



***Mr. Matt Cotterell, Chairman of the Irish Manufacturing Council presenting the best paper award to Ms. Aoife Nic Chraith, with Dr. Patrick Delassus, Conference Chairman IMC27.***

Ms. Aoife Nic Chraith, a 2010 BAI (Mechanical) Engineering graduate, won the prize for best paper at the recent (27<sup>th</sup>) International Manufacturing Conference (“Manufacturing Matters in the Smart Economy”) held in Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. Aoife presented a paper based on her final year project “Bringing Engineering to Secondary Schools”.

The International Manufacturing Conference (IMC) is one of the longest running conferences in this part of the world and is organized by the Irish Manufacturing Council – a grouping of all third level institutions on the island who are engaged in manufacturing education and research. The conference is held in a different location in Ireland each year, and attracts delegates from all over Ireland, the UK, and Europe. The best paper award is sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME).

This year’s conference was hosted by the school of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at GMIT on the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September, having been hosted by Trinity College last year. The best paper was selected on the basis of several criteria, including technical merit, industrial/societal relevance and presentation quality. Aoife is now pursuing postgraduate studies in this general area, working as part of a TCD team on a European funded research project called ATTRACT, under the supervision of Kevin Kelly.