



TRINITY ACCESS PROGRAMMES (TAP)
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010-11



INTRODUCTION



Trinity has made significant progress in creating opportunities for students from all social backgrounds to progress to any of our degree courses. This year, we have a record number of new entrants in this category and we are excited about the potential they add to the university. The graduate destinations study, completed by TAP in 2010, demonstrated that TAP students have the drive and ability to compete with and match their peers in achievement levels. These graduates, over 400 of them, will continue to contribute within their communities, as well as nationally and internationally, for generations to come.

Based on our experience, we are committed to driving a review of admissions processes to the University and to making radical changes where necessary, in order to ensure we attract the best and brightest individuals to Trinity College from all social backgrounds. We look forward to the continued growth of TAP and to providing the fairest selection processes for all students with ability. We know TAP has gone from strength to strength with your support and interest and we are very grateful for your engagement. We look forward to continuing our partnership in the coming years.

Dr Patrick Prendergast, Provost, Trinity College Dublin



WELCOME

This year, we have enjoyed a range of exciting new developments. With the support of a number of partners, we launched a 'Maths & Science' Scholars initiative, to help nurture and develop potential in these areas among primary and second-level students. We are also in the first year of a programme focusing on increasing progression by TAP students to the higher professions, beginning with the 'Pathways to Law' initiative.

TAP is continuing to grow and innovate. Students have encountered significant financial challenges over the last few years and we are delighted with recent news that the Student Assistance Fund has been significantly increased this year. This, together with generous private and corporate support, is making a huge difference to the ability of TAP students to continue with their studies. As well as building on existing, very positive connections with our statutory, educational, business and individual partners, TAP is now delighted to be linking with a range of new partners who are helping to sustain and strengthen our work. See page 7 for more about our supporters. TAP and its partners have created an important space within the College for 'engaging with society' and we are, as ever, enormously grateful to you all for your ideas, advice, enthusiasm and belief, it is hugely motivating for us! I am delighted to welcome you to this year's TAP Highlights – I hope you will find it an enjoyable read.

Cliona Hannon, Director, Trinity Access Programmes (TAP)



TAP IN NUMBERS 2010-11

- 515** TAP students studying in Trinity
- 404** TAP graduates from Trinity since 2002
- 157** TAP students entering degree programmes through TAP routes
- 660** students from TAP linked schools progressing to higher education
- 1,101** TAP students have progressed into degree programmes in TCD since 1998
- 5,000** students, parents and teachers participating in primary and second-level activities in schools and on campus



TAP NEWS

Trinity Takes to the Streets (TTTTS)

TTTTS was launched in 2009 as a fundraising initiative to help College students experiencing financial hardship and to support Trinity's innovative educational access initiatives – including TAP. During 2010, TAP staff and students 'took to the streets' in a variety of ways to raise sponsorship and funding. A very colourful and exuberant barn dance was staged in the Dining Hall, which over 200 TCD staff, friends and family of TAP dusted off their cowboy hats to attend. Pumpkins, scarecrows and bales of hay transformed the venue. Guests were entertained by the TCD Traditional Society and Anthony Furey's contemporary folk band. On the same day, TAP students and staff organised a campus-wide bucket collection and over €6,000 was raised for TAP students experiencing financial hardship.

TAP staff and family get ready for the Barn dance.



Professor Gerry Whyte, Dr. Martin McAleese, Provost John Hegarty at the Dean of Students Roll of Honour Ceremony.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during her visit to Trinity.

Dean of Students Roll of Honour

Over 300 TCD students were acknowledged for their participation in extra-curricular and voluntary activities at the inaugural Dean of Students Roll of Honour Ceremony in April. TAP was delighted that two TAP students Gary Gannon and Rita Ryan were recognised for their commitment to civic engagement activities both within College and the wider community and particularly as TAP Ambassadors. The Roll of Honour was launched by TCD's Dean of Students Professor Gerard Whyte and the keynote speaker was Dr. Martin McAleese.

When the Queen came to Trinity

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh visited Trinity on May 17th and TAP was delighted to be included in the line up to meet with the Queen in Trinity's Long Room. Cliona Hannon, the head of TAP, together with Sam Barrett, a former TAP student and current tutor, Laura-Ann Lambert, a current medicine student and Muriel Kinsella a teacher from Blakestown Community School attended on behalf of TAP.



