2014-2015

GradLink Mentoring Programme

School of English
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GradLink Launch Programme of Events

6:45PM
Students and Mentors arrive

7:00PM
Welcome from the Head of School, Alumni Office, Careers Advisory Service

7:15PM
Mentors share their career experiences

8:15-9:00PM
Mentors and students meet informally

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Students interested in being mentored must complete the GradLink Mentoring Application Form and drop them into the “Mentor Matching” boxes before leaving this evening.

Thank you!
Thank You to our Alumni mentors, staff and students for their time, support and enthusiasm.
What is Mentoring?

Mentoring is an interactive learning and educational experience, between alumni and students, to assist students in their personal and career development.

Mentoring in the School of English

The mentors are graduates who have worked for a number of years and at the School’s request have agreed to share their experience and guidance. The mentees are students of the School interested in learning from the mentor’s experiences and being advised, guided and informed by them.

How does the programme work?

During the programme launch, each graduate will give a brief introduction. A reception will be held following this, where students will have the opportunity to speak with mentors one to one or in small groups and to ask questions. At the end of the event students will be asked to fill out a mentor matching form and to indicate a first, second and third choice mentor. Students who wish to participate will be matched with a mentor for the programme. Depending on demand, 1-3 students will be matched to each mentor.

Students and mentors should plan to meet approximately three times between October and May.

2014-2015 or a total of 8-10 hours to maximise the benefit of the programme. Meeting space will be made available in College on one to two evenings every month to facilitate these meetings.

Topics of interest to mentees in the past included:

- Researching and exploring particular job roles and sectors
- Deciding on what to do after college
- Review a CV/LinkedIn profile
- Practice job interviews, networking
- Introductions to other professional colleagues
- Finding jobs not advertised
- Exploring postgraduate study
The School of English

The School of English is one of the oldest in the world, and in 1867 it founded the first ever Chair in English Literature. Today the School comprises a total of approximately 500 undergraduates, over 100 hundred visiting students, and about 90 students who are reading for a higher degree. There are around twenty-three permanent members of staff whose research and teaching expertise encompasses a wide range of areas and topics, and a substantial number of Teaching Associates and Teaching Assistants.

Our vision for the future is of a School that is firmly built on our existing strengths: a single-discipline School with the highest possible international research profile based on the achievements of staff who are world-leaders in their fields; which continues to attract undergraduates and postgraduates of the highest quality; which maintains and builds on its already vibrant culture of excellence in teaching and research; which continues to foster innovation in teaching and assessment; and which has at its core our firmly-held belief that research and teaching are intimately connected and mutually stimulating.

For more information, visit the School’s website at www.tcd.ie/english

Mentoring Programme Contacts:

School of English
GradLink Co-ordinator: Julia Whittredge*,
School Global Officer
Tel: 01 896 4723, Email: english.gradlink@tcd.ie

Careers Advisory Service
Orlaith Tunney, Careers Advisor
Tel: 01 896 3764 Email: Orlaith.Tunney@tcd.ie

Alumni Office
Sandra Rafter, Schools Liaison Manager
Tel: 01 896 3337, Email: srafter@tcd.ie

*Julia is your first point of contact for questions regarding GradLink Mentoring
Additional Careers Support Services

MEETING ALUMNI & EMPLOYERS
- Careers Talks
- Employer Fairs
- Recruiter in Residence Employer led workshops
- Careers Networks at Front Gate Online

POST GRADUATE STUDY
- Workshops on demystifying the PhD & Personal Statements
- PG Study talks on applying & finding funding

CAREER GUIDANCE
- Confidential one-to-one or small group meeting with your Careers Advisor

JOB SKILLS WORKSHOPS
- Regular Workshops On:
  - CV preparation
  - Application forms
  - Interviews
  - Personal statements
  - Assessment centres

FINDING JOBS
- Short-term, part-time, internships, work experience & Graduate jobs advertised daily online

ONLINE
- Up to the minute jobs, funding, events & careers information

GUIDANCE TOOLS
- Web-based tools to help sort through your options & focus on what suits you

