



# DCU in the Community

June, 2012 [www.dcu.ie/community](http://www.dcu.ie/community) [www.facebook.com/dcuinthecommunity](http://www.facebook.com/dcuinthecommunity)

## Latest News:

- DCU in the Community graduation took place on June 15th in the Helix with over 80 attendees-students, their families, friends, partner community organisations and DCU representatives. Professor Anne Scott, DCU's Deputy President and Registrar was the special guest and gave an inspiring speech about the importance of lifelong learning and flexible educational options. Details at <http://www4.dcu.ie/news/2012/jun/so6121.shtml>
- Congratulations to the Winners of President's Awards for Civic Engagement! Centre for Academic Achievement (staff category) and Ruth Crawley, Patrick Collins and Shane Glynn (student category, School of Law and Government) received their awards at the ceremony in May. For details see <http://www.dcu.ie/news/2012/may/so512v.shtml>
- Our Summer School will start on July 9th and will run for 4 weeks. Subjects include Maths/ Science, Healthy Living, Digital Technologies and Horticulture/Sustainability. Staff and students from across DCU will facilitate the sessions. If you or your colleagues would like to get involved, please get in touch!
- Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton visited DCU in the Community in May to meet Project FUTSAL and Boxing Clever participants. Minister Burton stressed the importance of universities reaching out to local communities and links between academia and sports.
- 4th Year students from School of Health and Human Performance delivered a series of engaging, state-of-the-art Sports Masterclasses for Project FUTSAL participants on DCU campus in April and May.
- DCU in the Community Annual Report (2011) was launched in June, and is available on our website. To request a hard copy of our Annual Report, please contact us.
- Thank you to staff from across the university who attended our Advisory Board Meeting in May to help us draft future strategy for DCU in the Community.
- New 8-week Information Technology programme is under way and runs in partnership with the Ballymun Job Centre.
- A look back: in the academic year 2011/2012, we delivered 8 programmes ranging in duration from 7 to 35 weeks for over 120 students. Topics covered included college preparation and study skills (Bridge to Education), digital media, information technology, communications, group facilitation skills and sports and fitness.
- Good news from our students who are moving on to higher education (also DCU!) in September and are just waiting to receive their official CAO offers.

## We Are Looking Forward To:

- Roundtable discussion and book launch: *Higher Education and Civic Engagement: Comparative Perspectives* edited by Ann Lyons, Lorraine McIlrath and Ronaldo Munck on July 3rd in the Helix with DCU President Professor Brian MacCraith and HEA Chief Executive Tom Boland.



Left: Graduation June 2012 Right: Winners of Awards for Civic Engagement (Student Category)

### Community Partner News

- \* BRL's *Sustaining Regeneration-A Social Plan for Ballymun* was launched on June 22nd by Minister Róisín Shortall. It outlines how to future-proof the physical, social, economic and cultural re-development of Ballymun.
- \* Congratulations to all staff @ CAFTA who celebrated their 25th anniversary on June 27th.
- \* Ballymun Intercultural Fair took place on June 21st celebrating the diversity among new communities living in Ballymun.

### Staff News

- \* Our new Maths Development Officer, and DCU Graduate, Paul Grimes will be running the Maths/Science Summer School and courses for parents in September. He also runs drop-ins for local residents and students who need help with Maths. Good luck Paul!
- \* John Kirwan, 2nd year DCU Communications student, has started his summer work experience with us as a Research Assistant. Among other things, John is helping with research on social value of universities.
- \* Sean Dwyer, Youthreach work experience student, produced a promotional video for us. See it here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHUtB7q8ito>
- \* Aoife O'Shaughnessy, Business and IT student from Whitehall College, has interned with us in June and was a real asset as an assistant teacher and administrator.