



# SIMBIOSYS

## **Integrating Biodiversity Research, Policy and Practice**

**Final Conference of the SIMBIOSYS Project**

**June 28th 2012**

**Swift Theatre, Arts Block, Trinity College Dublin**



# Conference Programme

**08:30 – 09:15**      **Registration & Coffee**

**09:15 – 09:30**      **Welcome Address**

Director of the Environmental Protection Agency

**09:30 – 10:30**      **Keynote Seminar**

Prof Kathy Willis  
(University of Oxford)

Securing biodiversity: responding to evolving threats using innovative tools, technologies and datasets

**10:30 – 10:50**      **Coffee Break**

**10:50 – 12:50**      **Sectoral impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services – policy implications**

Jane Stout (TCD)

Sectoral impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services: introduction to the SIMBIOSYS project.

Mark Emmerson (QUB)

The effects of environmental context on biodiversity in agro-ecosystems: managing for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Pádraig Whelan (UCC)

Biodiversity in Irish roaded landscapes.

Tasman Crowe (UCD)

Assessing and reducing impacts of aquaculture on marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.

Jane Stout (TCD)

Integration of sectoral impacts research: cross cutting themes and implications.

Panel Discussion – Integrating biodiversity into sustainable development in Ireland.

**12:50 – 13:50**      **Lunch Break (Poster Session)**



<b>13:50 – 15:05</b>	<b>Sectoral impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services – bioenergy crops and road development</b>	
	Jesko Zimmermann (TCD)	A survey of soil carbon sequestration under <i>Miscanthus x giganteus</i> at different spatial scales.
	Dara Stanley (TCD)	The impacts of growing biofuels on pollinators and pollination services in Ireland.
	Erin O'Rourke (UCC)	The impact of bioenergy production and road landscaping on ground beetles and biocontrol services.
	Rosalyn Thompson (UCC)	Landscaping National Roads: Pre- versus post-guidelines from a plant perspective.
	Reetu Tuteju (NUIG)	Population genetics of common hawthorn ( <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> ) in Ireland.
<b>15:05 – 15:35</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>15:35 – 16:35</b>	<b>Sectoral impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services – aquaculture and wind farms</b>	
	Judith Kochmann (UCD)	Into the wild: documenting and predicting spread of Pacific oysters <i>Crassostrea gigas</i> in Ireland.
	Dannielle Green (UCD)	Into the wild: potential impacts of Pacific oysters on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.
	Myriam Callier & Tasman Crowe (UCD)	Extent of influence of salmon farms on benthic community and trophic structure.
	David Bourke (TCD)	Sustainable development of wind energy in Ireland – consequences for our biodiversity and ecosystem services.
<b>16:35 – 17:00</b>	<b>Concluding Remarks</b>	
	Prof Michael Usher (University of Stirling)	Integrating Biodiversity Research, Policy, and Practice.



## Keynote Speakers

**Prof Kathy Willis** - Tasso Leventis Chair of Biodiversity, and Director of the Biodiversity Institute in the Zoology Department, University of Oxford.

**Research Interests:** Ecological and evolutionary processes responsible for biodiversity; biodiversity beyond protected areas; development of web-based decision support tools to assess ecological risk and ecosystem service values associated with biodiverse landscapes.

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**Prof Michael Usher** - Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Stirling.

**Research Interests:** Biodiversity, nature conservation, soil biology; the effects of climate change on wildlife and its protection.

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## Project Coordination & Management

**Dr Jane Stout** - Project Coordinator, WP4 Leader & WP1

Senior Lecturer, Botany and Trinity Centre for Biodiversity Research, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin

**Research Interests:** Behavioural and evolutionary ecology, environmental biology, biodiversity conservation, pollination and entomology, biodiversity loss, ecosystem services.

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**Dr David Bourke** - Project Manager, WP1 & WP4

Research Fellow, Botany and Trinity Centre for Biodiversity Research, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin

**Research Interests:** Landscape ecology, global change impacts on biodiversity, agri-environment, plant-soil relationships.

