DCU President’s Report 2008
Welcome to the President’s Report for 2008.

**HONORARY DEGREE FOR PRESIDENT McALEEESE AND MARTIN McALEEESE**

This unique joint academic honour, on the tenth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, was to mark the contribution made by the President and Dr. McAleese in building a peaceful society on the island of Ireland through their constant efforts at bridge-building between all Irish communities, and their outreach to all sections of Northern Irish society. The President and Dr. McAleese have devoted themselves to forging friendships among historic foes, and over the last ten years they have made Áras an Uachtaráin a welcoming house where these new friendships could develop and prosper.

The joint award also recognised the President’s distinguished academic career at both the Queen’s University in Belfast and Trinity College Dublin where she was Reid Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology, and her role as Pro Vice Chancellor of the Queen’s University in establishing the Centre for Cross Border Studies.

The President of DCU Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski said: “DCU is delighted to honour the very significant role played by the President and her husband Martin, often with little public attention, in helping to overcome the legacy of decades of violent conflict in Northern Ireland. Their efforts in developing cross- community commitment to building a peaceful society have assisted a process that is transforming life on this island, helping to heal the many deep wounds of the past, and opening up great potential for the future.”

---

**DCU SIGNS HISTORIC LINKAGE AGREEMENT WITH THREE DUBLIN COLLEGES**

In February, An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD, witnessed the signing of three linkage agreements between Dublin City University and, respectively, the North Dublin educational institutions, St. Patrick’s College, the Mater Dei Institute of Education and All Hallows College. The agreements were signed by the President of DCU, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski, the Most Reverend Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin and the Reverend Desmond Beirne CM (Trustee of All Hallows College).

The Chancellor of DCU, Mr. David Byrne, former Attorney General and former EU Commissioner, who was present for this landmark educational agreement, will now become Chancellor of the linked colleges, while his role as chairman of the Governing Authority applies to DCU.

As a result of these agreements, All Hallows College became a college of DCU, and the existing linkages with St Patrick’s College and the Mater Dei Institute were strengthened further, allowing them to be more closely integrated into the university’s academic structures.

The signing of these historic linkage agreements marked a milestone in Irish education and, in particular, DCU’s commitment to engagement with its region and to strong collaboration with the linked colleges in the national interest.

Speaking at the signing of the agreements, DCU President Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski said, “I am delighted that these three well-known and important educational institutions are colleges of DCU. As one of the leading universities in Ireland and one of the...”
top 300 universities worldwide, DCU has in recent years identified the development of innovative education policies as one of its strategic priorities. The university, together with its three colleges is the most significant provider in the state of teaching and research in teacher training, educational policy and related aspects of the Humanities”.

In total DCU and the three Colleges enrol over 13,000 students, with 10,000 attending DCU, over 2,000 at St. Patrick’s College, 700 at All Hallows and 500 attending Mater Dei. The three linked colleges offer full- and part-time courses both at undergraduate and postgraduate level. They provide programmes leading to degrees that are validated and accredited by Dublin City University, and their students are recognised as students of DCU.

**DCU in the Community**

DCU has always been aware of its role in supporting key social objectives, in Ireland and beyond. We have always taken a very direct interest in the regeneration of our neighbourhoods, and have been active, in particular, in Ballymun. DCU was the first university to develop an Access programme for students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. March 2008 saw the opening of DCU in the Community, DCU’s new outreach facility in Ballymun. The premises are located in the heart of Ballymun on Shangan Road.

The mission of DCU in the Community is to provide flexible educational opportunities to local residents in order to increase participation and promote equality in third level education. DCU in the Community recognises the individual talents of each student and will develop an education pathway appropriate to each student. The university outreach centre will promote sustainable community development and serve as a bridge to the resources of DCU.

The concept of DCU in the Community originated in DCU’s Civic Engagement Strategy, led by Professor Ronnie Munck, the Theme Leader for Internationalisation, Interculturalism, and Social Development, in collaboration with the Learning Innovation Unit, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, School of Nursing, School of Education, Estates Office, Public Affairs and Media Relations, Computer Services Department, Educational Services, Access Services, Educational Trust, NorDubCo, Registry, and the Students Union.

The Centre offers a variety of courses aimed at the mature student audience. The student body is quite diverse and the Centre is truly reaching people that may have once felt intimidated by the idea of university.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Director appointed by DCU to Ireland’s first Ethics Institute**

DCU has appointed a leading international expert in bioethics, Dr Bert Gordijn, to the new Chair of Ethics. Dr Gordijn took over the role of Head of DCU’s new Ethics Institute from 1st September, 2008.

