2015-2016

GradLink Mentoring Programme

School of English
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GradLink Launch Programme
of Events

6:30PM
Students and Mentors arrive

7:00PM
Welcome from the Head of Discipline

7:05PM
Mentors share their career experiences

8:00-9:00PM
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 alumnus 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 etc. Students will be matched with a mentor and depending on demand, 1-3 students will be matched to each mentor.

What happens next?

Step 1: Students will be matched to their mentor at the Mentor Matching Workshops on the 28th and 29th October.

Step 2: Mentors will be introduced by the Global Officer to their mentees via email.

Step 3: Students will arrange the first meeting with their mentors before December 2015. Two follow-up meetings are recommended between January and June 2016. Meeting space will be made available in the Global Room, Trinity College Dublin on one to two evenings every month to facilitate these meetings.

To facilitate meetings, the Global Room has been booked on the following dates (5-9 pm):

- Wednesday 4 November
- Wednesday 2 December
- Wednesday 3 February
- Wednesday 2 March
- Wednesday 6 April
- Wednesday 4 May

The Global Room is located in the Watts Building (beside Academic Registry on the first floor).

Topics of interest to mentees in the past included:

- Researching and exploring particular job roles and sectors
- Review a CV/LinkedIn profile
- Practice job interviews, networking
- Introductions to other professional colleagues
- Finding jobs or postgraduate courses
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 Coordinator: Julia Maher*,
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 & Education

Name: David O'Shaughnessy
Course: English Studies
Company: Trinity College Dublin
Position: Assistant Professor
Profile: After I finished my degree in Trinity, I completed a H. Dip. in Business Studies, subsequently working as a strategy management consultant in London for Andersen Consulting, now Accenture. Two years later, after realizing the errors of my ways, I completed an MA in Culture and Colonialism (NUIG) and a D.Phil in English (Oxford). I spent five more years doing postdoctoral research at Oxford and then Warwick before taking up my post as Assistant Professor in Eighteenth-Century Studies at Trinity.

Name: Kate Bateman
Course: English Studies
Company: University College Dublin
Position: Student Supervisor, UCD School of Education
Profile: After a career with Aer Lingus and United Airlines in San Francisco, Kate Bateman was accepted by the School of English as a mature student. Five years later, having attained a Higher Diploma in Education, she taught English and History in Stratford College, and was chairperson of the Association of Teachers of English. Subsequently, she was awarded an MA by University College Dublin, where she currently is still engaged part-time as a Student Supervisor. She has additional experience with TEFL teaching in both the UK and California, and has worked with FAS on their return-to-work programmes.

Arts Management

Name: Aoife Murray
Course: M.Phil in Children's Literature
Company: Children's Books Ireland
Position: Programme & Events Manager
Profile: After completing a thesis on children's books (specifically concerning J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the role of the author), I began an internship with Children's Books Ireland. When this ended I returned to communications and PR roles elsewhere, before returning to CBI as Programme & Events Manager. I have been with CBI now for 4 years and work across a range of events, projects and initiatives which celebrate the role of books in the lives of children and young people, and act as a core resource for those with an interest in books for children in Ireland.

Arts & Drama

Name: Gerard Lee
Course: M.Phil in Creative Writing
Company: Self-Employed
Position: Writer, Actor & Director
Profile: Although I have 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 I have written a number plays for theatre, along with a novel, which was 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.
Communications

Name: Sarah Winton  
Course: English Literature & History  
Company: Dun & Bradstreet  
Position: Communications & Engagement Coordinator  
Profile: Prior to attending Trinity, my career background was in stage and theatre management. After graduating from Trinity, I worked in retail until joining Dun & Bradstreet, a US multinational, to provide product and customer support. I moved internally into an executive support role with a focus on employee engagement activities. As Communications and Engagement Coordinator, I create internal communications, organise events and coordinate corporate social responsibility activities.

Employment and Enterprise

Name: Brid Healy  
Course: English Literature & Biblical Studies  
Company: South Dublin County Partnership  
Position: Employment & Enterprise Manager  
Profile: An accomplished senior business manager with extensive experience gained within the Irish and international vocational education and training, the University and educational publishing sectors. I hold a BA Hons. Degree from Trinity College Dublin as well as an MA in Marketing, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management. I am currently undertaking an MSc in Business Management, and am employed as Enterprise and Employment Manager with South Dublin County Partnership. Prior to this, I have held senior business manager roles in publishing, and with both The City & Guilds Group and TCD Campus Companies.

Information Technology

Name: Anders Larson  
Course: English Studies  
Company: Xerox Europe  
Position: European Operations Manager  
Profile: After graduation, I taught English (TEFL) for about eight years while bouncing around the globe. I also completed an M.A. in King’s London in Mediaeval English. I was an English Lecturer in Mexico for one year, and then did three years of a Ph.D. in Trinity in Mediaeval English (not completed). I have experience working in call-centres for the likes of Compaq, Accenture, and Microsoft as an agent and then a team lead, after which I took some time out to write a novel (having previously published a book with Random House). I went back to Xerox as a Team Lead and was later promoted to European Operations Manager.

Innovation Management & Cultural Tourism

Name: Gráinne 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 English Studies 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.
International Development

Name: Conor Brosnan  
Course: English Literature & History  
Company: Small Foundation  
Position: Director  
Profile: I graduated TCD in 1999 with a BA in English and History, having majored in English in the final year. I then completed a higher diploma in UCD in Business, followed by a Masters in Finance also in UCD. From there, I had a successful 13-year career in a senior analytical and quantitative role in a hedge fund. For many years I have also been interested and involved in international development, travelling extensively in Africa and working with an Irish charitable foundation in a non-executive capacity. This is currently my main focus and I am also studying part-time for a Masters in Poverty Reduction in SOAS, University of London.