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## Principal Investigators & Work Package Leaders

**Prof Mark Emmerson** - WP1 Leader

Professor of Biodiversity, School of Biological Sciences, Queens University Belfast.

**Research Interests:** Community ecology, biodiversity loss, ecosystem services, food web theory and ecosystem functioning of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems.

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**Dr Pádraig Whelan** - WP2 Leader

Lecturer, School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork.

**Research Interests:** Aquatic and terrestrial botany and ecology, road landscaping, biodiversity, conservation and management of alien species.

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**Dr Tasman Crowe** - WP3 Leader

Senior Lecturer, School of Biological and Environmental Science, University College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** Ecology, diversity and behaviour of marine invertebrates. Relationships between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. Human impacts on and conservation of marine biodiversity. Fisheries management.

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**Prof Mike Jones** - WP1 Principal Investigator

Fellow Emeritus, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** Environmental plant physiology, climate change impacts on the environment, energy crops, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, photosynthesis.

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**Prof Charlie Spillane** - WP2 Principal Investigator

Professor of Plant Sciences, Botany and Plant Science, National University of Ireland Galway.

**Research Interests:** Epigenetics of parent-of-origin and dosage effects. Evolution, function and biotechnology of novel genes. Gene regulation via non-coding microRNAs. Plant reproduction and seed development. Genetics, epigenetics and biotechnology (plant, agricultural & biomedical).

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## Postdoctoral Researchers

**Dr Jens Dauber** - Former SIMBIOSYS Project Manager & Postdoctoral Researcher (WP1 & 4), School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** The interplay between landscapes, environmental change and biodiversity. To understand the general principles that control biodiversity over multiple spatial and temporal scales.

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**Dr Myriam Callier** - Former Postdoctoral Researcher (WP3), School of Biological and Environmental Science, University College Dublin

**Research Interests:** Sustainable development of aquaculture, multi-trophic aquaculture.

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## Research Assistants

**Lisa Dolan** - Former Research Assistant (WP1 & WP2), School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork.

**Research Interests:** Terrestrial ecology, road landscaping, biodiversity, conservation.

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**Florence Hecq** - Former Research Assistant (WP1), School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** Entomology, plant-pollinator interactions, landscape ecology, agri-ecosystems, GIS.

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**Angela Mina-Vargas** - Research Assistant (WP2), Botany and Plant Science, National University of Ireland Galway.

**Research Interests:** Molecular evolution, phylogenetics, biodiversity, landscape genetics, crops wild relatives.

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## PhD Researchers

**Dara Stanley** - PhD Student (WP1), School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** Plant-pollinator interactions, bioenergy crops, ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation, pollination and entomology.

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**Jesko Zimmermann** - PhD Student (WP1), School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** Bioenergy crops, soil carbon sequestration, *Miscanthus*.

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**Erin O'Rourke** - PhD Student (WP1 & WP2), School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork.

**Research Interests:** Biological pest control, bioenergy crops, ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation, carabid beetles.

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**Rosalyn Thompson** - PhD Student (WP1 & WP2), School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork.

**Research Interests:** Road landscaping, native biodiversity and invasion resistance.

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**Dannielle Green** - PhD Student (WP3), School of Biological and Environmental Science, University College Dublin.

**Research Interests:** *Crossostrea gigas*, invasive species, relationships between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, human impacts on and conservation of marine biodiversity.

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**Judith Kochmann** - PhD Student (WP3), School of Biological and Environmental Science, University College Dublin. Primary source of funding from IRCSET and IRCHSS through the UCD Graduate Research Education Programme in Sustainable Development.

**Research Interests:** *Crossostrea gigas*, impacts of introduced oysters on native benthic diversity, pathways and spreading of introduced species, marine bioinvasion, oyster aquaculture.

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