The President’s Report 2006
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Welcome to the DCU President’s Report for 2006. Dublin City University has continued the tradition of innovation, growth and development during this year. Our academic community has continued to create and deliver an innovative new curriculum, collaborate with other academics and organisations in pursuit of research breakthroughs and engage with our various communities outside the university.

It has been another exciting year in DCU in 2006 – not least from the point of view of sports. We had the success of Derval O’Rourke on the track, who delivered Ireland’s first ever gold medal in a female event at the World Indoor Championships. There was the first ever DCU victory in the Sigerson Cup winning team at the final in DCU. DCU also launched the DCU Sports Academy, described in more detail later in this report.
Once again DCU was placed highly in the *Sunday Times* ‘University of the Year’, this time as the runner-up. In the last four years DCU has won the award once and been runner-up twice, demonstrating again the level of innovation and commitment to educational quality that DCU has reached.

**Ms Justice Mella Carroll**

It was with great sadness that the DCU community learned of the passing away of the university’s Chancellor in early 2006. Ms Justice Mella Carroll died after a long illness borne with great courage and good humour. Taking up her appointment as DCU’s Chancellor in 2001, Mella carried out the role with great energy and enthusiasm, and worked closely with the President, the whole university community and with the Governing Authority that she chaired.

In 1980 she was the first woman judge to be appointed to the High Court. Mella Carroll was an outstanding Chancellor of DCU, and helped steer the university through a time of considerable change and strategic development. We were privileged to have her as our Chancellor
and appreciated particularly her personal qualities that made her such a pleasure to work with.

As part of the celebration of 10 years of education provision the School of Nursing dedicated and named one of the lecture theatres in the building to the Honourable Ms Justice Mella Carroll. The Chancellor was an important figure in Nursing through her role as Chair of the Commission on Nursing in 1998.

**Metro North**

The announcement of the route for the Metro North was good news for DCU this year. The decision by the Minister to locate a stop at DCU is recognition of the value the government places on the university as a third-level institution. The link will improve accessibility to the campus for hundreds of students, staff and visitors. It will also have an impact on visitors to the Helix, which is located on the DCU campus.

**VHI Swiftcare**

The new VHI Swiftcare clinic was launched on the campus during the year and was opened by An Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney TD. The development of the clinic on the DCU campus will be significant for the university’s profile as a leader in innovation, enterprise and commitment to the community. DCU now has an on-site state-of-the-art modern facility using the best medical and nursing expertise, new innovative models of healthcare provision and a patient-centric model. The Clinic is located in a purpose-built facility adjacent to the School of Nursing and will provide rapid assessment, treatment and advice for patients with a range of minor injuries and illnesses.

**New DCU Chancellor Appointed**

The former Attorney General and former EU Commissioner David Byrne has been appointed Chancellor of Dublin City University Governing Authority. David Byrne served as Attorney General from 1997 to 1999 in the first Fianna
Leadership through Foresight

2006 was the first year of the implementation of the three-year plan Leadership through Foresight. A considerable amount of effort went into developments this year, including a range of activities across the three main component strategies of Learning Innovation, Research and Community Engagement highlighted throughout this report. As we continue to cascade the new planning system through the university, 2006 saw the development of the first complete set of Faculty plans which involved a large number of academic staff from across the campus.

Strategic Alliance with Arizona State University

Dublin City University signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a strategic partnership with Arizona State University (ASU) in the United States, in the first of what is planned as a number of similar international agreements. ASU, based in Phoenix, Arizona, is the first of DCU’s global partners. ASU is a comprehensive public metropolitan university enrolling more than 60,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students on four campuses.

Both universities are driven by excellence and an entrepreneurial spirit and have developed in a similar way; both are now internationally recognised centres of excellence in their priority areas of research. This new alliance will provide exciting opportunities for faculty members and students of both universities in...
teaching and learning as well as the joint development of critical research. Forming international alliances is a key objective in DCU’s strategic plan, Leadership through Foresight.

Strategic Collaboration with Athlone Institute of Technology

AIT and DCU signed a Memorandum of Understanding in October with the intention of establishing an industry-linked research centre in Athlone and providing new degree programmes. The strategic partnership was launched by the Minister for Finance, Brian Cowen TD. This initiative is in line with the national policy of promoting partnership and collaboration between third level institutions. It also reflects the government objective of regional development. As part of the strategic alliance, the new Director of Research at AIT will also be appointed an Adjunct Professor at DCU. This joint appointment is believed to be the first of its kind between two Irish academic institutions and is part-funded by Élan. DCU has an established commitment to regional development through knowledge transfer and has already contributed actively to the strategy of attracting high value industry R&D to Ireland.

Appointments @ DCU

Professor Bill Harris, former Director General of SFI and current Head of Science Foundation, Arizona, was appointed Adjunct Professor at Dublin City University during 2006. In this capacity, Professor Harris will chair DCU’s recently established Faculty of Science and Health Advisory Panel.

From 2001-2006, Professor Harris was instrumental in the development of Ireland’s strategic research policy, managing a €646m grant programme. Professor Harris is also an elected member of the Royal Irish Academy.
Appointments @ DCU

A new Professor of Journalism, Professor Stephen Knowlton, was appointed during the year, replacing Professor John Horgan in the role. Professor Knowlton has spent 20 years as a journalist and 20 years as a journalism educator in the US, writing on areas such as journalism ethics and education. Professor Knowlton has also lectured at Penn State University and Hofstra University in New York.

Academic Themes

In its second year the Office of the Theme Leaders has established itself as an integral part of DCU’s strategic management structure. As the drivers of the Foresight exercise – in partnership with the Office of the Vice President for Research – the Theme Leaders are exploring new winning research ideas as part of the implementation of Leadership through Foresight. Topics such as security and development, multiculturalism and renewable energy, are being developed to establish their potential for growth. Through their work with the Faculties and the Associate Deans for Research and Learning Innovation, the Theme Leaders have begun to embed the Academic Themes as strategic drivers of DCU’s research and teaching.

Innovation @ DCU

The Healthy Living Centre (HLC), an initiative of the School of Nursing, became a campus company during 2006. The HLC now provides the commercial and legal entity within which the academic practice agenda of the School of Nursing can be delivered. Academic practice is the deliberate integration of research, education and practice in an academic setting. The HLC will ensure that an integrated approach to service development is foremost and contributes to the shape of health care services.
Key Information & Statistics

Faculties and Schools

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)
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>5,564</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>5,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Research</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Taught</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>1,258</td>
<td>1,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Award Visitors</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,856</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,874</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,730</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Students</td>
<td>218</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

International Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>% of Full-time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Students*</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*International Students are defined as full-time (undergraduate and postgraduate) students or students on the Study Abroad Programmes with a Non-Irish Nationality. Nationalities used are those employed by the HEA and the CSO, as a result students from Northern Ireland are deemed Irish and consequently not International.