Dr Gordijn has studied Philosophy and History at the Universities of Utrecht (Netherlands), Strasbourg (France) and Freiburg in Breisgau (Germany). In 1995 he was awarded a doctorate in Philosophy; in 2003 he received a doctorate in Bioethics. He was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics at Lancaster University (UK), the Center for Clinical Bioethics at
Dr Bert Gordijn, to the new Chair of Ethics  

Georgetown University (USA) and the Fondation Brocher (Switzerland).

Dr Gordijn previously held the post of Lecturer and Clinical Ethicist within the Department of Ethics, Philosophy & History of Medicine at the Radboud University, Nijmegen (Netherlands). He is Secretary of the European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care, an international academic organisation with 450 members from more than 40 countries. He has been appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board of the European Patent Office, the External Science Advisory Panel of the European Chemical Industry Council, and the UNESCO expert committee on ethics and nanotechnology.

The President of DCU, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski, said: “We are delighted to have such an outstanding academic in this field taking up the Chair of Ethics at DCU and leadership of Ireland’s first Ethics Institute”.

Helen’s previous roles included 13 years with Intel Ireland, latterly as Strategic Development Manager and previously as Financial Controller both in Ireland and in the US. Prior to joining Intel, she was Financial Controller of Ericsson Ireland. Helen is a Chartered Accountant and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland. Helen serves on a number of public and private sector Boards including the boards of Science Foundation Ireland, the Digital Hub Development Agency and GS-1 (Ireland) Ltd.

Fiontar Faculty members appointed Government advisors on 20 year strategic plan for the Irish language

Two Faculty members from FIONTAR, Dublin City University’s school where teaching and research are conducted through Irish in a range of disciplines including business, communications and information technology, have been appointed to advise the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs as they prepare a 20 year strategic plan for the Irish language.

Fiontar Faculty members appointed Government advisors on 20 year strategic plan for the Irish language

Fiontar Faculty members appointed Government advisors on 20 year strategic plan for the Irish language
Jim Dowling - appointed Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Computing

Mr Jim Dowling was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Computing. Jim was already a key figure in the Faculty in his role as Head of the School of Electronic Engineering.

Tributes were paid to the outgoing Dean, Professor Charles McCorkell, for his key contributions to DCU and the Faculty over recent years – his hard work has been very much appreciated.

Colum Kenny - appointed to Media Mergers Advisory Group

Prof. Colum Kenny BL, BCL, Ph.D, was appointed to the new Media Mergers Advisory Group by Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment. The purpose of the group is to review the current legislative framework relating to the public interest aspects of media mergers in Ireland and to make recommendations as appropriate.

The group will be chaired by Mr Paul Sreenan, Senior Counsel and will report to the Minister within three months. Other members include Ms Olive Braidén, Arts Council, Mr Michael O’Keeffe, The Broadcasting Commission of Ireland and Mr Peter Cassells, National Centre for Partnership and Performance.

Colum Kenny is a lecturer in the School of Communications, Dublin City University, where he has developed and delivered courses in media policy and practice. He represents DCU and is the sole academic on the board of the E.U. MEDIA DESK for Ireland. A former employee of RTE, he also served on the Independent Radio and Television Commission and on the Broadcasting Commission of Ireland (1998-2003). For thirty years, he has contributed to consultations and debates about media policy both as an academic and as a journalist. He has published 9 books on historical and cultural themes; his most recent is entitled “Moments that Changed Us” (Gill & Macmillan), a survey of Ireland since 1973.

Comparative Literature Association of Ireland launch hosted by SALIS, DCU

The newly-formed Comparative Literature Association of Ireland (CLAI) was launched in November at the Royal Irish Academy. The launch celebrated the emergence and the rapid growth of Comparative Literary Studies in Ireland in a spirit of genuine cooperation between the universities offering comparative literature programmes.

The launch was followed by the 1st International Postgraduate Symposium in Comparative Literature, hosted by the School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies, DCU.

The symposium provided a forum for twenty-four new researchers in the field to present their work. The event was attended by over eighty participants, an extremely encouraging figure given that the discipline was not developed in Ireland until 2003, when the MA in Comparative Literature was created in the School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies, DCU.

The objective of the symposium was to explore the latest theoretical and methodological practices in comparative studies, provide a supportive environment for those new to presenting conference papers, and offer a lively and stimulating platform to all involved. Those objectives were fully achieved, thanks to the enthusiasm of academics from participating Irish universities – North and South – who encouraged their postgraduate students to attend, and who themselves supported the symposium through their attendance.