TAP supporters Lisa Hartigan, Sophie Arundel from NCB and Grainne Dooley at the TCD Association & Trust Dinner.



Musical Ensemble '4 in a bar' entertaining guests at Pimms in the Pav.

Pimms in the Pav

Last June over €3,000 was raised for the Trinity Alumni Appeal, including TAP at 'Pimms in the Pav' – a social event in the Pavilion Bar where TCD alumni enjoyed Pimms, great views of the cricket, live music and a fun prize raffle.

TAP Videos

After much lights, camera and action this year, TAP now has two new short films which highlight the work TAP does and most importantly tells the story of our students. The videos feature teachers and students from TAP link school, TAP undergraduate students and alumni and TAP supporters. You can view the videos now on the TAP website: www.tcd.ie/trinity_access.



Alumni Appeal

There are hundreds of good reasons to give back to Trinity...515 of them are TAP students!

A new Alumni Appeal was launched in May asking Trinity graduates to support talented students in College today. The campaign features a series of videos and printed materials highlighting the academic excellence in Trinity through the stories of students; two of those featured, Gary Gannon and Laura-Ann Lambert, are TAP students. All monies raised will be allocated back to the school of origin of the alumni donors with 25% of funds going to support TAP students in those schools. The response to the appeal has been very encouraging with over €25,000 raised specifically for TAP to date, a critical contribution to our work in these challenging economic times. See www.tcd.ie/alumni/appeal for more information.

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Educational Achievement Awards

The Educational Achievement Awards Ceremony took place in May and was hosted by the Provost, with legendary Irish broadcaster, Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh as the guest speaker. Over 125 Junior Cycle and Transition Year students were present on the night to collect their awards for outstanding academic achievement and positive contributions to their school community. A further 200 parents, siblings and TCD staff were also in attendance. Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh thoroughly entertained the crowd with his story telling, Irish proverbs and words of inspiration.

Maths & Science Scholars

The Maths & Science Scholars have been kept busy with a number of exciting events. In February, Ed Lavelle from the School of Biochemistry welcomed the scholars and their parents and gave a guest lecture entitled: *Why it is Great to Be a Scientist*. The scholars, who included over 120 6th class students and their parents, participated in a physics workshop exploring the scientific properties of foam and bubbles! They were then put through their paces during a *Maths and Science Bootcamp* which took place in June and involved the 80 current Maths and Science Scholars from 6th class and 1st year. The programme was designed by TAP, Bridge21, tutors from the Science strand of the Foundation Course and the Education Outreach Officer in the Science Gallery. TAP was delighted to have Claire O'Connell of the Irish Times, on hand to assess the student projects.



Primary Schools Maths and Science Exploration Week

Even more maths and science fun and learning happened during the annual Primary Schools Maths and Science Exploration Week, which involved 260 students. The Faculty of Health Science sponsored a number of workshops as part of the Trinity Week, Health Matters Programme. John Treacy, former Olympic medallist and CEO of the Irish Sports Council presented certificates to the students.

Med Day

Each year students of the Biological Society, in conjunction with the School of Anatomy organise a day long visit for TAP junior cycle students, giving them a flavour of what it is like to be a student in the School of Medicine. 150 secondary school students rolled up their sleeves and partook in a series of clinical workshops, exploring medical techniques such as suturing, reading x-rays and CPR.

'Bookmarks'

The Bookmarks Programme engages 5th and 6th class students in a series of workshops during which the children become authors, illustrators and publishers of their own handmade books. This year the schools included St. Brigids, Haddington Road, Our Lady of Good Counsel Boys SNS, Drimnagh and Scoil Eoin, Kilbarrack. Members of staff from the School of English and the library at Trinity College spoke to the students about children's literature and introduced them to the Pollard Collection, a collected works of over 10,000 historic children's books spanning three centuries. TCD children's author, Conor Kostick, also made a number of visits to each of the participating schools. The programme culminated with an awards ceremony and a two-week long exhibition of the children's handmade books in the Long Room of Trinity College.