DCU Students by Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DCU Business School</td>
<td>1,660</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>2,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCUBS / Salis</td>
<td>189</td>
<td></td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering &amp; Computing</td>
<td>1,173</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>1,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>1,597</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>2,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities / Computing</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Award Visitors</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science &amp; Health</td>
<td>2,223</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>2,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,856</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,874</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,730</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DCU Distance Education (Oscail) Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Taught</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>3,302</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>4,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3,554</td>
<td>1,134</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>5,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,856</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,874</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,035</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,765</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-Traditional Students - Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Non-Traditional</td>
<td>996</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Non-traditional students are full-time undergraduate students who are classified as Mature, Access or Students with a Disability.

Key Performance Indicators

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Research</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Programmes

DCU has committed to developing new and innovative programmes across the university and this year is no exception. DCU has introduced a number of new degree courses for the next academic year starting in September 2006. These courses are an attractive addition to the university’s already substantial range of degrees and postgraduate courses in health, science, business and the humanities.

These new courses are the:

• BSc in Physical Education
• BSc in Marketing, Innovation and Technology
• BSc in Children’s and General (Integrated) Nursing
• BSc in Quantitative Finance
• MBS in Human Resource Management
• Professional Doctoral Programme
• Executive Masters in Entrepreneurship
• European MSc in Business Informatics
• MSc in Biomedical Diagnostics.
DCU has continued to develop new and innovative methods to allow our support and service units to engage more fully with our internal and external stakeholders. Improvements in on-campus facilities continued, including the launch of the VHI Swiftcare Clinic and a new Pharmacy that will serve staff, students and the local community. Key support units such as Finance, Human Resources, Computer Services and Estates continue to provide the essential core services which allow the university to discharge its responsibilities to its numerous stakeholders.

**DCU Community Fun Day**

As part of DCU’s 25th anniversary celebrations a family fun day took place in July organised by Human Resources. The community day was a huge success and provided an opportunity for people from the surrounding area to visit the campus and meet DCU staff. The entertainment included a circus in the Helix, bingo, go-karting, bouncing castles, face painting and penalty shoot-outs.
Digital Café Launched

A revolutionary new super digital café – the first of its kind in a university in Ireland – with the latest computers, web cams, free international web phones and other hi tech equipment, opened in December. This concept is designed to provide students with a new forum for working and playing. Students can write or research coursework, take some downtime on an Xbox game, video conference with friends, join chat rooms or phone home for free.

The work ‘n play concept includes a ‘chill out’ area equipped with 12 Xbox units which can also be used to go online with webcams and headsets, as well as four Skype internet protocol phone booths where free international calls can be made. The ‘Mezzanine’ café is situated above the main student restaurant and has 60 work and play stations, where students can pursue their studies or chill out with simple refreshments – tea, coffee and snacks. The entire area is wireless enabled so that students can bring their own laptops for work or pleasure. The new café was developed by the Computer Services Department (CSD) as part of their ongoing implementation of the university’s strategic plan.
Appointments @ DCU

Mr Paul Smith was appointed as the new Director of Equality. Paul previously worked in the DCU Computer Services Department (CSD). The function of the Equality Office is to ensure Equal Opportunity and Management of Diversity. The Director’s role is to create the conditions whereby students, staff and all others associated with the University are treated equitably regardless of gender, disability, sexual orientation, race, membership of the Traveller community, religious beliefs, age, marital or family status.

Sigerson Cup Victory

DCU had a memorable sporting year with the university gaelic team’s victory in the Sigerson Cup. It was an especially sweet victory as the final was held on the DCU sports grounds. The Gaelic Players Association included three of DCU’s 2006 Sigerson Cup winning players in the official Open Gaelic Team of the Year for 2006. The players honoured were Dublin’s Bryan Cullen and Stephen Cluxton, and Mayo’s Conor Mortimer.

DCU Sports Academy

Up to 100 of Ireland’s top sportspeople became members of DCU’s new Sports Academy which was officially launched at the Helix by An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD, in November. The first of its kind in Ireland, the Academy offers athletes a comprehensive support environment in their chosen sport. Initially it will cater for gaelic football, athletics
and tennis (the latter in association with Tennis Ireland). Further sports will be introduced in the coming years.

The academy provides access to all DCU’s world-class sports facilities including the exclusive high performance gym, a 25-metre pool, ice baths, on-site sport medicine clinic with regular high-tech assessments of performance levels, together with the best coaching and mentoring in Ireland.

The Sports Academy is funded by DCU with the assistance of private donors and companies who will support the elite sports scholarship programme. The overall €5m investment will be spread over five years. The Academy is led by Professor Niall Moyna, Head of the School of Health and Human Performance, who has championed the development of sport programmes and facilities at DCU.

Elite Athlete Entry Scheme

During 2006 DCU introduced a new direct entry scheme for elite athletes to all undergraduate courses at the university. The scheme had been piloted in the School of Health and Human Performance. Athletes who spend a considerable amount of time training and performing can now gain entry to other degree courses such as Communications, Business, Nursing, Science and Information Technology on reduced points. However, they must first provide a portfolio chronicling their achievements in sports, together with a personal statement. Based on these they will be shortlisted for interview and final selection.

Sports Scholarships

The DCU Sports Scholarship Awards for 2006-2007 were announced at a reception in December at DCU. 110 Sports Scholarships were awarded across a broad range of sports. The Sports Scholarship Programme supports the holistic development of talented athletes and recognises their increasing need to successfully balance academic and sporting commitments. This is an athlete-led programme whereby support is tailored to the individual needs of the athlete.
Innovation @ DCU

Dublin City University and the University of Wales in Lampeter have collaborated to develop new on-line dictionaries for Irish and Welsh. The terminology website, focal.ie, which has recorded over 60,000 searches per month, was launched in September. It is one of the largest terminology databases in the world, combining over a quarter of a million Irish and English terms in one accessible site. The project commenced in 2004 with €1.6 million in funding from Interreg and Foras na Gaeilge. It will be widely used by people at home, in school and at work. This new website is aimed at home users as well as professionals.

Official Languages

In April 2006 DCU agreed to a scheme, under Section 11 of the Official Languages Act 2003, with the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. Meetings of the Official Languages Act Working Group are ongoing to actively monitor the implementation of the scheme across the university. The Scheme can be viewed on the Languages Commissioner’s Web Site.
A distinguishing strength of DCU lies in its commitment to pioneering innovative approaches to supporting student academic learning in the context of broader professional, civic and personal development. This innovation is supported by the Learning Innovation Unit (LIU) based in the Office of the Vice-President of Learning Innovation (OVPLI).