Death of Davy Hammond

It was with great sadness that we all learned about the passing away of Davy Hammond. He was a wonderful film-maker, musician, writer and artist, and DCU was very proud to confer an honorary doctorate on him in 2003. He electrified the graduation ceremony with his speech, and with his singing at the end of the speech. He leaves a hugely important legacy, not least through his work in reaching across the sectarian divide in Northern Ireland.

Our deepest condolences go out to his family.
Key Information and Metrics

DCU Business School
Faculty of Engineering and Computing
School of Computing
School of Electronic Engineering
School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Faculty of Science and Health
School of Biotechnology
School of Chemical Sciences
School of Mathematical Sciences
School of Nursing
School of Physical Sciences
School of Health and Human Performance

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies
School of Communications
School of Education Studies
Fiontar
School of Law and Government

Oscail (Distance Learning)

Linked Colleges:
St. Patrick’s College, Drumcondra
Mater Dei Institute
All Hallows College
### DCU Student Numbers

#### DCU Students by Qualification Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification Type</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>5,779</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>6,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Taught</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>2,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Research</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Award Visitors</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,336</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,335</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DCU Students registered on 1st March, 2008. Does not include DCU Distance Education (Oscail) or Royal Irish Academy of Music Students registered with DCU. Incoming exchange students reported separately.

#### DCU Students by Qualification Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DCU Business School</td>
<td>1,731</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>2,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCUBS/Salis</td>
<td>188</td>
<td></td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering &amp; Computing</td>
<td>1,161</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>1,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>1,752</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>2,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Award Visitors</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science &amp; Health</td>
<td>2,429</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>3,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,336</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,335</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DCU Students registered on 1st March, 2008. Does not include DCU Distance Education (Oscail), Exchange Students or Royal Irish Academy of Music Students registered with DCU.

#### DCU Distance Education (Oscail) Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DCU Students registered on Oscail Distance Education Programmes on 1st March, 2008.

#### DCU Students by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Oscail</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3,502</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>4,826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3,834</td>
<td>1,232</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>5,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,336</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,020</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,355</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DCU Students registered on 1st March, 2008. Does not include incoming Exchange Students or Royal Irish Academy of Music Students registered with DCU.
Key Performance Indicators

Postgraduate Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>654</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DCU research students registered on 1st March, 2008. Percentage figure does not include Oscail, incoming Exchange Students or Royal Irish Academy of Music Students registered with DCU.

Non-Traditional Students – Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Non-Traditional</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,277</td>
<td></td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DCU research students registered on 1st March, 2008. Percentage figure does not include Oscail, incoming Exchange Students or Royal Irish Academy of Music Students registered with DCU.

International Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total International Students*</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,382</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*International Students are defined as undergraduate and postgraduate students, or students on the Study Abroad Programmes with a Non-Irish Nationality. Nationalities used are those used by the HEA and the CSO and as a result students from Northern Ireland are deemed Irish. Percentage as a proportion of students based on total DCU students (excluding incoming exchange students, Oscail and Royal Irish Academy of Music)

New Programmes

DCU has committed to developing new and innovative programmes across the university and this year was no exception. DCU introduced a number of new degrees in September 2008. These courses are an important addition to the university’s already substantial range of degrees and postgraduate courses across all 4 Faculties:

- BSc in Enterprise Computing
- MA in International Communication
- MA in International Journalism Studies
- MSc in Computational Science and Complex Systems
- GD/MSc in Counselling and Psychotherapeutic Practice/Master’s
- Doctorate in Psychotherapy
We combine excellent facilities with a university environment that caters to the varied demands of our many students.
Host Family Welcome Programme.

To enhance the student experience of our international students, the International Office, in conjunction with the Inter-Faith Centre, set up a Host Family Welcome Programme.

The idea behind the programme is to encourage interaction between our students and the local community and to give the international students another avenue to become acquainted with local culture and to integrate into Ireland. We had an excellent response from staff, students and the local community to our invitation to become a host to one of our international students.

New Student Advice Centre

February saw the opening of the new Student Advice Centre in the Henry Grattan Building.

The Centre is the beginning of an evolving strategy in Student Affairs which will help to promote the support and development opportunities available to all DCU students during their time at the university.

The Centre will provide:

- Advice to students on all supports / developmental opportunities available to them
- A drop-in centre for students to pick up information leaflets on activities happening around the Campus
- A point for students with queries that do not have a ‘natural home’
- A ‘quick check’ point for students wishing to check a room number / event etc. on the Web (computers available to the students for this)
- An appointment service for Counselling

DCU Students Win at BICS Awards

The 2008 BICS National Society Awards were hosted by Dundalk IT. DCU won three Awards, including the prestigious Society of the Year Award for the DCU Drama Society.