Bridge 21

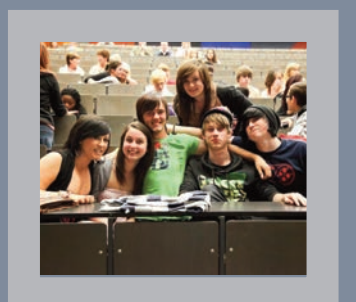
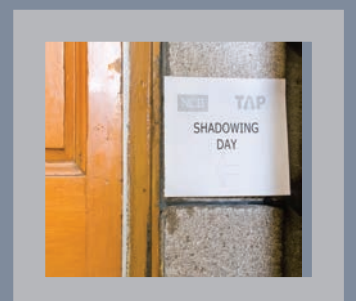
Bridge21, (formerly the Bridge2College programme) targets young people from designated disadvantaged schools to provide them with an innovative learning experience using technology. The programme is designed to engage students with creative, technology mediated projects, mentored by volunteer third-level students, to help inspire creativity, instill confidence and encourage educational aspiration and achievement. It also seeks to lead a change in teaching practice in schools across Ireland. This year saw over 500 students, ranging from primary school to Leaving Certificate, take part in the programme (www.bridge21.ie).

The NCB - TAP Shadowing Programme

The annual Shadowing Programme saw over 110 second-level students pair up with 80 current TCD undergraduates for two days of hands-on activities designed to help them make informed decisions about their future education. The event allows 5th year students from TAP linked schools to experience first-hand the physical, academic, cultural and social aspects of student life in TCD. This year the most popular choices among the visiting students were Medicine, Psychology, Nursing and Computer Science. 2011 marked the 10th anniversary of one of TAP's most popular outreach activities and was supported once again by NCB. We are delighted that NCB will be continuing to partner with TAP in support of the TAP Pre-University Programme.

TAP Summer School

The TAP Summer School took place in June with 67 students from TAP and DIT linked second-level schools participating in the programme. Summer school is a 5-day programme which aims to engage participants with the academic, sporting and social aspects of College life. This year's elective academic workshops included: *Law: Analysis of Evidence and the OJ Simpson Trial*, *Introducing Irish Film: Representations of Irishness on Screen*, *What is DNA and how DNA Mutations cause Disease* and *The Sociology of Education – The University: A Gated Community?* Participants also took part in Fencing, Trampolining and Wall Climbing lessons in the TCD Sports Centre and were schooled in the art of university debating with the Philosophical Society.





ALTERNATIVE ENTRY ROUTES

The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR): A national, higher education collaboration for low-income students

The Higher Education Access Route is a college and university admissions scheme which offers places on reduced points and extra college support to school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. 2010 was HEAR's most successful year with a record number of 8,401 applications, an increase of almost 65% on the previous year.

One51 and the Liberties Partnership University Access Course

One51 were engaged in direct sponsorship of undergraduate students who progressed from the Liberties College/TCD partnership university access course. More than 20 students have graduated from TCD, having entered via the Liberties course, and a further 13 students have just registered for first year.



Grant Thornton & The TAP Foundation Course for Higher Education: Young Adults

In the 3rd year of the innovative Grant Thornton Career Development and Student Mentoring Programme, 35 Grant Thornton staff worked closely with young adults on the Foundation Course for Higher Education. This partnership was highlighted through a piece on RTE news to coincide with the students' graduation. Through this professional development module, students were exposed to a professional office environment, where committed staff took an active interest in mentoring and guiding them through their college career and providing them with advice and encouragement about employment opportunities open to them once they graduate. 23 of the students successfully completed the course and all students have been offered degree courses in Trinity. This partnership, led by Grant Thornton's senior management in Dublin, has had a hugely beneficial impact on TAP and the Foundation Course students in the last three years, becoming a core part of the course.

higher education
access route
hear



PATHWAYS THROUGH UNIVERSITY

Accenture & The TAP Pre-University Programme

One hundred and twenty-six new Junior Freshman students, the highest ever number of young adults progressing into degree programmes via TAP routes, took part in the annual TAP Pre-University Orientation Programme in September 2010. The aim of the week-long programme is to introduce students with no family history of progression to third-level to student life at Trinity. TAP was delighted to welcome Tim Cody of Accenture Ireland, who addressed the group about the skills to succeed in third-level and beyond. Parents and guardians of new students were also invited to Trinity during the programme for an informational coffee morning. We are delighted to be continuing our partnership with Accenture as part of their 'Skills to Succeed' programme, providing an innovative range of supports and mentoring for Foundation Course Students.



