Roadshow to beat the recession blues

UCC's Centre for Adult Continuing Education is holding an open information evening on Friday from 4 pm to 7 pm in the Devere Hall, Student Centre, UCC. The centre's Adult Continuing Education by Appointment evening will be launched at the event by Billy Kelleher, Minister for Labour Affairs. The launch takes place at 5 pm. The event is part of the 2009 Lifelong Learning Festival which runs until April 6. The Centre for Adult Continuing Education at UCC is a bridge between the resources of the university and the needs of the community, and provides opportunities in lifelong learning for all adults irrespective of age and their previous educational achievements. More than 200 programmes are on offer, including certificates, diplomas, higher diplomas and masters levels, reflective of significant internal and external learning partnerships with many voluntary, statutory and professional bodies.

There are programmes aimed at adult learners who wish to return to education, continuing professional development programmes and programmes aimed at those affected by the current economic climate. "UCC has a long and proud tradition of seeking to meet the learning needs of the communities and non-traditional learners, both inside and outside the university. "The open evening is aimed at the lifelong learner who wishes to become familiar with the programmes on offer. "This brochure will provide important information on a wide range of learning opportunities and support services provided by the centre for all adult learners in 2009/2010," said Dr Tom Mullins, acting director of the Centre for Adult Continuing Education, UCC.

UCC also launched online support for college's accounting students.

Michelle Carr, Department of Accounting Finance & Information Systems; Graham O'Halloran, mentor; Domenico Campani, mentor; and Claire Sullivan Rochford, Department of Accounting Finance & Information Systems, at the launch of a new Accounting Online Support service.

UCC's Department of Accounting Finance and Information Systems has launched a new Accounting Online Support service which will be available to all students taking any accounting modules.

The virtual learning support, launched by Professor Grace Neville, is offered as part of the services of the Accounting and Finance Resource Centre. Based in the O'Reilly Building, the resource centre already offers mentor support for all students taking an 'Accounting or Finance module at UCC, regardless of academic programme.

The development of the new online facility originated from a research project supported by the National Academy for the Integration of Research and Teaching and Learning.

The new resource, offered via Blackboard, and accessible on a 24-hour basis, contains subject area fact sheets listing information on key topical areas in financial accounting, management accounting and finance which can be downloaded by students.

There is also a live discussion board, where students can ask questions, post a query, comment on existing threads, or simply just read what everyone is talking about.

Explaining scientific research to a lay audience will be the challenge for six UCC students on Wednesday when they compete in the Science for All Postgraduate Competition.

Black Holes, Crohn's disease, Challenges in the Nano-electronics era, the Future of Energy in Ireland and an Early Warning System for water quality are among the topics to be presented by the students who are all taking part in the final of the public presentation competition.

This is the fifth year of the competition which aims to encourage young scientists to communicate the results of their research to the general public in an easily understandable manner.

This year's finalists are:• Juan Carlos Alagba from Valencia, Spain. Juan has physics degree from the University of Valencia. His research is on black holes.
• Jimmy Dalton from Monaghan. Jimmy has a microbiology degree from Trinity College Dublin and a MSc from UCC. His research at the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre, UCC, seeks to clarify the involvement of the bacteria mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis in Crohn's disease.
• Nima Dehdashiti Akhavan, from Iran. Nima has BSc and MSc degrees from Semnan University, Iran. His research at Tyndall National Institute aims to improve the performance of nanotransistors.
• Ailse Foley from Cork. Ailse is a civil and environmental engineering graduate of UCC and has an MScEng (Hons) in Transportation Engineering from Trinity College Dublin. She has many years in industry and is currently lecturing at UCC. Her research involves investigating Ireland's renewable energy resources.
• Franciln Popping, from Cameroon. Franciln has a degree in Computer Science from the University of Yaounde I in Cameroon and a Master's degree in Computer Graphics Programming from the University of Hull, England. His research at the Cork Constraint Computation Centre involves using the latest Web technologies to develop an early warning system for drinking water supplies.
• Julie O'Donovan, from Iniscarra, Cork. Julie is a UCC Mathematics graduate. She subsequently completed a Master's degree and spent some time in Poland before returning to UCC to carry out research developing a mathematical theorem in the Maths department. Chaired the panel of judges for the final will be Dick Hogan, acting director of the office of Media and Communications at UCC, who will be accompanied by Niall Murray, education correspondent for the Irish Examiner and Jennie O'Sullivan of RTE News Cork.

The competition is jointly organised by the College of Science, Engineering and Food Science, the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre, UCC, and the Tyndall National Institute, and is one of a number of initiatives organised under the general umbrella of the Science for All Programme. This year's competition has been sponsored by the Tyndall National Institute and Snap Printing.

Members of the public are invited to the final at 7pm on Wednesday, April 1, in Lecture Theatre Boole 4, UCC. Professor William Neville, Public Awareness of Science Officer, will act as MC. All are welcome. Admission is free.

For further information, contact Marie McSweeney, press officer, UCC or Marie McSweeney, press officer, UCC at (021) 4904728 or 086-8645182.

Students take the mystery out of science

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