

# CASL Newsletter

Issue: 2009-2

## Researcher in Profile

Dr. Rodrigo Caballero is a lecturer in the School of Mathematical Sciences and he is based in UCD CASL.

Rodrigo's main research focuses on understanding the role of atmospheric dynamics within the climate system.

Recent talk - [Pushing the Envelope: Extreme Weather and Extreme Climate](#)

Find Rodrigo [Here](#)

## Research Competition!

'Making an Impact' Competition launched by the HEA - research students across all disciplines invited to make a short submission outlining the impact that their research will make to Ireland, or internationally.

The six finalists will be invited to present their research at [The Helix at Dublin City University](#) on Thursday 23rd April and will have their research featured in the [Irish Independent](#). Two awards of €2,500 will be made at the end of the evening.

**Closing Date: Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009.**

Full competition details available at the following link - [UCD Research Competition](#)



Mar-Apr 09

this issue

Collaborate! **P.1**

Recent & Upcoming Events **P.2**

Research News **P.3**

ICHEC Visit CASL **P.4**

## Collaborate! SMART Project Officially Launched

The [SMART](#) (Stuart Mangan Assistive Research and Technology) project was officially launched in CASL on the 12th March led by Dr. Gary McDarby. To mark the occasion Stuart video-conferenced with Scott Rickard, CASL Researchers from different schools in UCD, along with some experts from different fields outside of the lab during CASL Coffee Hour to tell us about his life changing accident and to ask how we might be able to help to improve his quality of life. He emailed his reflections on the event (via his voice recognition software) and the text is included below. To help out in the project email Gary at [gary@media.mit.edu](mailto:gary@media.mit.edu).

"I first saluted Scott and then the rest of the team to which I received a rapturous 'hi there' right back at me. With this alone, I could feel the energy and positive vibe that was in the room. Having first spoken of my life before the accident, such as my studies in law and business at home and abroad, my love for all sports and activities in general and my recent work in finance in the City in London, we moved on to speak of my accident. I told the team how it happened and how I was rushed to hospital. I then spoke of my fight for survival and my gradual rehabilitation over the next eight months culminating in my discharge last December, just in time to spend Christmas at home with my family.

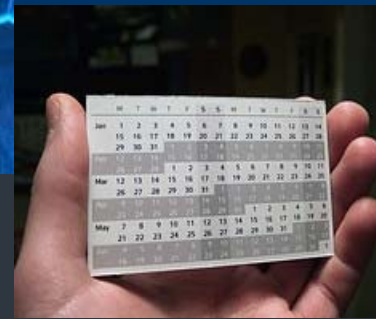
Since moving into my new home in London I have worked to create as normal a life as possible for myself and this has been made possible greatly through the use of voice recognition software and computers. I told the team that I wanted to become as independent as possible for my two carers that look after me 24/7.



Stuart with his family during the tense final moments of Ireland's Six Nations Grand Slam victory

I also spoke of the frustration of having to use multiple gadgets and techniques which take time to set up and to master. 'I need one machine that will do everything for me - answer the phone, turn on the lights and control the TV just using my voice' was what I said to them. This will be my first step toward some sort of independence. Once this has been achieved I can then look at improving other aspects of my new life - so that my head controls wheelchair movements & other requirements for example.

We then spoke of my hobbies, how I contacted friends via e-mail & Skype. How I watched movies and read books, or by using my computer. By the end of the session, I think Scott and the team had got a good insight into my life before and after. If anyone has any further questions or want to know more about some aspect of my life then please don't hesitate to contact me as we can only move forward by knowing more and delving more into my situation. I am contactable at any time at: [Stuart\\_Mangan@hotmail.com](mailto:Stuart_Mangan@hotmail.com) or you can read more about me on my homepage [www.stuartmangan.org](http://www.stuartmangan.org)."



## Publications

### CLOPS

The formal methods group on the 3rd floor has developed a custom language CLOPS for describing command-line options and dependencies between them.

This month a generator of command-line parsers from CLOPS descriptions has been made public as a source-forge project and a pertaining article has been accepted to DSL WC.

For more information contact: [Mikolas Janota](mailto:Mikolas.Janota)

## Job Opportunities

**KindSoftware -Post Doctoral Research Position available April 1<sup>st</sup> 09.**

For more information see: [Kind Software](#) part of the [Systems Research Group](#) based in CASL.