KPMG & The Post-Entry Progression Programme (PEPP)

Thanks to the support received from KPMG, TAP now provides an expanding range of supports and services to our student in TCD. These incorporate orientation programmes, academic supports - including extra tuition, a writing resource centre and maths help room, a laptop lending service, the TAP studio – a designated study space equipped with IT resources, social and personal supports from dedicated TAP advisors as well as financial assistance. TAP also held a range of training sessions including: Child Protection Training, Listening Skills, CV Building and Presentation skills and students had the opportunity to attend workshops given by companies such as HumeBrophy, Grant Thornton and Google.

Pathways to Law

The Pathways to Law Programme, a collaborative initiative of TAP, the School of Law in TCD and the legal profession began in September 2010. The programme works intensively with students from senior cycle through to degree completion, and seeks to enhance students' interest in the theoretical as well as practical application of the study of law. Thirty 5th year students from 20 second-level schools were selected for the inaugural year of the programme. These students took part in a number of sessions in TCD including a "University Challenge" Law quiz, "So you want to be a Lawyer", and an intensive summer school which culminated in a mock legal trial. The endorsement and practical involvement of the legal profession is key to the success of Pathways to Law and we are delighted that a number of leading law firms have committed their support to date.



SUPPORT FOR TAP

TAP would not be possible without the continued enthusiastic involvement of a wide range of academic, administrative and service staff, student societies and clubs, the Students' Union and Trinity alumni. TAP also receives strong support and endorsement from senior College officers which has facilitated great internal change and increased awareness of TAP. We gratefully acknowledge this invaluable support. In particular this year we would like to thank the following for their close assistance with project development and delivery:

A range of academic units and Schools including: Anatomy, Dentistry, English, Law, Medicine, Nursing and Midwifery, Pharmacy, Physics, Zoology. Bridge21, Science Gallery, Trinity College Library.

Student Clubs and Societies including: The Philosophical Society, TCD Traditional Society, Biological Society, Med Day Committee.

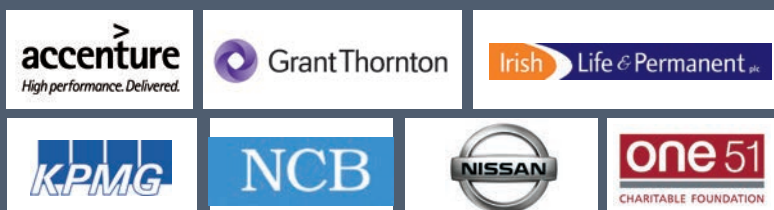
TAP receives welcome financial support from the Higher Education Authority, the Department of Education and Skills and the European Social Fund. Our Student Assistance Fund is funded by the Irish Government and part funded by the European Social Fund under the Human Capital Investment Operational Programme 2007-2013. TAP also works closely with Trinity Foundation and a range of business partners and private individuals to secure up to one third of the cost of all its programmes. This support is invaluable and has allowed TAP to continue to grow, learn and innovate.



TAP 20 PARTNERS

An expanding group of companies engaged in tailored partnerships with TAP – providing funding, strategic input and practical support for key programme areas. The TAP 20 partners are:

Accenture
Grant Thornton
Irish Life & Permanent
KPMG
NCB
Nissan Ireland
One51 Foundation



TAP SUPPORTERS

Supporting TAP students, programmes and research

- Arthur Cox
- Google
- Hume Brophy
- Matheson Ormsby Prentice
- The Digital Hub
- The Ireland Funds
- William Fry
- Salesforce

TRINITY ALUMNI AND PRIVATE SUPPORTERS

- Trinity Annual Fund
- TCD Association & Trust
- University of Dublin Fund (US)
- The UK Trust for TCD
- County Wicklow/South Dublin TCD Association
- The Joseph & Peter Dooley Scholarship Fund
- The Christopher Keeley Scholarship Fund
- The Gisele Schmidt Memorial Fund for Traveller Education
- The Schuler Fund
- David Went

We are extremely grateful to the individual donors who have contributed €1000 or more to TAP in the last year: Leo Blennerhasset, David Bunworth, David Challen, John and Mary Chamney, Charles Edwards, Moira Eliet, Gerard Mahony, Carl McCann and the many more who contributed to the Alumni Appeal. Please note that some donors wish to remain anonymous.

Supporting TAP is an investment in individuals and communities at risk of being excluded, in society as a whole and in Ireland's economic future. The involvement of our supporters has been a critical factor in TAP's success, helping us to be increasingly effective in our mission to widen educational access in Ireland and to deliver real results.

If you are interested in finding out more about TAP, or would like information on how to get involved as a supporter, please contact:

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