

Designing Skills Online



The University of Ulster has launched an online series of courses entitled 'Visualisation for Architecture', comprising programmes in **AutoCAD 3D Solid Modelling for Architecture; 3D Max for Architecture; and Photoshop for Architecture.**

The courses are designed with the busy architectural professional in mind – 100% online delivery offers flexibility of learning with the benefit of having access to different media to support individual learning styles.

Participants are taught through the University's Virtual Learning Environment – WebCT and all courses are supported by skilled professionals with experience in both academic and professional settings.

For further information on the courses, or to book a place, contact Gareth Alexander, course organiser, telephone (028) 9036 6047, email go.alexander@ulster.ac.uk. Alternatively courses can be booked online at www.adbe.ulster.ac.uk/schools/archi_design/cpd

Imagine Create 2009

Imagine Create 2009 was the first in what is likely to become an annual digital arts and industry festival. It was hosted by the School of Creative Arts at Magee campus, in collaboration with the School of Computing and Intelligent Systems and other regional partners.

The event attracted a diverse range of speakers, artists and audience members from as far afield as Europe and the United States. A web-based presence extended the festival's reach beyond the numbers who actually visited, with 10,000 hits being registered in the four months prior to the event.

Visitors to the festival spoke of its unique scope and commended the organisers on attracting a world-class line-up of leading experts and artists from the worlds of computer games, new media, film, fine art and music.

Emma Parkins, 360 Productions, said: "The digital world has found its Glastonbury."



For further information log on to www.creativetechnologies.info

Building on Excellence

Four live construction projects have been identified by Constructing Excellence in Northern Ireland (CEni) as examples of 'Demonstration Projects' which promote innovation in construction.

The projects are:

- McLaughlin & Harvey – Royal Victoria Hospital Phase 2B for design quality and sustainability.
- Belfast Education and Library Board – strategic partnering projects for procurement and integration and client leadership.
- John Graham (Dromore) Ltd – Banbridge Academy for health and safety.
- O'Hare & McGovern – the Obel Tower for design quality

and the use of modern methods of construction in Ireland's tallest skyscraper.

As the scheme evolves, CEni – which is based at the University of Ulster – will monitor progress on each construction project. A series of case studies will be produced as learning tools – these will outline the difficulties faced in delivering the project, as well as examples of innovation and best practice.



Finance Minister Nigel Dodds (right) with CEni Chairman Tony Doran, and CEni Director at Ulster George Heaney (centre), at the launch of the Demonstration Projects at the Belfast Harbour Commissioners Office in Belfast

For further information on the NI Demonstration Programme contact Lorraine Campbell, development officer, School of the Built Environment, telephone (028) 9036 6559 or email l.campbell@ulster.ac.uk alternatively, visit www.constructingexcellence.ulster.ac.uk

The Family Business

The University of Ulster has been awarded €4.2 million by the European Regional Development Fund to deliver on two research ventures.

Professor Rodney McAdam, Head of the Department of Marketing, Entrepreneurship and Strategy, Ulster Business School, said: "The first project will focus on small family businesses and how they can effectively address 'succession issues' – handing down the business to the next generation, which is linked to the effective implementation of innovation.

"The second project will focus on longer established third or fourth generation family-based organisations or those that have recently moved beyond family ownership."

Professor McAdam is heading the three-year project, which was developed with the assistance of the Office of Innovation, alongside academics from the University of Glasgow, Dundalk Institute of Technology and Glasgow Caledonian.