**Research Assistant on Surface User Interface Computing available 1<sup>st</sup> June 09.**

Working under the direction of [Dr. Aaron Quigley](#) this RA will be based in UCD CASL.

Full details: <https://hrweb.ucd.ie/pls/coreh/recruit/docs/0000019033.pdf>

## Recent & Upcoming Events

### Recent

**1<sup>st</sup> Irish Cryptography Day**, Feb 26, hosted by the Claude Shannon Institute

**ICHEC Information Session**, Speaker: JC Desplat, Mar 26

An **Innovation Seminar Series** was held in CASL this month with the following 3 talks:

Feb 26: Francois Pinchot - **NovaUCD & the Commercialisation Process**

Mar 5: Barry Jennings - **Research & Start-up Funding- Enterprise Ireland**

Mar 12: **Venture Capitalists - What they do and what they look for?- 4<sup>th</sup> Level Ventures**

Mar 2: Lennon O'Naraigh, Imperial College London - **Interfaces: From classical times to Cahn and Hilliard**

### Upcoming

**IRU / NEMO WP3 workshop**, Apr 2 -UCD CASL Meeting Room

Series of **CECAM Computational Workshops** beginning Apr 6, for more information contact: [donal.mackernan@ucd.ie](mailto:donal.mackernan@ucd.ie)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Session in the **CLARITY Seminar Series** will take place in UCD on Apr 17, for more information, contact : [bridget.kelly@ucd.ie](mailto:bridget.kelly@ucd.ie).

Claude Shannon Institute Modules Apr 20 & 21

### Look out for in April



High Definition Video Conference equipment will be installed in the CASL meeting room In April/May. The units will be compatible with, and will compliment, HEAnet's existing suite of centralised Video Conferencing services. This service is available to all of UCD and is Managed and booked through CASL.

## CASL Easter Treasure Hunt

CASL Staff are organising an Easter Treasure Hunt which will take place on Campus on April 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 - followed by an Easter Egg Coffee Hour! More details to follow.

## Social Corner

### Congratulations

**Congratulations Joe & Genevieve on the arrival of baby An Kiniry!**



### Welcome to

**Dr. Julien Charles**  
SRG, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Dr. Andreas Krueger**  
IRU Group, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Frantisek Polach**,  
Claude Shannon Institute,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor

**Andreas Kendziorra**,  
Claude Shannon Institute,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### Farewell to

**Last week CLARITY moved to their new home in Science North and a farewell party was hosted at the CASL Coffee Hour.**





## Featured Cluster **CLIQUE**

Feb 2009, CLIQUE Strategic Research Cluster is funded €3.5 million.

CLIQUE lead by Professor Pdraig Cunningham, is a joint academic and industry research initiative focused on the research challenges in the analysis, modeling, visualization and understanding of social & biological networks. The industry partners, in this joint initiative are IBM, Ildro Technologies and Norkom Technologies. The academic partners are UCD and DERI in Galway along with collaborating academics around the world.

Clique conducts research on the themes of flow, communities, anomalous structure and centrality. The research programme has three research strands. network data. In addition we have two application research strands tied to biological and social network data.

<http://cliquecluster.org/>

### Innovation Station!

Entrepreneurship competition to transform business ideas into commercial enterprises. There is still time, final submissions is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Don't pass up on it! See [here](#) for more details.



## Research News



### TRIL features in Irish Times Innovation Supplement

[ Friday, 20th March 2009 ]

The TRIL Centre featured in the Irish Times Innovation Supplement this month (March 2009). Prof Paddy Nixon, Academic Director of the TRIL Centre was interviewed in the article 'Ireland's got Talent' on page 26.

The article highlighted how TRIL is an excellent example of convergence, where various research disciplines work together towards a common goal.

Prof Nixon discussed the elements of spin-off from the TRIL Centre such as SHIMMER, a wireless and wearable sensor used to monitor a person's living space and health. He also explained how TRIL's software is free to use and is based on a common research platform with the aim of building links with other researchers.

[Click here](#) for Irish Times Supplement. For the TRIL article, go to Page 26.



### Yoga reduces fear of falling in elders

[ Tue 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 ]

Indiana University researchers found promising results in an exploratory study involving yoga practice by older adults who expressed a fear of falling.

