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Construction of the €17.5 million student hub, which extends across five floors, was financed by the European Investment Bank(EIB) which signed a €100m loan agreement with the university in 2016.

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A new radio station has also been installed in the Hub, while a large multi-purpose event space, the Atrium, makes up the majority of the ground floor.

An old anatomy lecture theatre has also been transformed into a 70-seater indoor amphitheatre, while a new public space between the Hub and the UCC QuaD will allow for outdoor events.

Two of the main event spaces in the Hub overlooking Cork city have been named after Dr Dora Allman and Dr Lucy E Smith, the first female physicians to graduate from UCC.

Dr Dora Allman, the first woman to be appointed as chief medical officer in a mental hospital in Ireland and Great Britain, and Dr Lucy Smith, Cork's first female obstetrician and visiting physician to Cork Women's Prison, both graduated from the university in 1898.

The building, which is the most energy-efficient on the UCC campus, is fully accessible and includes the first Changing Places facility in Cork.

Changing Places facilities are different from standard accessible toilets, providing extra support and additional equipment for those who may need it.

UCC's medical building was mentioned in James Joyce's seminal 1916 novel 'A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man' as Joyce's father studied in the building.