DCU Style Society won Best Event for their Fashion Show and Redbrick- Networking Society won the award for Best Website.

DCU Athletics Win Bronze at World Championships

The Irish Ladies team led by the DCU trio of Fionnuala Britton (2nd), Linda Byrne (8th) and Ciara Durkan (23rd) won the bronze team medals at the 16th World University Cross Country Championships.

Linda Byrne and Ciara Durkan are both studying the BSc in Sport Science and Health. Fionnuala Britton is a Sports Science and Health PhD student.

Enda Fitzpatrick, DCU Sports Academy Athletics Director, said ‘This was a great achievement for our DCU Academy athletes on the Irish Team. This is the first time in 28 years that Ireland has won individual and Team medals at these championships.’
Fionnuala Britton said, ‘This was a great day for the DCU Athletics Academy and testimony to the great support and development that has gone into athletics over the last 4-5 years’.

Fionnuala Britton put in a strong performance in the individual race, losing out in the last 200m to Faye Fullerton from England.

In the Men’s race, both DCU representatives, Colm Turner (36th) and Kevin Lawler (54th), performed well in helping their team to 7th overall behind France, England and Australia.

**DCU’s Centre for Talented Youth in Ireland celebrates 15 year anniversary**

On Saturday 26 April Education Minister, Mary Hanafin TD, attended the 2008 CTYI anniversary celebrations. As part of the celebrations, 300 students, ranging in ages from 13-16 years old, were presented with certificates by Minister Hanafin to mark their achievements. Since its formation in 1993, the Irish Centre for Talented Youth has identified and provided classes for over 35,000 high ability students from both primary and secondary schools from all over Ireland. This year, 800 secondary schools participated in a talent search for gifted children to allow them take part in the 2008 CTYI summer programme. These students undertook the PSAT exam which is the American college entrance exam and is normally taken by 17 year olds. As a result of their excellent performance some 300 students were invited to DCU to celebrate their success.

DCU President, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski, attended the event. He said: “Nurturing the abilities and opportunities of talented people of all ages is part of DCU’s core mission. But this can have the most significant effect when the support is given at a very young age. The work of CTYI will bring many benefits to Ireland for years to come, as the graduates apply their talents in the cause of national development”.

**DCU’s largest ever mentorship programme**

Over 50 DCU Alumni mentors and nearly 70 students took part in DCU’s largest ever mentorship programme in November 2008. The event was organised by the Alumni Office in conjunction with the Careers Service.

The Joint Mentorship Programme provided students and mentors with an opportunity to meet, to discuss career goals, to network, to have fun in a social environment and to assist students in enhancing their professional skills outside the classroom.

Through mentoring, graduates share their experience with students and enhance their professional development.

The mentee has the opportunity to ask questions and share concerns at these campus events and observe an experienced professional within the working environment as part of the work-shadowing day.

DCU Communications graduate, Padraig McKeon, was a guest speaker at the launch event. Padraig has over 20 years experience in strategic PR and communications with a broad range of clients in the commercial and public sectors. He is Managing Director of Drury Communications and a member of the DCU Educational Trust Board of Trustees.
The mentorship areas cover a wide spectrum of expertise such as Entrepreneurship, Engineering, Biotechnology, Nursing, Languages, IT, Journalism (Print and Broadcast), Public Relations, Marketing, Human Resources, Financial Management, and International Business.

DCU HEA ‘Transformations’ Exhibition

Two research centres from DCU exhibited at the HEA’s ‘Transformations’ exhibition in the Science Gallery, TCD, from 27 November to 2 December 2008.

The exhibition was set up to celebrate ten years of the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTLI).

DCU’s National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR) and the National Centre for Cellular Biology (NICB) showcased their research at the event.

Bank of Ireland announces official sponsorship of DCU GAA Academy

Bank of Ireland signed an agreement to become the new official sponsor of the DCU GAA Academy in November 2008. The five-year deal commences immediately and will see the Bank of Ireland brand feature prominently at DCU.

The DCU GAA Academy was established in 2006 to provide elite-level Gaelic footballers with the opportunity to develop their sporting and academic careers in a supportive environment. DCU recognises that University sport forms an integral part of the social and educational lives of the campus community and the programmes ensure that the athletes are in a position to achieve sporting success both during and after their time at the college.

Making the announcement, Gabriel Bannigan, Director, Retail Strategy & Marketing at Bank of Ireland and former Monaghan county player, said: “Bank of Ireland has an impressive record of supporting GAA at Championship level for several decades and this new sponsorship gives us a unique opportunity to invest in the development of the next generation of talented players that will keep this wonderful game of ours centre stage. As the leading bank for students in Ireland this sponsorship is an excellent fit for both parties. We look forward to a terrific association with DCU who are at the forefront in developing Ireland’s leading centre of sporting excellence.”