After a 12-week, twice weekly hatha yoga class, taught by a professional yoga therapist, study participants reported a reduced fear of falling, increased lower body flexibility and a reduction in their leisure constraints. [ [Read More](#) ]

CAPSIL is funded within the specific programme "Cooperation" and the research theme "ICT" of the 7th European Framework Programme. UCD and CASL Collaborator with CAPSIL is Dr. Aaron Quigley.

Find Aaron [Here](#)  
Click here for the full

## ICHEC – A Service Worth Considering



Associate Director of ICHEC J-C Desplat held an information session about ICHEC in the CASL seminar room on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2009. The session was very useful where CASL researches learned of some new and valuable services added in 2009.

### Highlights of the session were:

- ICHEC will host its first Summer Scholarship Scheme in 2009.
- UCD IT Research has a total of 10% of the ICHEC Capacity.
- UCD IT Research can now set you up directly with an ICHEC account.
  - No need for you to write a proposal to ICHEC about your work,
  - You do not need to specify the amount of hours you will need.
  - You just need a valid UCD email address
  - To get set up [click here](#)
- ICHEC training course ran in UCD in March, if CASL researchers would like a course ran in CASL (8 people ideal) contact [Fred Clarke](#) or [Barry Hogan](#)
- Significant upgrades to capability of the computing infrastructure in ICHEC.
- ICHEC new office space in Dublin open for visiting & workspace for students.
- Launch of National HPC Service and HPC Hub

## EYE ON IT Conferences 09

The 20<sup>th</sup> Irish Signals & Systems Conference 2009 UCD – June 10 -11 2009. Co-Chairs are Chris Bleakley & Scott Rickard.

**Keynote Speakers Announced!**  
\* **Prof. Paolo Bonato**, Director, *Motion Analysis Laboratory*, Assistant Professor, *Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Harvard Medical School*.

\* **Blaise Aguera y Arcas**, Architect of MSN, *Microsoft Live Labs*

\* **Simon Singh**, Author, *Fermat's Last Theorem, The Code Book*  
All are superb and stimulating speakers.



We have set up CASL (UCDCASL) on Twitter & plan to use it for the regular announcements that we currently make. We are also planning that people from CASL and the Schools can "Tweet" their news items to the displays in CASL – more to follow.

## Featured Project – SRG Activity Recognition Study



The project called "Activity Recognition Study" will involve tracking ten users in total, all members of SRG, who are based on the 3rd floor over a period of two weeks.

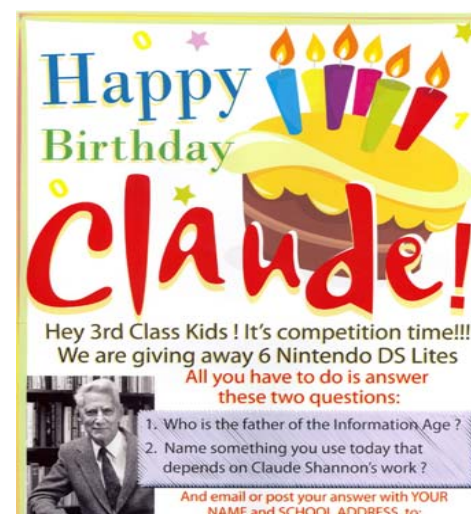
In order to monitor their activities, they will be tracked by locator tags, bluetooth and by snapshots of their whereabouts on the third floor and canteen entrance.

Any data that is collected about people who are not involved in the study will be discarded by default. The study is only targeting data about the agreed participants.

For more information, or if you have any queries about the study, please contact [Dr. Simon Dobson](#).

Find Simon [Here](#)

## Happy Birthday Claude!



The Claude Shannon Institute is running a national competition coinciding with the birthday of Claude Shannon (April 30<sup>th</sup>).

All primary schools in Ireland were emailed a Happy Birthday Claude! poster. The competition targets 3rd Class primary school students and its purpose is to teach the children about Claude Shannon.

More information can be found at: <http://www.shannoninstitute.ie/>

## Computing Corner



Can You Help Vieri Del Bianco with a request??

Vieri Has recently joined CASL in the Sensetile Project. He would like a discussion with those of you who have experience in administering a small cluster (approx 17 machines).

Find Vieri [Here](#)