently 813 CBOs registered to the site.

# VOLUNTEERING

## Staff Volunteering

Aforementioned, staff members across UCD have generously given their time to volunteering for many years. UCD in the Community aim to provide volunteering opportunities to staff members who may wish to volunteer and/or form a long-lasting relationship with community-based organisations.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all the staff members we have met across the university and who have given their time selflessly to volunteer on a project, appeal or event. Your time and commitment is hugely appreciated and does not go unnoticed!

## The Chill Pills

In 2013, Anne Hallinan, UCD School of Music and a group of non-UCD personnel set up a small group of musician and singer volunteers called the Chill Pills. The group visit Greystones Nursing Home on Sundays from 2.30 pm-3.30 pm and sing for the residents. Some of the residents are now participating and have their own party piece - usually rebel songs that they love to sing. Anne stated that the visits allow residents to have fun, participate in activity together, which helps with shyness and encourages them to engage with each other.

# VOLUNTEERING

## UCD in the Community and Student Volunteering Information Evening

On 4 October 2017, an information event was held to inform students of the work of UCD in the Community and student volunteering opportunities that were available to them across campus and in the wider community.

Short presentations were provided by Dr Rhonda Wynne, Theresa O'Leary and Holly Dignam from UCD in the Community, and from students from various student campaigns and societies, such as UCD St Vincent de Paul Society, Enactus UCD and Fáilte Refugees. In total, 80 students registered for the event, demonstrating there is a keen interest from students to learn more about volunteering and becoming engaged with the community.



## Bachelor of Social Science - Stage 2 Pathway Talk

Kieran Moloney, Student Adviser, Bachelor of Social Science (BSocSC) and Dr Mick Rush, Deputy Associate Dean for the Bachelor of Social Science (BSocSC) in Social Policy and Sociology invited UCD in the Community to present to Stage 1 BSocSc students about volunteering on April 11th and 12th 2018, as the students prepared for Stage 2 of their degree. Students were informed of the many ways that volunteering can aid their own personal and professional development and were encouraged to sign up to [studentvolunteer.ie](http://studentvolunteer.ie) to explore the volunteering opportunities on offer.

# UCD EXPLORE

## Cormac Kilty Discovery Suite Outreach Lab and Classroom - UCD Explore

In 2017, 937 students from across Dublin took part in Outreach programmes and visits to the Cormac Kilty Discovery Suite, as part of the Suite Science programme. Facilitated by Lorna Byrne, Aoibhéann Bird and Philip Smyth, with demonstrations from Sharon Shannon, Paddy Orr, Betül Hekimoglu Balkan, Rasha Linehan and Paul Beirne, Suite Science is a project that uses inquiry-based learning to encourage students from disadvantaged primary schools to work together to solve problems. It offers an exciting and educational space for primary school students to play and learn. The programme encourages a safe "give it a try and see what happens" environment in which the students try to solve problems or answer questions. Through discussion and inquiry based learning, primary school students are introduced to science and scientists working to solve real-life problems. By performing simple science experiments and relating these to the real world, they will gain a better understanding of how science solves problems. The Outreach Classroom was also utilised for a number of community programmes.





# APPENDIX

## Community-Based Organisations

1. Ablevision Ireland
2. Acet Ireland
3. Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
4. Active Retirement Ireland
5. Age Action
6. Age & Opportunity
7. Alcohol Action Ireland
8. Alice Leahy Trust
9. ALONE
10. Alzheimers Ireland
11. An Cosan
12. Anne Sullivan Centre
13. ARC Cancer Support
14. Arch Club Dundrum
15. Arthritis Ireland
16. Arts & Disability Ireland
17. Asthma Society of Ireland
18. Ataxia Ireland
19. Balally Family Resource Centre
20. Barnardos
21. Bat Conservation Ireland Ltd.
22. BCCC Knights of Eanna
23. Belmont Nursing Home
24. BeLonG To Youth Services
25. Bethany Support Group
26. Capuchin Day Centre for the Homeless
27. Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY)
28. Carmichael Centre
29. CASA
30. Central Remedial Clinic
31. Chernobyl Children's Trust Ltd.
32. Cheshire Ireland
33. Children in Hospital Ireland
34. Chronic Pain Ireland
35. Claremont Stadium
36. Clonskeagh Community Nursing Unit
37. Concern
38. Crosscare- The Catholic Social Service Conference
39. Cystic Fibrosis Ireland
40. Dales Centre
41. Debra Ireland
42. Diabetes Ireland
43. Direct Provision Centre - Baleskin
44. Direct Provision Centre - Hatch Hall
45. Dogs Trust
46. DSPCA
47. Dublin Lions Club
48. Dyslexia Association of Ireland
49. Dyspraxia Association of Ireland Limited
50. ECO-UNESCO
51. Enactus - St.Michael's House
52. Epilepsy Care Foundation
53. Failte Refugees
54. Fighting Blindness
55. Fighting Words
56. FirstLight
57. Focus Ireland
58. Foroige The National Youth Development Organisation
59. Friends of the Elderly
60. Generation Accommodation
61. Heart Children
62. Hillview Resouce Centre
63. Homeless Girls Society
64. Homeless Period Ireland
65. Inner City Helping Homeless
66. Irish Autism Action: Autism Ireland
67. Irish Autism Ireland
68. Irish Cancer Society
69. Irish Countrywomen's Association
70. Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind
71. Irish Heart
72. Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association
73. Irish Red Cross Society
74. Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (ISPCC)
75. Irish Therapy Dogs
76. Irish Wheelchair Association
77. Jack and Jill Foundation
78. JIGSAW
79. Junior Chamber Ireland

# APPENDIX

80. KARE Social Services
81. Klawitt Theatre Group
82. Knocklyon Network
83. Lakers Meeting Special Needs (Bray)
84. Le Chéile Mentoring & Youth Justice  
Support Services
85. Little Flower Penny Dinners
86. Localise
87. Macra na Feirme
88. Make-A-Wish Foundation
89. Making Connections
90. Marie Keating Foundation
91. Mater Foundation
92. Medical Research Charities Group (MRCG)
93. Meningitis Research Foundation
94. Mojo
95. Mountain Rescue Ireland
96. Move for Parkinsons
97. Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland
98. National Council for the Blind
99. National Folklore Foundation
100. No Name Club
101. One Family
102. Our Lady's Hospice
103. Oxfam Ireland
104. Oxfam Ireland (Dun Laoghaire shop)
105. Ozanam House (SVP)
106. Peer Conversation
107. Project Fun Direction
108. Quarryvale Community Group
109. Reception Centre - Ballaghaderreen
110. Release (Prison Partnership)
111. Research Motor Neurone
112. Respect Ltd.
113. Robert Emmet Community Development  
Project
114. Samaritans
115. Seal Rescue Ireland
116. Serve the City/Tour the City
117. Sharing Point Ireland
118. SHINE - Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus  
(SBHI)
119. South West Inner City Network
120. Southside Partnership Training Network
121. Special Olympics Ireland
122. Sports Against Racism
123. STAND.ie
124. St Columbanus National School
125. St Joseph's Nursing Home
126. St. Vincent de Paul (SVP)
127. St.Michael's House Day Services Goatstown
128. SUAS Numeracy Project
129. Team Hope
130. Teenline
131. The National Adult Literacy Agency
132. The Ronald McDonald House Charity
133. The Sunshine Fund (SVP)
134. Threshold (Housing)
135. Trocaire
136. UCD Volunteers Overseas
137. VMM International
138. Voluntary Service International
139. WALK
140. Wicklow SPCA
141. Wildlife Rehabilitation Ireland