INTERNET HERO AWARD FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS GRADUATE

Aodhan Cullen, founder of the free web-traffic measurement service, StatCounter, was chosen as 2008 Internet Hero by a panel of judges at the Eircom Golden Spiders internet awards. Cullen, chief executive of the web analysis firm, is now 25 years old. He started the company when he was 16.

Aodhan went on to develop it as his final year project while completing his degree in Computer Applications (CA) in DCU. StatCounter now tracks over three million websites and 10 billion pageloads a month.

“DCU’s Computer Applications degree gave me a great grounding in computers that allowed me to develop StatCounter to its full potential” Aodhan commented, “Studying Computer Applications was a great benefit to the business. Without that knowledge I wouldn’t have been able to bring it to what it was.”

The Dell Access Achievement Awards for Secondary Schools at the Helix

In December almost 400 secondary school students received their Dell Access Achievement Awards and a special prize of a Dell “Santa Claus” USB memory stick at the prestigious Dell Access Achievement Awards ceremony.

In front of a capacity crowd of over 1,200 fellow pupils, teachers and family members in the Helix, the secondary school students from some 23 schools on Dublin’s Northside appeared for their 10 seconds of fame.

The Access Achievement Awards are the biggest of their kind in Ireland. “We are delighted to support DCU and the Access Achievement Awards as they encourage young people to pursue the opportunities offered by third level education. Dell is committed to making technology more affordable and readily available to people and institutions everywhere so that they can take advantage of the tremendous economic and social benefits it offers.” said Paul Delaney, Head of Public Sector, Dell Ireland.

The Achievement Awards were introduced over 10 years ago by DCU’s Access Service to recognise, reward and encourage excellence in both the academic and extra-mural aspects of a student’s school life. They are an important strand of the DCU Access Schools Programme, which fosters positive attitudes to education and encourages young people to remain at school and consider third level education as a viable option for them.
Our teaching and research programmes reflect the current and anticipated needs of Ireland’s industrial and commercial sectors.
DCU is home to over 10,000 students engaged in a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate and research programmes.
Research & Knowledge Transfer

Research Centres in DCU

The development of research centres in DCU has been an important part of the research infrastructure and support that the university has invested in since its inception.

- National Institute of Cellular Biology (NICB)
- National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR)
- National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST)
- Research Institute for Networks and Communications Engineering (RINCE)
- Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI)
- International Centre for Neurotherapeutics (ICNT)
- Center for the Advancement of Science Teaching and Learning (CASTeL)
- Centre for Digital Video Processing
- Centre for International Studies
- Centre for Society, Information and Media
- Centre for Translation and Textual Studies
- Materials Processing Research Centre
- Centre for Software Engineering
- National Centre for Language Technology
- National Centre for Technology in Education
- Centre for Bioanalytical Science

Research Developments

DCU wins €21.6m funding with Dublin Region Universities and Institutes as a lead partner in new Dublin Third Level Alliance

DCU warmly welcomed the announcement by the Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin TD, of the outcomes of bids under the Strategic Innovation Fund.

Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski, President of DCU, said: “The university is very pleased that, with its partners, it has been allocated €21.6m by the Minister as a lead partner of projects under the SIF programme, the largest award in this funding round.

DCU is pleased in particular that the Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance, of which it is a founding member, will be set up with this funding, and will include the three other universities, UCD, TCD and NUIM, along with DIT and the institutes of technology in the area.”

The Centre will also guide the implementation of four major projects relating to Transforming the Curriculum, Teaching for Engagement and Retention, E-learning, and Learner Support.

DCU Support for DKIT Research Success

DCU researchers have supported our colleagues at Dundalk Institute of Technology in obtaining a major award of €1.5 m from the HEA/Irish Aid in support of an exciting and novel initiative to develop fresh water in a sustainable manner for Sub-Saharan Africa.

The researchers involved were Professor Anthony Staines and Dr. Jean Clarke (both from the School of Nursing) and Dr. Niamh Gaynor (Office
Research & Knowledge Transfer

Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS) Funding Success for DCU

DCU was also successful in the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS) “Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme”.

DCU’s Migration and Integration Programme received funding to support Gloria Macri (based in the School of Communications) who is researching ‘Romanians in Ireland - Ethnic minorities, media and identities’ and Aoileann Ni Mhurchu (based in the School of Law and Government) who is researching ‘Irish’ Identity and Commonsense Citizenship: A Poststructuralist Analysis of the 2004 Citizenship Referendum. They are also responsible for the day to day management of the DCU-sponsored inter-university journal “Translocations: The Irish Migration, Race and Social Transformation Review” (www.translocations.ie).