CLASS WORKSHOPS
- Discipline specific session with your Careers Advisor

TAILORED SERVICES
- For Postgraduate, international Students & Students with Disabilities

CAREERS WEEK
- Career Talks in a range of sectors & Employer Skills Sessions

DROP IN CV / LINKEDIN PROFILE CLINIC
- Weekly drop-in CV review

PRACTICE INTERVIEW
- Book a practice run for your next interview

Careers Advisory Service
2nd Floor, 7-9 South Leinster St.,
Trinity College, Dublin 2.
T: 01 896 1721/1705
E: careers@tcd.ie
W: www.tcd.ie/careers

Front Gate Online, Career Network
Where TCD students can connect with TCD Graduates via email to discuss career related topics
W: www.tcd.ie/alumni/frontgateonline
Graduate Mentor Profiles

Academia & Arts Management

Name: Niamh NicGhabhann
Course: TSM English & History of Art & Architecture
Company: University of Limerick
Position: Course Director, MA Festive Arts
Profile: Following my UG graduation in 2007, I worked as a tour guide at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham and as an intern in the NGI education dept. Next, I became administrator of the Irish Museums Association. I also worked as volunteer coordinator and contributing curator at Open House Dublin & as gallery assistant at Pallas Contemp Projects, and mother’s tankstation. From 2008-2012, I completed a PhD in TCD. I then worked with UCD on a digital humanities postdoc & founded a public history PLC w colleagues, & worked as a freelance curator. In 2013 I took up my current position at UL.

Broadcasting

Name: Siobhan Mannion
Course: TSM English & French
Company: RTÉ
Position: Producer
Profile: Siobhán Mannion holds a B.A. in English & French from Trinity and spent a year in Aix-en-Provence between second & third year. Following graduation, she did various temping jobs, went travelling and enrolled in a Master’s in Film at UCD (part-time). While studying, she began freelancing in RTÉ. Since 2005, she has been a producer in Radio 1, on such programmes as The Arts Show, Arena & The Book on One. She is currently on a career break (until June 2015). She also writes fiction. Last year, she was the recipient of a MacDowell Colony fellowship, and in 2011, she won the Hennessy Award.

Community Development

Name: Ariana Ball
Course: TSM English & French
Company: Third Age
Position: Fáilte Isteach, Manager
Profile: Since 2009, I have worked as National Development Officer with Third Age, a community and voluntary organisation which provides opportunities for older people. I have specifically worked on one of their projects called Fáilte Isteach, which involves predominantly older volunteers welcoming migrants to their community through conversational English classes. Fáilte Isteach currently has 66 branches in 21 counties involving over 600 volunteers tutoring in excess of 2,000 migrants. Since June 2014, I have assumed the role of Fáilte Isteach Manager.
Creative Writing & Acting

Name: Gerard Lee  
Course: MPhil Creative Writing  
Company: Self/Freelance  
Position: Writer/Actor/Director  
Profile: Although I worked for a number of years in Youth Work and Residential Care, most of my working life has been as a freelance artist, specifically as a theatre practitioner. I have worked as an actor and theatre director, and subsequently I have written plays for theatre, and a novel, published by New Island. I continue to write both drama and prose fiction, and I have insights into the challenges presented to anyone interested in embarking on a career in a freelance capacity, particularly where texts for performance dominate the chosen field.

Design & Digital Media

Name: Aoife Crowley  
Course: TSM English & History  
Company: Wishbone  
Position: Owner/Graphic Designer  
Profile: I was Editor of Trinity News in 2010. For me, one of the most interesting facets of the paper was the design, so I began teaching myself how to do it. By the time I left Trinity, I was freelancing as a graphic designer. I took a job as Design Assistant at Web Summit. The Lead Designer then quit so I took over his role, eventually running the whole Design Team. After 18 months with Web Summit, I quit to pursue my ambition to run my own design company, Wishbone. I'm interested in mentoring on design, entrepreneurship and anything web-related. Feel free to chat – I'm @aoifacrowley on twitter.