**President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning**

The President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning is designed to recognise outstanding contributions to DCU’s Teaching and Learning mission on the part of members of staff. Up to two awards will be made: the number will depend on the quality of the received nominations. Each award consists of a formal citation, together with a prize, presented by the President.

Candidates for the awards comprise members of DCU staff who have made an outstanding contribution to DCU teaching and learning activities. The awards are open to academic and support staff, including Library, Registry, Computer Services, Education Services etc. The awards can be made to a single member of staff or to a group who have been jointly involved in the particular activities being recognised. The winners for 2006 were Anna Weiss, School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies, and Adrian Redmond of Oscail.
Learning Innovation Strategy

The university has been implementing the Learning Innovation strategy during 2006, as part of the university’s strategic plan Leadership through Foresight, including:

Thinking about Learning Series

Following from the success of the development sessions addressing the area of assessment in 2005, the Thinking about Learning Lecture Series – a series dedicated to exploring a wide range of assessment issues – was inaugurated for the current academic year. Topics include Writing and Assessing Learning Outcomes, Large Group Assessment, Detecting and Preventing Plagiarism, Alternative Assessment Approaches, Peer and Collaborative Assessment, and Formative Assessment.

Teaching Portfolios

In excess of 40 DCU staff have gone through the portfolio process since May 2006. Portfolio development enables staff to acquire skills in reflection, evidence teaching practice for promotional purposes, and investigate the possibility of engaging in pedagogical research. In addition, the portfolio process has created the opportunity to establish a network of reflective practitioners across the University.

Student Affairs

Here at DCU, Student Affairs is responsible for ensuring that a holistic approach is taken towards the care of the student and that each and every individual is given the opportunity to realise their full potential – both personally and academically.

In order to cater for these needs, a broad range of services is offered by the Unit – these include the Careers Service, Chaplaincy Service, Counselling Service, Financial Assistance Service, Health Service, Sport & Recreation Service, International Office and the services provided by the Student Activities Officer.
Student Affairs also liaises closely with the Students’ Union, and with the student clubs and societies and is involved with the provision, planning and management of student facilities on campus.

A new Director of Student Affairs was appointed in June 2006. Dr Claire Bohan, who had been the Head of the International Office, took over this role. There was also agreement to move Student Affairs to the Henry Grattan building with a view to providing a more central location for student support services. The Health Service has developed successful health promotion days with support from the Students’ Union, such as asthma day and welfare week.

Appointments @ DCU

Professor Malcolm R. Smyth, the Dean of the Faculty of Science & Health, was appointed the President of the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC). Professor Smyth is the first analytical chemist from the Republic of Ireland to hold this prestigious position. He obtained his BSc degree in Biochemistry from The Queen’s University of Belfast in 1972, and his PhD in Analytical Chemistry from the University of London in 1976. He is a Fellow of both the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland and the Royal Society of Chemistry. Professor Smyth is an elected member of the Royal Irish Academy. He has received awards from the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and the SAC Gold Medal for Analytical Chemistry from the Analytical Division of the RSC.

Irish MBA title

A DCU MBA team has won a top inaugural award for business strategy in a competition open to all Irish third level institutions with MBA and PhD Programmes. The competition was held in June and organized by the MBA Association of Ireland (MBAAI) in partnership
with the Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET).

**Community @ DCU**

Danny Gallagher, from St Declan’s College in Cabra, was the 1000th student to take part in the Compute TY web design course organised by the School of Computing at Dublin City University. This online, self-paced web design course, which is in its second year, allows students to develop practical computing skills and gain certification from the School of Computing for their work.

**Better Options**

DCU, together with AHEAD and DAWN, launched the Better Options Fair in November in the Mahony Hall in the Helix. This unique one-day national event focused on students with disabilities/specific learning difficulties considering Higher Education options in Ireland. Brian Lenihan TD, Minister for Children, launched the Fair and Mr Frank Mulvihill, President of the Institute of Guidance Counsellors, hosted the event.

While there are 3,000 students with disabilities in third level education, research by AHEAD has shown that students and guidance counsellors often do not have sufficient information about the supports and accommodations available. The event enabled students, guidance counsellors and parents to talk to disability support staff about what is on offer and find out about a range of topics – from how to apply to CAO for admission as a student with a disability to advice on funding and supports.

**Innovation @ DCU**

The School of Electronic Engineering held its annual mobile robotics competition in March. The event, sponsored by Farnell Ireland, pits teams of students against each other in a bid to design and build a ‘RoboCab’ – an intelligent driverless robotic taxi. Seven prototypes competed this year for the title of RoboCab. The module is taken by students on the Electronic Engineering and Mechatronic Engineering undergraduate degree programmes. This year’s winning students were Jay Galligan, Ronan O’Hart and Saqib Mumtaz with their robot ‘Achilles1’.
Increased Student Representation

A Faculty Student Council was established for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences which acknowledges the need for proper student representation at Faculty level. The Council includes staff and student representation and focuses on Faculty or university-wide rather than programme-specific issues and makes recommendations to the Faculty Research and Faculty Teaching & Learning Committees.

Knowledge Resources

During 2006 the Library developed a new Strategic Plan for the period 2006-2008 in support of the strategic intent of the university. To continue supporting the academic community the Library also installed a new version of TALIS, the library software system. This will significantly upgrade the library catalogue, acquisition and loan functionality, as well as those of the linked colleges which share the system. The DCU Library enjoyed some major funding from external sources during 2006. The Library Institutional Repository was established as a service and the Library information skill training developments continued. The IReL Humanities and Social Sciences service began.

Innovation @ DCU

DCU has launched a ‘one-stop shop’ registration system that allows students to register for their course, select ‘elective’ course subjects and pay fees – all in one transaction. Once students have registered on-line, they receive confirmation of registration. The new on-line system is user-friendly, efficient and accessible from anywhere in the world. This is yet another innovation from the support functions within the university to ensure a high level of service to DCU’s
external and internal stakeholders, this time from DCU Registry.

DCU Uaneen Module

Fifty-one students received ‘Uaneen Module’ awards at DCU’s graduation ceremonies which took place in the Helix in November. The award scheme, which recognises the commitment and learning acquired by students involved in extra-curricular activities, is unique within the third level sector. It was set up in 2000 in memory of DCU Communications Studies graduate, Uaneen Fitzsimons, who played an active role in society and campus life. Uaneen died in November 2000.

This is the third year that the Uaneen Module has been given academic recognition. To celebrate this, a special reception was hosted each day between graduation ceremonies in the Helix which was attended by Nicola Horgan, Director of Graduate Placement Programmes at IBEC, and Uaneen’s parents, Mary and Brian Fitzsimons. The guest speaker at Monday’s reception was Bill Cullen and on Tuesday, Dave Fanning.