DCU, UCD and Tyndall combine to seek research advances in new technologies

A unique €16.4m technology partnership between UCD and DCU, supported by Cork’s Tyndall Institute, and funded by Science Foundation Ireland, aims to tame twenty-first century media information overload, facilitate improved health, and ensure that our environment is meeting tough standards being set to deliver a better quality of life.

SFI has provided €11.8m to the CSET research centre, CLARITY, while industry and social partners are providing more than €4.6m in cash, facilities, services and personnel. IBM, Vodafone, Ericsson and Fidelity Investments are among the multinationals supporting this ambitious world-class project, as well as national agencies, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Marine Institute and the National Museum of Ireland.

The centre will be led by UCD’s Professor Barry Smyth. The Deputy Director will be DCU’s Professor Alan Smeaton.

“Sensors help us to learn more about ourselves and the world in which we live, and the next generation of sensor technologies will be cheap, connected and reliable, enabling exciting new applications,” said Professor Barry Smyth, Director of CLARITY.

Building on research breakthroughs achieved with financial support from SFI and industry investments over the past four years, the centre will focus on empowering citizens through new technologies to harvest, refine and make use of the deluge of different kinds of information in the modern world.

This is a large-scale academic-industry collaboration with more than 90 full-time researchers and more than ten industrial partners, including major multinationals as well as emerging Irish companies. The President of DCU, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski, said, “This is DCU’s third CSET award from SFI, marking the university’s distinctive leadership in Ireland’s research revolution at third level institutions in recent years. CLARITY is also fulfilling a vital national requirement for quality research collaboration between institutions, focussed on commercial breakthroughs to the benefit of the Irish economy.”
Top researchers receive President’s Research Awards 2007/2008

This year’s President’s Research Awards were presented to two distinguished researchers at DCU – Professor Dermot Diamond of the School of Chemical Sciences and the National Centre for Sensor Research, and Dr Brigitte Le Juez, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies.

The awards are presented annually to researchers who have excelled respectively in the areas of Science and Engineering and in Humanities and Social Sciences.

DCU President, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski, commended Dermot Diamond for his outstanding contributions to sensor development and for driving DCU’s advancement through original science and strategic development. “Professor Diamond has made outstanding research contributions, provided strong leadership in his field, promoted science to new audiences, pushed the boundaries of multi- and interdisciplinary science, contributed significantly to social and economic development, and it is my great pleasure to award him the 2007 President’s Research Award for Science and Engineering”, he said.

Dr Brigitte Le Juez received the award for her outstanding contribution to the development of Comparative Literature Studies and French and Francophone Studies, both nationally and internationally. Her most recent Work, Beckett avant la lettre (2007) which is to be published this year in an English translation, received instant and widespread praise in France and has been hailed internationally as a pioneering work in Beckettian scholarship.

Speaking at the ceremony, Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski paid particular tribute to the Vice-President of Research, Professor Eugene Kennedy, and his team for their commitment, dedication and strong performance in a highly competitive field.

Microsoft Postgraduate Research Scholarships awarded to DCU students

For the academic year 2007/08, the Research Committee of the School of Computing at DCU, together with input from Microsoft Ireland, awarded four students with a Microsoft Postgraduate Scholarship for 2007/08.

Two full scholarships worth €3221 were awarded to:

Aiden Doherty (supervisor: Prof. Alan Smeaton) – automatic structuring and augmentation of a lifeLog of images

Gavin O’Gorman (supervisor: Dr. Stephen Blott) – overlay networks for message routing control

In addition, two half scholarships of €1610 were awarded to:

John Tinsley (supervisor: Professor Andy Way) – exploiting parallel tree banks to improve data-driven machine translation

Bipin Kumar (supervisor: Dr Martin Crane) – modelling fluid flow and its interaction with coastal structures

Liam Cronin, Academic Engagement Manager in Microsoft Ireland, commented: “Education is one of the most important pillars for Ireland’s continued economic development. It’s vital that we support
the connection between the world of education and the world of business, to ensure we continue to bring new ideas and expertise that can help drive innovation and entrepreneurship. Our support for Dublin City University and the postgraduate research students in the School of Computing is recognition of the importance of that link."

DCU researchers, led by Professor Miles Turner, awarded funding of €5m

Association Euratom DCU, established in 1996, with research partners in University College Cork, have successfully concluded contract negotiations with the European Commission to extend Ireland’s participation in this Fusion Energy Research Programme to the end of 2013. This extension will be worth approximately €5m to the Irish researchers, led by DCU’s Prof. Turner, over the period 2008 – 2013. The Irish Association contributes to the European Research effort which is focusing on the construction of the ITER Fusion Machine in Cadarache, France.