Name: Sinead Clandillon  
Course: TSM English & Sociology  
Company: Webfactory  
Position: Head of Content  
Profile: Digital Content Strategist, with close to 15 years experience planning and producing user-centred web content for a diverse range of clients. Currently Head of Content with Webfactory, an award winning digital agency, I train digital teams in writing for the web and content strategy and also offer web writing, editing and content marketing services. I also have extensive experience working in Client Services where I offered services such as Social Media strategy, SEO, PPC and account management. https://www.linkedin.com/in/sineadclandillon.

Name: Zanya Dahl  
Course: TSM English & German  
Company: Artizan  
Position: Founder and Managing Director  
Profile: I graduated from Trinity in 1997. I went on to do a one year Multimedia Certificate in SCD. After I finished, I was hired as a graphic designer for ISI Interact where I started specialising in 3d animation. I left after 2 years to travel the world in 2000. I returned in 2001, taught myself how to design and build websites and then did some freelancing for a few months before getting a job as a webmaster in Four5one. I left after 15 months to set up my own web design agency in 2003 called Artizan. We're now 11 years old with a few design awards under our belt and slowly growing.
Diplomacy

Name: Ruth Parkin
Course: English Studies
Company: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Position: Deputy Director, Africa Bilateral Cooperation Units
Profile: Following a MA in Culture, Race, Difference at the University of Sussex I worked with refugees and asylum seekers in the voluntary sector for two years before joining the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. I have served abroad in Ireland's Embassies in Romania and South Korea, as well as in a variety of roles in Dublin including on North/South Cooperation, the Irish Abroad, and the Latin America Desk. Currently, I am working in Development Cooperation Division on Ireland's bilateral relations with Africa, focusing on trade.

Information Technology & Services

Name: Tom Halton
Course: B.A. Modern Languages
Company: Synchronoss Software
Position: Senior Program Manager
Profile: Very briefly: graduated from ELL in 1979, qualified with H.Dip.Ed in 1981 (TCD also), and as TEFL (International House, Hastings, Sussex, UK), promptly left for Paris to teach English, write articles, consult on software/UI design, study mime, play bit roles in movies (2 yrs). Moved to Amsterdam (2 yrs) to tech write in Phillips Data Systems, then to the Cote d'Azur (5 yrs) to tech write & create software for IBM and Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC). Then to Boston, USA (5 yrs) to do lots of stuff and on to Microsoft in SF & Brussels. Started own company but work with others.

Innovation Management & Cultural Tourism

Name: Grainne Millar
Course: English Studies
Company: GM Innovations
Position: Director
Profile: Gráinne Millar has over 20 years' experience in the private and public sector in the strategic development of creative clusters and innovative projects across tourism, culture, heritage and agri-food sectors. Since graduating with a BA in Pure English in 1994 Gráinne has held a number of high profile roles working in Temple Bar and Airfield. She is the founder of the hugely successful Culture Night initiative. In 2010 she established the Merrion Square Innovation Network with Fáilte Ireland to build a new cultural tourism destination in Dublin. She holds a Masters of Business from the IMI/UCC.

Journalism

Name: Ciara Kenny
Course: TSM English and History
Company: Irish Times
Position: News reporter and feature writer
Profile: Ciara Kenny is a journalist with The Irish Times. She has curated the Generation Emigration project on irishtimes.com since 2011, which provides an editorially controlled platform for Irish people living abroad to share their stories, experiences and opinions, as well as updates on visas and other issues of interest to the Irish overseas. She writes a weekly feature for the Life Abroad section in Weekend Review, and also works regularly on the breaking news team in the newsroom.
Name: Davin O'Dwyer  
Course: English Studies  
Company: Irish Times  
Position: Production editor & freelance writer  
Profile: I began in journalism in Toronto, interning for Saturday Night magazine. In 2005, I began working at the Irish Times as a subeditor in the Features department. Currently I am a production editor in the newsroom, operating as assistant chief subeditor. As a freelance writer, I have been published in the Irish Times, the Washington Post, Slate, Toronto Star & the Miami Herald.