Humanities Festival

The first ever Humanities Festival was hosted by the Faculty in May 2006. Attendance at the Festival was free and it was open to the public as well as to the DCU community. A wide range of diverse events was scheduled including a debate on the threat to humanities by the increasing commercialisation of universities, prose and poetry readings, a presentation on Science in Fiction drawing from Flann O’Brien’s The Third Policeman, and a short
drama production of *Afterplay* by Brian Friel.

**New Scholarships**

Aisling O’Brien, a student of the Masters in Journalism, was awarded a €3000 Seán Moylan Student Scholarship established in memory of Seán Moylan, a War of Independence leader and government minister who died in the 1950s. The Moylan scholarship has been awarded by a Co Cork-based committee since 1962 to a student on a Masters programme.

Sarah Traynor, a student of the Masters in Communication and Cultural Studies, received the first Roberta Gray Feature Award at a presentation in DCU in July. The award was established in memory of Roberta Gray, a DCU journalism graduate, who died in early 2006. The award is supported by DCU’s School of Communications, the Sunday Tribune (where Roberta was a columnist and feature writer), Roberta’s former DCU classmates, and her family.

**DCU in the Movies and on TV!**

DCU has also had a starring role in the world of movies and television. Eoin Murphy, a DCU graduate in Computer Science, was one of the team responsible for character development in *Happy Feet*, one of the big Hollywood blockbuster animation movies of the year.

Another successful graduate of DCU, the award-winning director Dearbhla Walsh, who has worked on such television hits as *East Enders* and *Shameless*, has returned to Ireland to film *Hide and Seek*, a wholly Irish drama produced by Accomplice TV for RTE.

During the year the movie star Kim Cattrrell was spotted on campus as the €8.5 million film *A Tiger’s Tale* was partly filmed here, also starring were Irish actors Sinéad Cusack and Brendan Gleeson. The Nursing Skills Centre continued to be in demand by film producers, advertisement agencies, television producers, local drama groups and multimedia students in addition to our own nursing students. As well as *A Tiger’s Tale*, RTE productions *Hide and Seek* and *The Clinic* were all filmed here.

Work also started on a student movie that is written, directed by, and stars DCU students on campus. Called *Six Semesters*, it is due to be completed during 2007.
**Student Fashion Show**

The very first DCU Fashion Show, in aid of Our Lady’s Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin, was held in March in what was hailed as the biggest student event ever held in DCU. The show was a blend of fashion, dance and entertainment and was also part of the 25th Anniversary celebration of DCU. The clothes came from stores such as Brown Thomas, BT2, House of Fraser and Awear, amongst others. It included everything from casual day wear to elegant evening wear modelled by a selection of DCU’s own students.

**Veronica Guerin Memorial Bursary**

*Independent Newspapers (Ireland) Ltd* announced the Veronica Guerin Memorial Bursary to mark the 10th anniversary of her death. Veronica was a member of DCU’s Governing Body. The initiative was launched by Michael McDowell TD, Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform. The bursary, worth €8,500, will be awarded annually to either a current student of the MA in Journalism at Dublin City University or to an applicant for the MA in Journalism programme who is eligible to register for the programme in the next academic year. DCU was the first university in Ireland to establish undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in journalism.
There are four faculties at DCU, each consisting of a School and research centre with its own distinctive expertise. DCU was one of the first universities in Ireland to recognise the importance of a strategic approach to building its research portfolio. Allied to development of its first strategic plan for research in the nineties, a critical decision to proactively support the development of competitive research teams has paid rich dividends.

Introduced in 1997, DCU’s University Designated Research Centre (UDRC) programme provides additional resources to help build up critical mass in key strategic research areas. A particular strength of this internal university support is that it has encouraged the formation of interdisciplinary teams which have pioneered new research initiatives and established world leading research centres.

That ambition is reflected in the current university research strategy element of Leadership through Foresight. On behalf of the university, the Office of the Vice-President for Research (OVPR) launched a number of initiatives in 2006 as part of the implementation of the research strategy, which included:

- Conference support programme to incentivise and support the hosting of workshops and international conferences in DCU
- International Visitors Programme to increase the number and quality of international visitors to DCU
- DCU Research Fellowship Programme
- Initiation of the Research Assessment process which will be completed in 2007.
Research Centres in DCU

a. National Research Centres
   • National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST)
   • National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR)
   • National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB)
   • Research Institute for Networks and Communications Engineering (RINCE)

b. University Designated Research Centres
   • Centre for the Advancement of Science Teaching and Learning
   • Centre for Digital Video Processing
   • Centre for International Studies
   • Centre for Society, Information and Media
   • Centre for Translation and Textual Studies
   • International Centre for Neurotherapeutics
   • LInK: The Learning, Innovation and Knowledge Research Centre
   • Materials Processing Research Centre
   • Vascular Health Research Centre

c. Large-scale Research Initiatives
   • National Centre for Language Technology
   • Centre for Bioanalytical Science
   • Biomedical Diagnostic Institute
   • Adaptive Information Cluster

Key Research Metrics:

DCU Research Expenditure 2005-2006

![Research Expenditure Graph](image)

DCU Research Contracts 2006 by Source

![Research Contracts Pie Chart](image)
Research Developments

Launch of Biomedical Diagnostics Institute

The Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI) was launched by An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern in DCU during 2006. This unique industrial-clinical-academic research collaboration focuses on the development of next generation biomedical diagnostic devices for use in the home. The BDI will be the base for a research team which includes leading scientists from the Royal College of Surgeons, the National University of Ireland, Galway, and University College Cork as well as industrial partners such as Analog Devices, Becton Dickinson and Hospira.

The DCU-led national drive for a world breakthrough in biomedical diagnostics with €22.5m in funding from Science Foundation Ireland and six industrial partners has ramped up the team of international ranking researchers to more than 60. The Institute aims to produce home-use diagnostic devices that will give 'early warnings' of life-threatening illnesses such as cancer and diabetes.

Institute of Ethics

DCU announced the establishment of an Institute of Ethics which will be led by a Professor with a significant research team of key academics and researchers. The Chair and Institute are being set up to fill an obvious need for a systematic study of ethics issues that have been raised in Ireland in recent years. It will also deal with important ethics questions that have arisen from advances in technology and globalisation. There will be new taught Masters programmes, while a range of short courses on areas such as corporate governance and ethics in public office will be made available.