Young Researcher in National Centre for Plasma Science & Technology (NCPST) wins Enterprise Ireland Technology Development award

Dr. Shantanu Karkari was successful in his application to Enterprise Ireland for support under the Technology Development Phase of their Commercialisation Fund. Dr. Karkari, who previously completed an Enterprise Ireland Proof of Concept project (€90k), was awarded just under €400,000 over three years to undertake this potentially groundbreaking project. The project will look at the development of an Electron Density Sensor as an advanced virtual metrology sensor for plasma technologies. It will be particularly useful for the validation of local plasma conditions, for process control and for routine fault identification in industrial plasma processing tools.

Knowledge Transfer

DCU Invent

As DCU’s “Commercialisation Gateway”, DCU Invent has the infrastructure, the ability and the expertise to assist and advise industry, academia and researchers in their innovation, commercialisation and business development endeavours.

DCU Invent works closely with DCU faculty and students, industry, government agencies and the local community to support and encourage the transformation of cutting-edge research into innovative and commercially exploitable products and services. The Centre provides 2,800 m2 of purpose-built incubation space for technology-based start-up companies, as well as offering a range of early stage and developmental business support services to its client companies.

DCU Invent’s core work includes:

- Working with DCU researchers to identify innovations with commercial potential
- Evaluating and protecting the University’s research-based intellectual property through technology transfer, licensing and spin outs.
- Providing business and marketing strategies for possible commercialisation, using extensive links with industry to help forge business and research partnerships and to market DCU’s commercialisation opportunities and research capabilities both nationally and internationally.

The DCU Invent team works closely with DCU’s Office of the Vice President for Research, Science Foundation Ireland and Enterprise
Ireland to promote successful commercialisation of DCU research and to encourage and establish R&D links with industry.

**DCU Invent - Invention Disclosure Awards**

The Annual Invention Disclosure Award ceremony was held in December. These awards were set up by DCU Invent to publicly recognise the researchers who work with the DCU Invent team to protect and commercialise their research. This year over 80 researchers attended the event from the Schools and Faculties.

The ceremony was officially opened by the President, Prof. Ferdinand von Prondzynski, and the awards were presented by Professor Eugene Kennedy, Vice-President for Research. The Guest speaker, Shay Garvey of Delta, gave an overview of the venture capital environment in Ireland.

There were a total of 36 Invention Disclosures with each group receiving a prize of €200. An overall prize of €1000 was also awarded in each of the categories of Life Sciences; Physical/Chemical Sciences and ICT/Engineering.

Richard Stokes, Director of DCU Invent, stated that these individuals had demonstrated great initiative in the commercialisation of their technology and both DCU and Invent value the time and effort researchers put into commercialising their research.

The Overall Award for Life Sciences of €1000 was given to Lourdes Basabe-Desmonts, Asif Riaz, Antonio Ricco and Luke Lee (BDI) for their invention disclosure entitled ‘Single Platelet Adhesion Assay’. This was a joint invention between DCU and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

The overall award for Physical/Chemical Sciences of €1000 was given to Stephen O’Driscoll, Conor Burke and Brian MacCraith (NCSR) for their invention disclosure entitled ‘Mobile Phone-based Sensor Platform’.

The overall award for ICT/Engineering of €1000 was given to Paul Whelan, John Mallon and Julia Dietmeier (Electronic Engineering) for their invention disclosure entitled ‘Precise Correction of Optical Lateral Chromatic Aberration in Digital Imaging Systems’.
DCU is committed to creating an environment which will stimulate entrepreneurial awareness and activity among its students.
Membership of Governing Authority

Chancellor:  
MR DAVID BYRNE  
Former EU Commissioner and Attorney General

Chief Officer:  
PROFESSOR FERDINAND VON PRONDZYNISKI  
President  
Dublin City University

Senior Officers:  
PROFESSOR MARIA SLOWEY  
Registrar  
Dublin City University

MR MARTIN CONRY  
Secretary  
Dublin City University

Professors/ Assoc. Professors:  
PROFESSOR HEATHER RUSKIN  
School of Computing, DCU

PROFESSOR PAUL WHELAN  
School of Electronic Engineering, DCU

Other Academic Staff:  
MR WILLIAM KELLY  
Lecturer  
Dublin City University Business School

DR ANTHONY KILLARD  
Principal Investigator, Coagulation Monitoring  
Biomedical Diagnostics Institute  
National Centre for Sensor Research

1 Vacant
Membership of Governing Authority

Non-Academic Staff: 

