



Pictured (l-r) were: Professor William Gallagher, Director, UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research; Assistant Professor Conor McAloon, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine; Associate Professor Orina Belton, UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science; Dr David Crosby, National Maternity Hospital and Merrion Fertility Clinic; Associate Professor Margaret McGee, UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science; Dr Conor Magee, St James Hospital; Associate Professor Amanda McCann, UCD School of Medicine; Dr Clodagh Kearney, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine; and Triona McCormack, Director, UCD Research

New €2.2 million Strategic Fund announced by UCD

On 16 June, UCD announced the first round of eight awardees of a new strategic fund to support health-related researchers.

The objective of the UCD Wellcome Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF), worth €2.2 million over five years, is to drive key research initiatives within UCD's research themes of Personalised & Translational Medicine and One Health.

Professor William Gallagher, Director, UCD Conway Institute, and lead academic overseeing the Fund said, "The calibre of the awardees within the first round of these schemes is absolutely superb, representing a broad range of disciplines across the university".

Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research Impact and Innovation said, "I am delighted that the University has been awarded this prestigious funding, which will have a major impact on the UCD research community,

enabling our researchers to overcome systemic barriers in career and network development."

The Fund has three separate schemes: 1) The Clinical Primer Scheme 2) The Mid-Career Stimulus and Diversification Scheme and 3) the Networks of Excellence Scheme.

The 4 UCD awardees in the Clinical Primer Scheme are Dr Conor Magee, Specialist Registrar Rheumatology, St James Hospital, Dr David Crosby, Clinical Research Fellow and Specialist Registrar Obstetrics & Gynaecology, National Maternity Hospital and Merrion Fertility Clinic; Dr Clodagh Kearney, Lecturer and Senior Clinician in Large Animal Surgery, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine and Dr Conor McAloon, Assistant Professor and Clinician in Bovine Health Management, UCD School of Veterinary Medicine.

The 4 UCD awardees in the Mid-Career Stimulus and Diversification Scheme are Associate Professor Orina Belton, UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science and UCD Conway Institute, Associate Professor Amanda McCann, UCD School of Medicine and UCD Conway Institute, Professor Emma Teeling, UCD School of Biology & Environmental Science and UCD Conway Institute and Associate Professor Margaret McGee, UCD School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science and UCD Conway Institute.

The fund has been established with funding from the SFI – HRB – Wellcome Trust Biomedical Research Partnership in addition to matched funding from UCD.

Two UCD researchers and CEO of UCD spin-out firm honoured for Horizon 2020 leadership

Two UCD researchers and the CEO of a UCD spin-out company have received Horizon 2020 outstanding achievement awards that recognise them as champions of European Union research.

Professor Suzanne Kingston, Professor Fiona Doohan and Mr Des O'Leary are among 16 individuals who have received awards for their projects that exhibited leadership in their programme areas.

Professor Suzanne Kingston, UCD Sutherland School of Law, was honoured in the ERC Starting Grant category. Her project entitled, 'The Influence of New Environmental

Governance Rules on Environmental Compliance' focuses on legal architectures. The project achieved the highest ranking for an Irish applicant for this grant type.

Professor Fiona Doohan, UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science, was one of two Irish researchers to receive an award in the "Recognising the Career Development of our Next Generation Researchers" category.

More specifically, she was honoured for leadership of her Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks in the area of Training in Innovative and Integrated Control of Cereal Diseases. Professor Doohan's project was ranked first in her respective call.

Mr Des O'Leary, CEO of UCD spin-out company Oncomark Ltd, was honoured in the SME instrument category for leadership of the OncoMasTR project that is developing a new prognostic test for early stage breast cancer. OncoMasTR was the highest scoring Irish project in the Horizon 2020 SME instrument.

"I congratulate the UCD recipients of these very important awards, and hope that their success will inspire further success in Horizon 2020 across the University," said Professor Orla Feely, UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact.

ERC Consolidator Grant Success



Professor Roland Erne, UCD School of Business

Professor Roland Erne, UCD School of Business, has been awarded a European Research Council Consolidator Grant. The grant, valued at €2 million, is one of only two nationally awarded ERC grants in this round of the competition.

Professor Erne's project is entitled 'Labour Politics and the EU's New Economic Governance Regime (European Unions)'. In the context of the tensions that an increasingly authoritarian strain in EU governance brings, this project aims to map the EU's new governance regime and the shifts in labour politics; open up novel analytical approaches to capture the underlying transnational social

processes at work; analyse the responses of European labour movements; and develop a new scientific paradigm capable of accounting for the interplay between EU governance, labour politics and EU democracy.