The development is part of the DCU strategic plan, Leadership through Foresight, which stated that DCU would play a leading role in raising awareness of ethics issues and stimulating public debate. DCU has obtained private funding for the establishment of the
Chair and Institute via the DCU Educational Trust. The project also uses expertise available through its linked colleges, St Patrick’s Drumcondra and the Mater Dei Institute of Education, and was developed through the work of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

**Appointments @ DCU**

*Professor Harry Holthofer has been appointed to the BMS Chair in Bioanalytical Science at DCU. Professor Holthofer is an internationally recognised researcher in the area of diabetic nephropathy and is currently Director of the Technomedicum Centre at the University of Helsinki, Finland. The university of Helsinki is the premier research university in Finland and is ranked 76th in the world (ref: Shanghai Index). Professor Holthofer’s medical background and world-class research experience will greatly strengthen DCU’s research capabilities across a range of areas. He will lead the Bristol Myers Squibb Centre for Bioanalytical Science based at DCU and NUIG.*

*Professor Holthofer’s research has been published widely in high impact journals which have attracted c. 4,400 citations to date. Of his more than 120 published works, 24 have been published in journals with impact factors greater than 7 and 62 in journals with impact factors greater than 4. He has published extensively on the development of better antibiotics to prevent bacterial attachment to host tissues. His more recent research has concentrated on using proteomics and mass spectrometry approaches, supported by novel engineered animal models, to identify new molecules associated with the kidney glomerular filtration barrier. His most recent publications have concentrated on improving the determination of the physiological roles of single molecules and defining their functional kinetics allowing models for developing new pharmaceuticals.*

*The establishment of the Chair in Bioanalytical Science was made possible through the support of Bristol Myers Squibb and a €1m Professor Recruitment award from Science Foundation Ireland.*
National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology

The NICB (National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology) was officially opened by Mary Hanafin TD, Minister for Education and Science. The NICB has received over €34.4 million in research funding from the HEA under the PRTLI Cycle 3 and has also received funding from Science Foundation Ireland, Atlantic Philanthropies, Enterprise Ireland and the Health Research Board. The NICB occupies a unique niche in Ireland’s R&D sector in the Irish third-level biomedical sector, applying molecular cell biology research to solving biomedical problems.

The centre collaborates with a number of Dublin hospitals in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, diabetes, eye disease and microbial diseases. The NICB’s first cancer drug treatment discovery has been taken into clinical trial with Professor John Crown in St Vincent’s Hospital, Dublin. The NICB is also involved in a revolutionary new treatment for diabetes. As a result of its expertise in mammalian cell culture technology, NICB is also involved in close collaboration with industry, including an SFI-funded €4m collaborative project with Wyeth Biopharma.

Fusion Research at DCU

A team of 33 DCU scientists is taking part in a €10 billion global collaboration to make a breakthrough in creating safe nuclear energy by fusion. The project was announced in Brussels in May. Dublin City University is the lead partner in the Irish branch of the research. The experimental nuclear fusion power station will be built at Cadarache in the South of France and is the result of an international collaboration involving the European Union (represented by EURATOM), Japan, the People’s Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA. Fusion is the energy source of the sun and stars. Fusion research is aimed at demonstrating that this energy source can be used to produce electricity in a safe environmentally benign way, with abundant fuel resources, to meet the...
needs of a growing world population.

Appointments @ DCU

DCU’s Vice-President for Research, Professor Eugene Kennedy, was appointed Chairman of the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII). Established by Government in 1992, the RPII is the national organisation with regulatory, monitoring and advisory responsibilities in matters pertaining to ionising radiation and the public health. He has been an invited researcher at the National Institute for Standards and Technology (USA), the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY) (Hamburg), the Laboratoire pour l’utilisation du rayonnement électromagnétique (LURE) (Paris) and the Advanced Light Source (University of California at Berkeley).

He served as Head of the School of Physical Sciences from 1984 through the nineties and as Dean of the Faculty of Science from 1987 to 1994. From 1999 to 2003, he was the Director of the National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST) at DCU. He was elected Fellow of the Institute of Physics in 1987 and member of the Royal Irish Academy in 2004.

Microsoft

DCU announced a research project with US Multinational, Microsoft. The Dublin City University research team will help to create tiny cameras that can record a searchable digital picture diary of a person’s entire day. An important practical application of the research will benefit Alzheimer sufferers where patients who may not be able to recall where they were or what they did will have an accurate record to consult.

This project is part of a larger programme at Microsoft Research to record people ‘life logs’. The work of the Adaptive Information Cluster (AIC) group at DCU is to identify the ‘highlights’ or the most important/memorable parts of the day’s activity. The Adaptive Information Cluster (AIC) is a multidisciplinary research group involving leading researchers from DCU and UCD and is funded by Science Foundation Ireland.
Health4Life

The School of Nursing published and launched its inaugural research strategy, Health4Life, in May 2006. Health4Life represents the evolving and vibrant inter-professional research portfolio of the School of Nursing at Dublin City University. It incorporates an exciting range of over-arching research topic clusters, each with a number of research programmes and embedded projects.

Intercultural Workplace Research Project

McDonald’s Corporation has sponsored a PhD research project on ‘working and managing in an intercultural workplace’. This studentship is a particularly relevant research area for the new multicultural society of Ireland today. It is a joint initiative between McDonald’s and DCU which has an established tradition of close cooperation with industrial partners and enterprise. The McDonald’s studentship will enhance the ongoing work of DCU’s Intercultural Workplace Programme that is collaborating with governmental, non-governmental and private sector partners on research and policy development in the crucial area of migration and social integration.

Launch of new online journal

A new online journal called Translocations: The Irish Migration, Race and Social Transformation Review was launched as part of the Anti-Racist Workplace Week. The journal is a new Irish inter-university, open-access e-journal that aims to examine the complex interaction of ‘race’ and migration in contemporary Ireland. The objective is to disseminate information on relevant research and policy debates with a clear interdisciplinary direction. The journal will also reach out to practitioners such as policy-makers and civil society groups. The journal is supported by the Office of the Theme Leaders.

Research Internship Summer Programme

The School of Computing, in collaboration with the Adaptive Information Cluster and the School of Computer Science and Informatics at UCD, ran the first year of a four-year programme to offer undergraduate students from Ireland and abroad the opportunity of a research internship during the summer months. Called the Online Dublin Computer Science Summer School (ODCSSS), it had over 100
applications from 10 countries. Each student worked with an academic research supervisor to complete a research project.

Knowledge Transfer

DCU INVENT

At DCU’s ‘Commercialisation Gateway’, the INVENT Centre has the infrastructure, the ability and the expertise to assist and advise industry, academia and researchers in their innovation, commercialisation and business development endeavours. INVENT acts as the catalyst by which knowledge can be transformed into commercial success. The Office of the Vice-President for Research works closely with INVENT to help provide the critical link between the university and the marketplace.

Invention Disclosure Awards

The inaugural DCU INVENT Invention Disclosure Awards were held in November in the Invent Centre. The awards were set up by DCU Invent so that researchers who protect and commercialise their research are recognised publicly by the university for their contribution to research commercialisation. These awards are the first of their kind in any Irish university.

