



Brockovich to inspire students on Irish visit

By Jane Last

RENOWNED campaigner Erin Brockovich is to fly to Dublin to give a special lecture at UCD.

The activist, who was the subject of the Oscar-winning film of the same name, will visit the capital next month where she will speak on a diverse range of subjects, including the feminine approach to tackling problems and the future of organic foods.

Outspoken Erin is regarded as something of a straight-talker - a trait which has contributed greatly to her campaign work over the years.

Incidentally, her lecture is being held by Irish company

Glenisk to help celebrate Ireland's National Organic Week, which will run from September 15-21.

She is best known for her work with the law firm, Masry & Vititoe. She began an investigation which eventually established that residents of Hinkley, California had been exposed to toxic Chromium 6 during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s as a result of a leak into the groundwater from the nearby Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Compressor Station.

SETTLEMENT

In 1996, as a result of the largest direct action lawsuit of its kind,

spearheaded by Brockovich and Ed Masry, the utility company paid the largest toxic tort injury settlement in US history: \$333m in damages to more than 600 Hinkley residents.

Brockovich's investigation inspired the hit movie Erin Brockovich and the campaigner became a public figure overnight and elected to use her fame to spread positive messages of personal empowerment and to encourage people to stand up and make a difference.

Brockovich will address an audience at University College Dublin, Belfield, at 1pm on Saturday, 20 September. Tickets for the event, which is open to

the public, cost €27.65 and are available from www.ticketmaster.ie or by telephoning 0818 719300.



VISIT: Erin Brockovich