









# Presentation by UCD of the Student Access Leaders

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- The Access Leader Programme
- Contributions of Access Leaders
- Benefits to UCD
- Benefit to the Access Leaders





29,000 students on the main campus

# University College Dublin

Almost 8000 International students

27.9% of undergraduates from under represented cohorts.



# UCD Access and Lifelong Learning (ALL)

UCD ALL has responsibility for widening access to UCD and ensuring participation by diverse student cohorts.

Students with disabilities

Mature students

Part-time learners

Students from low-income families

Asylum seekers, refugees and those with leave to remain Lone parents



Access and Lifelong Learning Centre



Over 100 Access Leaders work with us each year ...





#### The Access Leadership Programme

- Established in current format in 2013.
- Access Leaders are now recruited across all underrepresented cohorts.
- Students are interviewed, garda vetted and provided with leadership training.







# Access Leader Input: John Duffy

Our contribution to UCD and the Student Experience:

Helping students navigate a large and complex campus

Making the student transition easier

Keeping it real

Role models





#### The Role of Access Leader

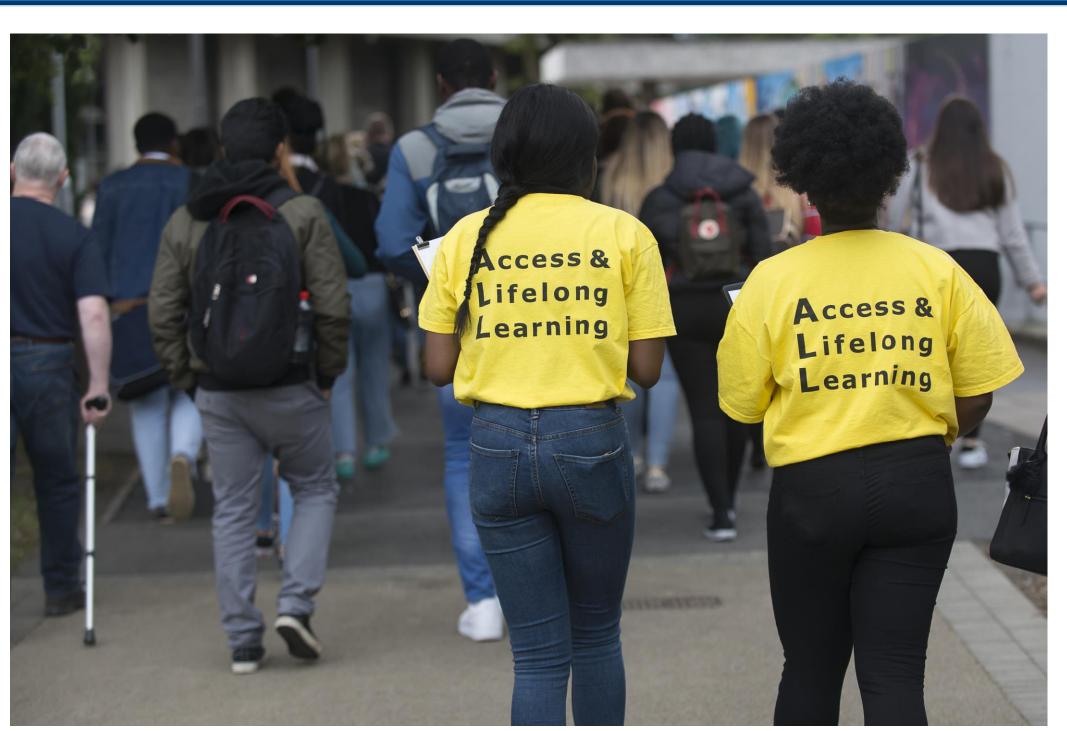
It increased my belonging to UCD because I wasn't just going to college for classes, I also had other jobs to do even it was just for 10-15 minutes at a time.

- To act as a role model and ambassador for UCD Access & Lifelong Learning.
- To engage in a variety of paid and voluntary work.
- To provide feedback to Access & Lifelong Learning and help to guide our services.









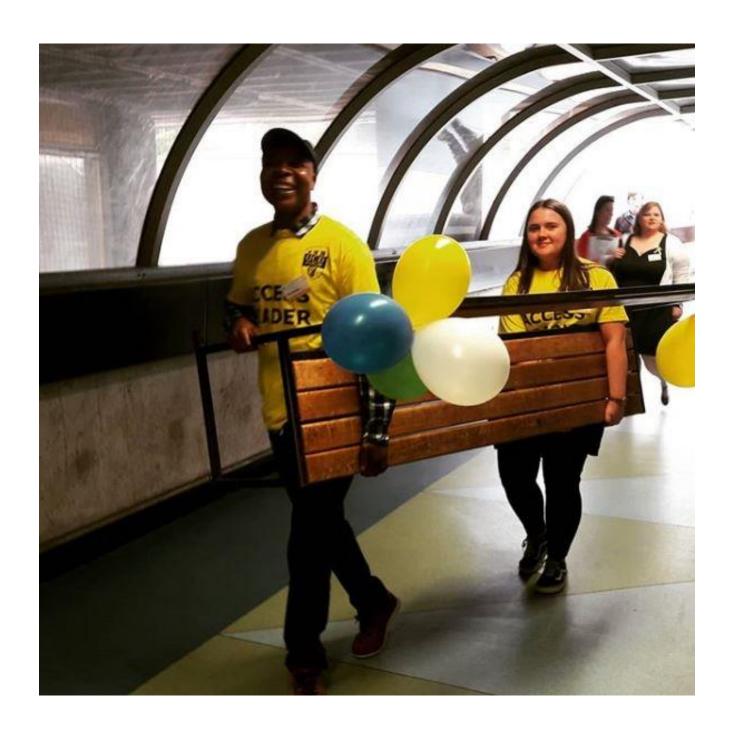
#### **ALL Welcome Programme**

- Visible friendly students all over the campus
- Answering questions
- Introducing new students to each other
- Mentoring









#### Work Opportunities

- Open Days, Conferences & Events
- School mentoring programmes
- Residential Summer Schools
- Campus tours for new & prospective students
- Peer support
- ALL Welcome Programme for incoming Access Students
- Staff training









#### **Digital Ambassadors**

 Drop-in service for Access students needing help with digital skills.







#### Personal Development

When surveyed Access Leaders noted the importance of the programme for their own personal development. All noted that the programme gave them a sense of belonging to UCD, their programme and even to their community where many work as mentors & role models.

"I applied so I could be part of the community and help provide and be part of the experience that I received when I started in UCD. I wanted to give a little back..."







## Access Leader Input: Audrey Kongolo



The benefits to me as a Student Leader:

Personal Development

Confidence

Work Experience

**Fostering Community** 









Conferences & Events













Awards & Recognition







"It gives you a sense of pride knowing that what you are doing is valued and respected by fellow Access Leaders and by the UCD staff who entrust such an honour to you, this then adds confidence into your studies and even daily life"







# YOU CAN'T BE WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE







Access ...

... is everyone's business....

The most compelling advocates are students themselves