Name: Michael Freeman  
Course: English Studies  
Company: TheJournal.ie  
Position: Editor, DailyEdge.ie  
Profile: I edited an independent magazine called Mongrel after graduating from college. Then (when it collapsed with the economy) I did freelance feature work for the newspapers and became a subeditor at the Irish Sun. After two years of writing pun headlines, I left to join TheJournal.ie and currently edit its pop-culture sister publication, DailyEdge.ie.

Name: Sinead O'Carroll  
Course: TSM English & Sociology  
Company: TheJournal.ie  
Position: News Editor  
Profile: About three days after finishing my final exams at Trinity, I found myself in Manhattan, New York interning for a magazine publisher. The intention was to work for free for three months while making cash in a Hell's Kitchen football bar. The free work soon turned into a paid role, which then became an opportunity for a visa and a job as an Editorial Assistant. Two years, and a couple of title jumps later, I decided to come home. Eventually, I landed at TheJournal.ie in 2011, where I am currently News Editor.

Information & Library Services  
Name: Anne Murphy  
Course: TSM English & Italian  
Company: Tallaght Hospital  
Position: Head Librarian  
Profile: I chose librarianship because I like libraries and being near information. I qualified in 1991 and in 1995 was appointed as librarian in the Meath Hospital. In 1998 it merged with two other hospitals to form Tallaght Hospital. I set up its new Library. I work with a small team of librarians who contribute to improving patient care and outcomes by providing clinical staff w/ access to the scientific lit. Librarianship is a great career choice: people, info, tech: & an endlessly fascinating mix of novelty and creating order out of chaos. English grads form 0.0004% of the Hospital staff. Dare to be different.
Management Consultancy

Name: Ellen Hickey  
Course: TSM English & Philosophy  
Company: PwC  
Position: Consultant  
Profile: After graduating, I worked in publishing/book selling for about two years before going back to college and doing a Masters in Library and Information Studies at Aberystwyth University, Wales. I then moved to London where I worked in the information centre of a law firm before moving to a strategy consultants as a business researcher. I recently returned to Dublin to take up a role as management consultant with PwC.

Marketing & Training

Name: Alison Treacy  
Course: TSM English and History  
Company: Trinity College Dublin  
Position: International Marketing Officer  
Profile: Directly after University I interviewed and was selected for a paid internship in a busy Dublin media company, Mediacontact.ie. I then moved to Edinburgh where I was awarded a Masters degree in Literature, before working for a year in the Scottish Court Service. I spent two years working in project management for the University of Edinburgh, where I worked on lots of different projects, all of them University-wide and student-facing. I started working as an International Marketing Officer for Trinity in Summer 2014.

Name: Laura Halpin  
Course: English Studies  
Company: The Wheel  
Position: Marketing & Training Officer  
Profile: 2010: Finished English Studies  
2010-2011: Full-time employment, JET Programme, Japan  
2011-2012: Part-time employment, Nest Language School, Barcelona  
2012-2013: Full-time study – Masters in Management, Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business, Dublin  
2013-2014: Full-time employment – Marketing & Training Officer, The Wheel, Dublin (a support and representative body for the community, voluntary and charitable sector in Ireland)  
2014-2015: TBC!  
https://www.linkedin.com/in/laurahalpin.

Music & Art Therapy

Name: Emilie Conway  
Course: TSM English & German  
Company: Self-employed  
Position: Jazz Singer & Art therapist  
Profile: Moved more and more into music following a summer in Chicago on a student visa where I visited a jazz club for the first time! Released debut album "The Secret of a Rose" in country wide tour in 2012. Awarded an Arts Council grant this year to research, arrange and tour the music of lesser known composer Alec Wilder. Currently in process of recording this music for album release next year - hopefully. Also work as art therapist/counselor helping people recover from emotional distress to health, happiness and their true life path.
Operations Management & Writing

Name: Anders Larsen  
Course: English Studies  
Company: Xerox Europe  
Position: European Operations Manager  
Profile: After graduation, taught English (TEFL) for about eight years bouncing around the globe. Did an M.A. in King’s London in Mediaeval English. Was an English Lecturer in Mexico for one year. Did three years of a Ph.D. in Trinity in Mediaeval English (not completed). Worked in call-centres - Compaq, Accenture, Microsoft as an agent and then a team lead. Took some time out to write a novel (previously published a book with Random House). Went back to Xerox as a Team Lead and then promoted to European Operations Manager.

