



## Registrar and Deputy President Professor Mark Rogers

Dear :FORENAME,

In my email to you of 25 February 2021, I set out the teaching and assessment arrangements in place to comply with the national protocols for travel and gathering in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At that time, I outlined the specific arrangements in place to ensure students with essential laboratory or clinical practice requirements would be scheduled for on-campus delivery during the spring trimester. I also confirmed that the campus would remain open for essential research.

I am now writing to outline our plans for teaching that takes place in the summer trimester.

The magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic on all our lives has meant that this academic year, we have had to restrict public assembly, travel and in-person teaching. Although national vaccination is now being rolled out, many of you, by virtue of age and health, are scheduled for vaccination during the summer months. Consequently, the University has now taken the decision to commit to a continuation of the current teaching and assessment delivery arrangements for the summer trimester. Similarly, essential research activity will continue under current arrangements.

This means that although your classes will continue to be delivered according to your timetable, they will be online rather than on campus. I know from speaking with some of you and from our student surveys, that while most students have adapted well to remote classes and that many colleagues have reported proactive and positive student engagement, not being able to meet your classmates, peers and lecturers in person has been very disappointing.

As public health restrictions are eased, we will facilitate opportunities to have on-campus engagement for you.

Throughout the year we have kept the campus, including the residences, open. The University continues to provide scheduled access to libraries and other onsite study space for those students who do not otherwise have suitable facilities or home environment to access learning remotely. I sincerely hope that as the public health restrictions lift, more of you will be able to come to campus and meet friends and faculty.

Separately, I would like to restate our commitment to deliver quality UCD education to students who cannot come to campus. If in-person classes and other teaching resumes during the trimester, we will ensure that you will continue to receive your education remotely where required.

In this most unusual year, I want to wish you well in the upcoming assessment period. As the spring trimester draws to an end, and most of you now prepare for assessments in the coming weeks, remember that your effort through the trimester will stand you in good stead.

I appreciate that for many of you, this year has been one of stress and anxiety as COVID-19 impacts on the health and security of so many in society. I hope if you need support that you do reach out; your [Student Advisers](#), [Student Counselling](#) and the [Student Health Service](#) are all here to help.

With the roll out of vaccination and the greater control of patient symptoms, the world is coming through this awful pandemic. Please keep yourself safe and well. Take care of both your mental and physical wellbeing and please continue to abide by public health protocols.

Sincerely,

Prof Mark Rogers  
Registrar and Deputy President