Professor Eugene Kennedy, the Vice-President for Research, presented the awards. Fifteen awards of €200 were given for each invention disclosure that Invent had evaluated and decided to commercialise in 2006. An overall prize of €1000 was also awarded for the Best Invention Disclosure of 2006.

The overall prize of €1000 was presented to Brendan O’Connor, Pamela O’Brien and Yvonne Birney for their invention disclosure entitled ‘Fluorimetric Quantitative Assay for Seprase’.

Innovation @ DCU

The Hewlett Packard Innovation Day 2006, entitled ‘Better Business through Innovation’, took place in The Helix in March. The event, supported by DCU INVENT, the Ryan Academy, HP and
Enterprise Ireland, was opened by the Minister for Trade, Enterprise and Employment, Micheál Martin. Delegates had the chance to learn from the successes of others, including Dr Edward de Bono who is on the Accenture list of the 50 most influential business thinkers in the world, and Trevor Baylis, inventor of the clockwork radio.

Archport Investment

Swiss-German firm, Chemie Uetikon, bought an 80 per cent stake in Archport, a company which is a successful spinout from DCU. Based on campus, Archport provides production and development services for bio-pharmaceutical companies. The deal includes an upfront payment to DCU and a long-term lease on specialist lab facilities at the university. Archport was originally a spinout from the National Institute of Cellular Biology (NICB) in 1998.

Commercialisation of University Research – Student Awards

The first Commercialisation of University Research student project awards took place in August. The awards were for the best business plans for product/service ideas generated from university science and technology research projects and were initiated in order to recognize the contribution of student projects to the university’s research activities. The awards were sponsored by INVENT, the Academic Themes, and coordinated by Teresa Hogan of the Business School.

The projects were undertaken as part of the Innovation and High Technology Entrepreneurship Module on the Masters in Electronic-Commerce Degree Programme. The objective of those undertaking the project was to identify the best route to market for their products/ideas and carry out extensive research on competitors, markets and customers. First prize was awarded to students for developing a cost-effective process of creating an electrode that can be used in ammonia detection. The project was undertaken by the National Centre for Sensor Research.

Entrepreneurship @ DCU

Alternatives, a marketing company established by two DCU graduates, Aldagh McDonogh and Sandra Lawler, was shortlisted for the Ernst & Young 2006 Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Both are
graduates of the first BA in International Marketing Languages. Aldagh served on the DCU Business School Board of Advisors in the late 1990s. Alternatives was established in 2000 to meet the growing demand for flexible marketing expertise on an employer/employee needs basis. The company has evolved to also provide in-house company marketing training. In addition, Alternatives was the sponsor of the 2006 Marketer of the Year.

Major Conferences and Talks

The implementation of the Research Strategy of Leadership through Foresight has led to the creation of two new supports to increase intellectual stimulation on campus – an International Visitors Programme and a Conference Support Programme – through the Office of the Vice-President of Research. The academic community in DCU has continued to be heavily involved in a number of important conferences and talks both on and off campus during 2006 including:

DCU’s National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology hosted a two-day International Conference on the use of new global approaches to understanding and eventually treating diseases such as breast cancer, prostate cancer and brain cancer. World-renowned experts addressed the conference, including representatives from science, industry and medicine. This integrated approach is fundamental to the development of cancer research.

The New Zealand-born Nobel Laureate, Professor Alan MacDiarmid, who discovered that modified plastics could conduct electricity, gave the keynote lecture at the Energy and Materials symposium in June, which was organised by the SFI-funded Adaptive Information Cluster.

Professor Steve Fuller, an eminent sociologist, gave the opening lecture of the Making Waves Lecture Series, in February. This lecture series was provocative and cutting edge with a wide range of International experts covering topics
such as Islam, migration and terrorism. The lecture entitled ‘What is Science?’ is the first in a quarterly series which attempted to question and challenge a complex issue in a broad public arena. Professor Fuller recently appeared in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court supporting the teaching of Intelligent Design in science classes.

Ireland’s future on the global economic stage is largely dependent on the country’s ability to foster entrepreneurial thinking and behaviour, according to leading US business expert, Professor Liam Fahey. He made these remarks at the first of a series of Mason Hayes+Curan-sponsored masterclasses on Entrepreneurship and Competitive Advantage which took place in the DCU Ryan Academy in February. Professor Fahey is Adjunct Professor of Strategic Management at Babson College (USA) and Visiting Professor of Strategic Management at the Cranfield School of Management (UK). His was one in a series of Masterclasses held by the Ryan Academy in Citywest during the year.

Mr Thandika Mkandawire, the director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), gave the keynote address at the conference on Linking the Global and the Local: Education for Development in a Globalising World which was hosted by the Centre for International Studies at Dublin City University. The conference was opened by Mr Conor Lenihan TD, the Minister of State for Development and Co-operation. The conference included speakers from all Irish universities as well as from Irish Aid, the European Commission and universities in India, Africa, South America, the US and Britain.

A major seminar on Regional Future Stability: the Balkans and the Caucasus was chaired by Pat Cox, former President of the European Parliament, in March. The speakers were Nicholas Whyte, Programme Director, International Crisis Group Europe and James Lyon, International Crisis Group Senior Advisor (Balkans). The event was organised by the DCU Centre for International Affairs.

DCU hosted the Vehicle Alternative Fuel System and Environmental Protection conference,
which provided a forum for both researchers and practitioners around the world to present papers on recent developments in the fields of the Vehicle Alternative Fuel System and Environmental Protection.

Dr Peadar Kirby was a keynote speaker at a conference on Good Governance: Tasks still Outstanding organised by the Arias Foundation where he spoke on the lessons of the Irish model of development for Costa Rica. The Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress was established by President Arias after he won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1987 and the Centre for International Studies in DCU recently signed a collaboration agreement with the Foundation.

Professor Dermot Diamond and Professor Gordon Wallace led a US Workshop on Electronic Textiles. The workshop focused on the integration of sensing and actuating technologies into textile structures. The workshop was attended by more than 50 delegate representatives of industry and research organisations from around the world.

Research Awards

Dublin City University’s highest research distinction, the President’s Award, was presented in January to two leading academics, Dr Tia Keyes of the School of Chemical Science and Dr Francoise Blin of the School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies.

The awards are presented annually to academics for outstanding research in the field of Science and Engineering and also in the Social Sciences and Humanities. DCU academics are invited to nominate candidates for the awards, who are then judged on the following criteria: national and international prominence, the relevance of their research, and the degree of excellence they have achieved in their specific area.

Dr Francoise Blin, School of Applied Language and Intercultural studies, received the award for her pioneering work in linking research to the classroom experience and for her commitment to interdisciplinarity in her research activities.