Public Relations & Communications

Name: Fiachra Ó Marcaigh  
Course: TSM English & Psychology  
Company: Eurofound (EU Agency)  
Position: Managing Editor  

Name: Joanne Hunt  
Course: TSM English & Philosophy  
Company: Central Bank of Ireland  
Position: Communications & Engagement Manager  
Profile: Graduating with a degree in English and Philosophy, I did a post-grad in Business to Business Marketing which entailed work experience at a magazine publishing company. From there, I moved into roles in PR/Communications in the tech sector, working with Microsoft, BT and O2 and working in Australia for a time. Ultimately, I chucked in the corporate job, completed a Masters in Journalism and worked as a journalist with the Irish Times. I’ve recently taken up the role of Communications and Engagement Manager at the Central Bank of Ireland.

Name: Melissa Nugent  
Course: TSM English & Philosophy  
Company: ReputationInc  
Position: Account Manager  
Profile: Melissa has more than eight years experience in communications. At ReputationInc, Melissa is involved in the development of corporate communications programmes spanning media relations, strategy development, internal communications and issues and risk management for clients in a range of sectors. She is experienced in the development of reputation management programmes for corporate clients deploying reputation measurement tools, undertaking stakeholder analysis and running executive workshops.
Teaching Development & E-Learning

Name: Claire McAvinia  
Course: TSM English & French  
Company: Dublin Institute of Technology  
Position: Learning Development Officer  
Profile: After my BA, I went to the UK to do a Masters, and later returned to TCD to do a part-time PhD in the CLCS. My current role is in academic development, working with lecturers on their teaching and assessment methods, and new initiatives including e-learning. Before joining DIT, I worked as an educational technologist at NUI Maynooth, mainstreaming the adoption of an online learning system (Moodle) across the university, and also managing a wide range of projects in teaching development and e-learning. Before that, I worked in similar roles at the University of Surrey and UCL in the UK.

Training & Business Management

Name: Brid Healy  
Course: English Studies  
Company: City & Guilds Group  
Position: Regional Manager Europe  
Profile: I graduated from Trinity College Dublin with a BA (Hons) Degree in 1990, since then I have undertaken a MA in Marketing and am currently completing an MSc at The Smurfit Business School specialising in Business Management and Leadership. In my current position as Regional Manager for Europe with The City & Guilds Group I have overall responsibility for leading all City & Guilds activities across a number of European countries, which involves offering a range of skills development services to governments, employers and training organizations. I joined City & Guilds as Country Manager for Ireland in 2006 and during that time had responsibility for managing all aspects of the Ireland business as well as developing partnerships with employers and related key stakeholders. Prior to joining the City & Guilds Group I gained over 15 years senior business management experience in the educational publishing in both Ireland and overseas and I have also worked for the University sector here in Ireland. Key competencies: international business development, sales, marketing, communications management, PR, coaching and business management.

Name: Ralph Benson  
Course: TSM English & Philosophy  
Company: Acteon Group  
Position: Management leadership programme  
Profile: Currently on management leadership programme at Acteon, owner of ca 20 offshore engineering/oil and gas businesses around the globe. I coach and support the MDs of three of these businesses in London, California and Scotland. Spent 7 years as mergers and acquisitions advisor to clients like Rolls-Royce and other FTSE100. After leaving TCD spent two years in Irish politics as assistant to (then Senator) Shane Ross, and as a freelance journalist writing for the Irish Times, Sunday Independent and Financial Times.