



# DCU in the Community

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

## Latest News:

- Good luck to all our past students starting or continuing their degree programmes at DCU, All Hallows, NCI, ITB, and DIT, as well as to those progressing to PLC courses in colleges of further education!
- 8 Project FUTSAL students who completed the course in June have been offered internships with the FAI to help with the new programme that started 17th September with 32 participants. The full-time, one-year course runs in partnership with the FAI and Whitehall College, and is a mix of adult education (FETAC Level 5 Sport and Recreation), FAI coaching badges and volunteer placements. 4th Year students from DCU School of Health and Human performance will deliver Masterclasses on the programme in Spring 2013.
- Virtual Learning Environment @ DCU workshop was held on 13th September for almost 40 incoming mature students and introduced participants to DCU Moodle, Student Portal and Apps. The workshop was a part of Mature Student Orientation and ran in partnership with DCU Access & Student Recruitment, LIU and ISS.
- Our 6-week Bridge to Education course will start in November 2012 and will cater for adults preparing to return to higher education. Apart from covering areas such as Study Skills, Numeracy for College and IT skills, the course will be closely linked with DCU Campus. If you, your School or Unit would like to assist in organising an event for prospective students in November/December 2012, please get in touch!
- A new 10-week Multimedia course (FETAC Level 5) started 27th September with 12 students. The programme is run jointly with Ballymun Men's Centre.
- DCU in the Community Summer School took place in July and August 2012. Subjects included Science, Healthy Living, Digital Technologies and Horticulture/Sustainability. 14 workshops were delivered for 130 participants – almost twice as many as last year. Details <http://www4.dcu.ie/community/DCUcommunity/summer2012.shtml>
- We would like to thank Mary Farrelly (DCU School of Nursing), Helena Ahern (DCU Counselling Service), Paul Fitters (Teagasc), Dr Aoife MacCormac, Robbie Sinnot & BDI team, as well as Paul Hamill (Project FUTSAL), Máire Hurley (Global Action Plan) and Dan Tabb (Sports Across Ireland) for facilitating our Summer School workshops.

## Community Partner News

- \* Congratulations to Age Friendly University Initiative on their Taste of DCU day on 13th September. Over 150 older learners had the opportunity to participate in academic, sports, social and cultural events on campus.
- \* A new community garden has been opened beside Virgin Mary Church in Shangan. DCU in the Community have been helping with the allotments—building, planting and cleaning. The garden is open for all on Tuesdays 11am-1pm and Thursdays 5.30pm-7.30pm.
- \* Ballymun Education Fair took place on 13th September in Ballymun Civic Centre with 40 organisations offering hundreds of education and training places in 50 different areas.

## Staff News

- \* Thank you to our Maths Development Officer, Paul Grimes, who is now pursuing PhD research at DCU.
- \* Helen McQuillan, Development Officer, has recently been asked to lead a seminar on Women in Innovation and Technology at ATOS UK in London.
- \* Joanna Ozarowska, Student Support Officer, has been helping coach U11 and U12 Ballymun Lions basketball team with Sports Across Ireland in Popintree Sports Centre.
- \* David Lennon, a student from National Learning Network has interned with us as an administrator for the month of September.

## We Are Looking Forward To:

- DCU Volunteer Fair on 11th October in the Hub—make sure you visit our stand to find out about volunteering opportunities at our centre and in Ballymun.
- Upcoming Actioning Civic Engagement event at the end of November, organised on DCU campus in partnership with Campus Engage—details to follow soon.
- Project FUTSAL Graduation and Launch event in October.



Left: Summer School at our centre



Right: Working hard in the community garden in Shangan

**University in the Community—Social Regeneration through Education**