Dr Tia Keyes of the School of Chemical Sciences and the National Centre for Sensor Research received her award for her outstanding contributions to inorganic photophysics as well as energy and electron transfer dynamics.
Entrepreneurship @ DCU

A mobile phone technology company started by DCU students with former DCU lecturers as its first chairman and chief executive was successfully listed on the AIM small companies division of the London Stock Exchange. Zamano was established in 2000 by DCU Fiontar graduates, Eoin Ó Ceallachain and Darren Ó Rodaigh, to take advantage of a growing demand for mobile services. Now a leading provider of mobile data services, Zamano raised €6m for 25% of its shares placed on the AIM Market of the London Stock Exchange (AIM) valuing the company at €24m.
Citizenship and Community Engagement

Dublin City University is serious about its commitment to the local and greater community in the Dublin region and beyond. From the work of individuals across the university to the implementation of the Citizenship and Community Engagement Strategy (CCES), DCU is continuing to ensure that the impact of the university is as wide as possible for the economic and social advantage of the people of Ireland. DCU is also committed to opening the university out to the local community in a variety of ways. It also covers some of the work of the Academic Theme Leaders, Alumni Office and DCU Educational Trust.

Ballymun Regeneration Limited agreed to provide the University with a purpose-built building to house the new outreach centre. The outreach centre in Ballymun is part of the ‘University in the Community’ which will become a flagship of the university’s commitment to the local community, and the wider participation agenda. The first steps towards establishing DCU Science Shop: Community Knowledge Exchange occurred through a major EU grant that will allow DCU to work in partnership with a local NGO, promoting mental health and wellbeing amongst Ireland’s new migrant communities.

The Scholarship of Community Engagement

In collaboration with the Theme Leader for Internationalisation, Interculturalism, and Social Development, the Learning Innovation Unit (LIU) launched the ‘Scholarship of Community Engagement’, an initiative aimed at integrating community focused student activity into the academic curriculum. Based on the principles
of Service Learning, this initiative will develop a model for curriculum development that incorporates civic and citizenship dimensions in academically coherent ways, in particular with respect to articulation of learning outcomes and assessment strategies.

Civic Engagement and Active Citizenship

Through the Strategic Innovation Fund, and based on an existing Service Learning collaboration with NUI Galway, DCU will participate in a three-year project on Active Citizenship and Civic Engagement, enabling existing work to be elaborated and strategic alliances to be exploited to advance this area. DCU’s focus will be on growing local community initiatives such as the DCU ‘University in the Community’ project in Ballymun.

Publications @ DCU

Professor Noam Chomsky, an internationally recognised linguist and professor at MIT, launched Dr Peadar Kirby’s book entitled Vulnerability and Violence: The Impact of Globalisation. The book combines a novel approach to analysing globalisation’s impact with a broad introduction to the political economy of today’s neoliberal globalisation. It is both a useful introduction for the non-expert and an essential read for anyone concerned with the impact globalisation is having on people’s lives and the adequacy of the categories being used to understand this.

DCU Citywest Community Investment Programme

The Tánaiste Mary Harney launched the DCU Citywest Community Investment Programme, supported by Davy Hickey Properties, which aims to increase the number of Dublin 24 secondary students who go on to third-level education. The Programme was developed in association with the DCU Educational Trust.
Over the next eight years, Davy Hickey Properties in partnership with the DCU Ryan Academy for Entrepreneurship will invest €460,000 in career development workshops for transition year students from the area and DCU Scholarships for those who pursue a third-level qualification at the university.

The Programme aims in particular to raise third-level participation from six Dublin 24 schools. The Ryan Academy workshops will include equipping transition students with the knowledge, skills and attitude to succeed at second and third level, raising aspirations, helping students to identify their goals, providing for student shadowing, life skills development and encouraging attendance at DCU’s open day.

DCU/Liberties Schools Project

Liberties primary schools took part in a unique DCU research project in collaboration with the National Botanic Gardens. The Eco-Sensor Network was launched by Ms Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin, the Rose of Tralee, and also Ireland’s Ambassador for the Discover Science & Engineering Programme, which is sponsored by Forfás. Aoibhinn is a theoretical physics graduate and plans to pursue postgraduate studies in bio-physics. This is the culmination of a five-year research programme led by Professor Brian McCraith and Emma O’Brien combining sensor platforms with learning modules in the primary school science curriculum. It is part of the Education and Outreach programme at DCU’s NCSR, funded by the Higher Education Authority through the Fund for Digital Research.

Finglas for Diversity

The Finglas for Diversity DCU Project celebrated its first birthday. A joint initiative of DCU and the Finglas for Diversity group supported by the Finglas Cabra Partnership, this is a collaborative, practice-based research project. Research Coordinator Kerry Lawless, based between SALIS and Finglas, is employed by the project on a part-time basis with funding from the Finglas-Cabra Partnership and DCU. The DCU Coordinators were Aileen-Pearson-Evans of SALIS, Debbie Ging, from the School of Communications, and Carmel Mulcahy from
the School of Education Studies. The project promotes an ethos of learning by doing and provides DCU students with the opportunity to develop their skills further in a practical community setting. Community groups in turn benefit through having full access to a range of specialist and technical skills in the university. The research will act as a template for other such community involvement by DCU in the future.

**Teaching Gifted Students**

The Irish Centre for Talented Youth (CTYI) at Dublin City University in cooperation with Profexcel announced the launch of a new online programme for teaching gifted students in mainstream schools. The course will help teachers to identify gifted learners and to design appropriate material and to provide challenging coursework for these students. The focus is broad and inclusive and is meant to encompass students with advanced abilities across a range of domains. All of the courses were taught by expert practitioners and part-funded by the Special Education Support Service of the Department of Education and Science.

**Publications @ DCU**

A new book, *Straight Talk: Researching Gay and Lesbian Issues in the School Curriculum*, was launched by Mr Niall Crowley, CEO of the Equality Authority. The book was written by James Norman, Miriam Galvin and Gerry McNamara of DCU’s School of Education Studies. The book arises out of two years’ research in which the authors surveyed over 700 teachers drawn from every second-level school and interviewed pupils, parents, teachers and senior management teams in a number of schools in the Greater Dublin Area. The book highlights the need to protect all young people from discrimination in schools especially those affected by homophobic bullying.

**Compute TY**

The School of Computing teamed up with Lero – the Irish Software Engineering Research Centre – to continue a computing initiative for local secondary schools called ComputeTY (now in its third year). The venture is supported by Dell Computers. The annual event seeks to strengthen links with the local community by providing transition year students with the
opportunity to develop practical computing skills. Over 500 students from about 15 local schools partake in campus-based week-long courses in web design and development, and associated computer skills. The initiative gives students a first-hand insight into software development, and seeks to awaken their interest in computing as a career option.