Journalism

Name: Ciara Kenny  
Course: English Literature & History  
Company: The Irish Times  
Position: News Reporter & Feature Writer  
Profile: Ciara Kenny is a journalist with The Irish Times. She works in the Features department, and has run the Generation Emigration section since 2011, a platform for Irish people living abroad to share their stories and opinions. She has previously worked on the breaking news team in The Irish Times, as a regular news writer for The Sunday Times, and a freelance travel researcher/writer for Rough Guides, Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Guides, and several online travel publications. She graduated from TSM English & History in 2006, and has an MA in Journalism from DCU.

Name: Davin O’Dwyer  
Course: English Studies  
Company: The 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: Áine Toner  
Course: English Literature & History  
Company: Harmonia  
Position: Editor, Woman’s Way Magazine  
Profile: I have been editor of Woman’s Way magazine for seven years, having been its deputy editor for 18 months prior. Over the course of my career, I have worked for national daily, weekly, fortnightly and monthly publications, several websites and the BBC Northern Ireland press office. I have extensive experience in speaking on radio and television, with regular slots on TV3 as a TV and book reviewer.
Name: David White  
Course: English Literature & Philosophy  
Company: (formerly) the Irish Daily Mail and the JET Programme  
Position: Sub-editor (IDM) & Assistant Language Teacher (JET)  
Profile: In 2004 I graduated from Trinity College with a degree in English and Philosophy, after majoring in English for my final year. I got my Masters in Journalism from DIT in 2006, during which I interned at Village Magazine and Newstalk. After graduating, I worked for four years as a news sub-editor with the Irish Daily Mail. In 2010, I was accepted on to the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme as an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT). I spent a total of five years in Japan as a JET, and have since recently moved back to Ireland.

Law & Legal Services  
Name: Nicola McGuinness  
Course: English Studies  
Company: State Claims Agency  
Position: Solicitor & Clinical Claims Manager  
Profile: I read English from 2003-2007, and upon graduation I completed a postgraduate diploma in Law. I then sat the Law Society Exams and started working as a trainee solicitor, qualifying in 2011. Since qualification I have worked in the area of Medical Law, which is fascinating! I have acted as the plaintiff solicitor in many, interesting, high court cases. I have recently moved to a managerial role within the Clinical Indemnity Scheme. My foundation in English has supported and informed each position I have undertaken since graduation.

Marketing & Advertising  
Name: Richard Carr  
Course: English Literature & Sociology  
Company: Rothco  
Position: Richard Carr is Managing Director and a partner at Rothco, an independent creative agency based in Dublin. Rothco has a staff of 140 and everyday they work relentlessly to change the fate and fortune of global and local clients including Heineken, Unilever, Kodak, Tesco, AIB, Task Rabbit, Hailo, Open Table.

For the last 2 years Rothco has been Ireland’s most awarded creative agency with its work recognised by the Cannes Lions, Marketing Society (UK), Webbies, MIDAS, ICAN and Sharks.

Richard left TCD in 1994 with a degree in English & Sociology and went to DIT where he completed their diploma in advertising. He started his career at Ogilvy and McCann in Dublin, later moving to McCann WorldGroup Asia in Singapore. Upon returning in 2003 he joined Rothco.

Name: Susie Kenna  
Course: English Literature & Philosophy  
Company: Hoot.ie  
Position: Project Co-ordinator  
Profile: On completion of my postgraduate studies, I moved directly into the digital arena in the role of a Digital Marketing Executive, with the aim of building a skill set that would allow me to work in an editorial and creative capacity. Over the last two years, I have progressed from the position of Digital Marketing Executive to that of Project Coordinator. My experience covers a broad range of skills, including multi-channel and SEO content creation, proofreading, editing written and graphic content, and website design and development.
Public Relations

Name: Cillian Murphy  
Course: English Studies  
Company: Q4 Public Relations  
Position: Public Relations  
Profile: I have worked at Q4PR since 2012, where I primarily advise clients operating in the food, financial services and IT sectors on corporate communications strategy and media relations.

Publishing

Name: Gráinne Clear  
Course: English Literature & Classics  
Company: Little Island  
Position: Publishing Manager  
Profile: Gráinne Clear works as Publishing Manager at Little Island Books, an independent children’s publisher based in Dublin, and is responsible for everything from editorial and art direction to publicity and events. After completing an MPhil in Children’s Literature, she wrote and presented two children’s literature series on RTE Radio and became president of IBBY Ireland. She is a board member of Publishing Ireland since 2014 and is responsible for running all training courses for publishers. She also works as a freelance storyteller for children and adults alike.

Name: Michael O’Doherty  
Course: English Literature & French  
Company: VIP Publishing  
Position: Managing Director  
Profile: I am the co-founder and Managing Director of VIP Publishing, one of Ireland's leading publishing companies. I have also been a part of Independent News and Media since 2009 as a weekly columnist for the Herald newspaper. Before taking on these roles, I spent a year from 1997-1998 at Coliemore Publications as co-founder and Director of the company which re-launched Magill magazine in August of 1997. From there, I went on to be the co-founder and Managing Director of the graphic design and publishing company, Level 3 Ltd, from 1988-1999. Most recently, I completed the Diploma in Legal Studies earlier in 2015, and am starting the Full Time Barrister-at-law degree this October.

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