MR PAUL SMITH
Director of Equality

Student Representatives:

(To June 2008)

MR ALAN FLANAGAN
President
Students’ Union, DCU

MS HAZEL HAYES
Deputy President for Education & Welfare
Students’ Union, DCU

(To June 2008)

MR NIALL MCCLAVE
President
Students’ Union, DCU

MS SUSAN HURLEY
Deputy President for Education & Welfare
Students’ Union, DCU

Postgraduate Student:

MR JOE BRENNAN
School of Communications

Employers, Trade Unions, etc.:

MS MARGARET SWEENEY
Chief Executive
An Post Fortis

MS CAROL MOFFETT
Company Director

Ministerial nominees:

AN TUASAL DÁITHÍ Ó BROIN
Deputy Principal
Ard Scoil Ris

MR AIDAN J KERINS
European Commercial Director
(Manufacturing & Life Sciences)
Fluor Corporation

MRS LIL SHEEHY
Nurse

Artistic, Cultural interest:

MS ORLAITH MCBRIDE
Director
NAiD

Graduates:

MR SHANE BRODBIN
Eircom

Nominee of Local Authority:

CLR ANDREW MONTAGUE
Dublin City Council
Nominees of DCU Educational Trust:

MS ANN HORAN
Business Consultant

Linkage Agreement with
St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra:

DR PAURIC TRAVERS
President
St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra

(To June 2008)

MS JOANNE TOAL
President
Students’ Union
St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra

(Post June 2008)

MR EOIN BOLGER
President
Students’ Union
St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra

DR MARY SHINE THOMPSON
Department of English
St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra

Linkage Agreement with
Mater Dei Institute of Education:

DR DERMOT LANE
President
Mater Dei Institute of Education

Linkage Agreement with
All Hallows College:

Fr Mark Noonan
President
All Hallows College
DCU is a thriving and dynamic community where students enjoy an excellent education and make friendships for life. DCU brings out the best in all students.
Financial Report

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Grants</td>
<td>42,040</td>
<td>39,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees</td>
<td>47,075</td>
<td>39,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>5,591</td>
<td>4,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>169,767</strong></td>
<td><strong>150,638</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subaccounts</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Patricks College, Drumcondra</td>
<td>23,115</td>
<td>22,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mater Dei Institute of Education</td>
<td>3,702</td>
<td>4,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Universities Quality Board</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Grants and Projects</td>
<td>47,863</td>
<td>39,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>75,061</strong></td>
<td><strong>67,052</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Faculties and Departments</td>
<td>57,300</td>
<td>51,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic and Other Services</td>
<td>6,283</td>
<td>6,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>7,954</td>
<td>7,027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Allocated for Capital Purposes</td>
<td>4,484</td>
<td>2,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Administration and Services</td>
<td>10,492</td>
<td>10,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Educational Expenditure</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
<td>4,424</td>
<td>3,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expenditure</td>
<td>2,552</td>
<td>2,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>168,993</strong></td>
<td><strong>150,640</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subaccounts</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Patricks College, Drumcondra</td>
<td>23,115</td>
<td>22,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mater Dei Institute of Education</td>
<td>3,702</td>
<td>4,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Universities Quality Board</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Grants and Projects</td>
<td>47,863</td>
<td>39,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>75,061</strong></td>
<td><strong>67,052</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Surplus/(Deficit) on Activities before Amortisation of Capital Reserves and Grants and Depreciation of Fixed Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit)</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Depreciation of Fixed Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation of Fixed Assets</td>
<td>(11,860)</td>
<td>(8,854)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Reserve movement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Reserve movement</td>
<td>11,860</td>
<td>8,854</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Surplus/(Deficit) for the year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2008 '000</th>
<th>2007 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## BALANCE SHEET
### AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Euro '000</td>
<td>Euro '000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>222,789</td>
<td>222,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INVESTMENTS</strong></td>
<td>47,987</td>
<td>47,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand and at bank</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>4,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors and Prepayments</td>
<td>54,414</td>
<td>42,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>55,213</td>
<td>47,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors and Accrued Expenditure</td>
<td>64,042</td>
<td>62,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Overdraft</td>
<td>6,349</td>
<td>3,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>70,391</td>
<td>65,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>(15,178)</td>
<td>(18,255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors due after one year</td>
<td>2,315</td>
<td>3,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>253,283</td>
<td>247,838</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REPRESENTED BY:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Reserve</td>
<td>207,591</td>
<td>207,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Reserve</td>
<td>45,622</td>
<td>40,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Reserve</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>(704)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>253,283</td>
<td>247,838</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Financial Report