**Schools Industry Links Scheme (SILS)**

Final year business students completing the New Enterprise Development Module are involved in the Schools Industry Links Scheme (SILS). This is a programme that encourages links between DCU and organisations in the local community. As part of this programme, DCU business students mentor transition year students through the process of developing a business plan. The business students benefit from exposure to the teaching process and have an opportunity to develop their people skills, while the transition year students get valuable assistance from the DCU students and also gain an understanding of what being a student at third level involves.

**Science and Engineering Classes for Local Children**

The Irish Centre for Talented Youth, in collaboration with the DCU Access programme, ran classes in November for 60 nine to ten year olds who attend local schools. The goal of the project was to provide extra stimulation for students who had been identified by their teachers as having great academic potential. The course, which was sponsored by Discover Science and Engineering, covered three topics: Forensics, Chemistry and Engineering. A graduation ceremony for the children followed which was attended by DCU staff, parents and teachers.

**Traveller Parent Development Day**

Síle de Valera TD, Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science, launched the Traveller Parent Development
Day – Action Plan for Education. The event was organised by the DCU Access Service, the Visiting Teacher Service for Traveller Education and Pavee Point. The event was in response to the low numbers of young Travellers transferring to post-primary schools in the North Dublin area. The action plan represented an important part of DCU’s Strategic Plan to widen and promote access.

DCU Library Creative Writing Competition

The award ceremony for the annual DCU Library’s Creative Writing Competition was held in the DCU Library in May. The competition has been running for seven years and is open to participants of adult reading and writing schemes in North Dublin. Eleven awards were presented in total, one to the winning entry and commendations to 10 others. All received certificates and book tokens. For the third year running all award recipients returned to the DCU Library in June to attend a creative writing workshop presented by Dr Bill Dorris, a lecturer in the School of Communications. The special guest for the ceremony this year was the international bestselling Irish author, Sheila O’Flanagan.

Alumni Awards

The President, Mary McAleese, visited DCU in May to present the University’s inaugural Alumni Awards to six distinguished graduates – among them Cork’s All-Ireland star, Seán Óg Ó hAilpin, and the international award-winning Irish Times photographer, Bryan O’Brien. The DCU Alumni Awards will be presented annually to graduates who have made substantial achievements in their chosen fields, or who have contributed in a significant way to the social, artistic or economic development of Ireland. The Awards were introduced this year as part of DCU’s 25th Anniversary celebration.
DCU Educational Trust

The DCU Educational Trust builds philanthropic relationships with friends, corporations, alumni, foundations and community groups to advance Dublin City University and demonstrate the power of higher education to change lives. Current major projects identified by the University provide opportunities for support of the Annual Fund, the Access Programme, Endowed Scholarships (undergraduate and post-graduate), the Ethics Institute and the Sports Academy. Over the past 19 years, the Educational Trust has attracted more than €120 million worth of private contributions. These contributions support the University’s mandate to prepare our students for positions of leadership and to recruit the researchers and teachers who are building Ireland’s knowledge base and who will pass on their passion for learning and achievement to future generations.

Growth in Donations 2003-2006

![Growth in Donations 2003-2006](chart.png)
President’s Report 2006
Membership of Governing Authority
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</table>
**Postgraduate Student:**  
**MS SANDRA ROTHWELL**  
School of Computing

**Employers, Trade Unions, Community Organisations:**  
**MS MARGARET SWEENEY (IBEC Nominee)**  
Former Chief Executive  
Aer Rianta

**MS SALLY ANNE KINAHAN**  
Director of Advocacy & General Services  
Irish Congress of Trade Unions

**Ministerial nominees:**  
**MS ANN COLEMAN**  
CDVEC Teacher (retired)

**MR JOHN KEOGAN**  
Management Consultant

**MS ANNE WHEATLEY (Deputy Chairperson)**  
Secondary Teacher  
Community School, Celbridge

**Graduates:**  
**Mr SHANE BRODBIN**  
eircom

**Nominee of Local Authority:**  
**COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE**  
Dublin City Council

**Nominees of DCU Educational Trust:**  
**MS LIAVAN MALLIN**  
Chief Executive  
Shopdirect Group

**Linkage Agreement with St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra:**  
**DR PAURIC TRAVERS**  
President  
St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra
Linkage Agreement with Mater Dei Institute of Education:

DR DERMOT LANE
President
Mater Dei Institute of Education
Financial Report
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2006**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006 Euro</th>
<th>2005 Euro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Grants</td>
<td>37,420,997</td>
<td>33,426,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees</td>
<td>35,019,078</td>
<td>31,775,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>3,548,256</td>
<td>3,734,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>75,988,331</td>
<td>68,935,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Faculties and Departments</td>
<td>45,953,661</td>
<td>41,034,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic and Other Services</td>
<td>6,257,489</td>
<td>6,023,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>6,704,510</td>
<td>6,309,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Allocated for Capital Purposes</td>
<td>1,908,429</td>
<td>1,433,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Administration and Services</td>
<td>9,730,418</td>
<td>9,510,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Educational Expenditure</td>
<td>409,226</td>
<td>574,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
<td>3,642,256</td>
<td>3,697,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expenditure</td>
<td>1,866,979</td>
<td>1,134,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>76,472,968</td>
<td>69,719,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(Deficit)/Surplus on Activities before Amortisation of Capital Reserves and Grants and Depreciation of Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td>(484,637)</td>
<td>(783,911)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation of Fixed Assets</td>
<td>(7,904,548)</td>
<td>(6,700,651)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Reserve movement</td>
<td>7,904,548</td>
<td>6,700,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(Deficit)/Surplus for the year</strong></td>
<td>(484,637)</td>
<td>783,911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## BALANCE SHEET
### AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Euro</td>
<td>Euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>220,934,269</td>
<td>210,790,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INVESTMENTS</strong></td>
<td>45,728,349</td>
<td>43,449,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand and at bank</td>
<td>703,286</td>
<td>3,929,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors and Prepayments</td>
<td>42,155,724</td>
<td>44,461,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>329,294</td>
<td>277,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43,188,304</td>
<td>48,668,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors and Accrued Expenditure</td>
<td>55,194,415</td>
<td>59,091,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Overdraft</td>
<td>12,568,901</td>
<td>2,633,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Borrowings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>67,763,316</td>
<td>61,725,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>(24,575,012)</td>
<td>(13,056,555)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors due after one year</td>
<td>1,789,371</td>
<td>12,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>240,298,235</td>
<td>241,170,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REPRESENTED BY:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Reserve</td>
<td>201,552,791</td>
<td>204,732,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Reserve</td>
<td>39,374,599</td>
<td>36,582,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Reserve</td>
<td>(629,155)</td>
<td>(144,518)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>240,298,235</td>
<td>241,170,881</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>