Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme
2020 Applications Information Session

Joel McKeever  Student Employability Officer

Trinity Careers Service
28th November 2019
What is the Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme?

“I measure all my giving on whether it generates a long term difference for the recipient. What matters is whether the [student]’s life has been changed by their participation in our programmes…”

“The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage and develop future leaders in any field of activity. Looking around the world’s business and political leaders I can’t recall a time when better leaders were more urgently needed.”

Lord Irvine Laidlaw of Rothiemay

“We need a new generation of leaders who have the research brilliance to help solve intractable problems, who behave with integrity and are determined to make the world a better place.”

Susanna Kempe
CEO, Laidlaw Foundation
What is the Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme?

- Original, student-led research project
- Laidlaw Community
- ‘Leadership in Action’ experience
- Integrated leadership development programme
What makes a Laidlaw Scholar?

## Qualities of Laidlaw Scholars

- Curious, ambitious, and determined undergraduate students

- From a diverse array of backgrounds and life experiences with the potential to develop their talents constructively

- Driven to develop their self-awareness, initiative, motivation, and creativity

- Excited to push out of their comfort zone and contribute

- Engaged with becoming an active global citizen and a leader in their chosen field
What do our Laidlaw Scholars at Trinity say?
Aaron Koay
Pharmacy
Supervisor - Dr Carsten Ehrhardt

Impact of the antioxidant vitamin ergothioneine on the development of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

“The Laidlaw Programme gives me the opportunity to delve into research while engaging closely with a distinguished academic, as well as equipping me with leadership competencies and networking skills which strongly underpin my career development in academia.

From the unique experience, I have acquired a holistic set of transferable skills which enable me to develop my own research and leadership visions.”
Sarah Honan
Law
Supervisor - Dr David Fennelly

Justice After Destruction? Legal Avenues and Obstacles for Prosecution of the Yazidi Genocide’

“The Laidlaw Programme has exceeded my expectations. The research aspect embodies the meaning of self-directed learning and I’ve been so fortunate to study such a pivotal moment in legal history this early in my career. Equally, the dynamic nature of the leadership training ensures that each of us have been able to sow the seeds of a powerfully individualised model of leadership as opposed to a one-size-fits-all approach.

This has been a great privilege and I can’t wait to welcome the next group of Trinity Laidlaw Scholars!”
Gráinne Sexton

TSM English Literature and History
Supervisor - Dr Philip Coleman

Laidlaw Scholar (2019)

‘Tear down this wall’: Borders and boundaries in the Native American literature of Leslie Marmon Silko
Andrew Cleary

Theoretical Physics
Supervisor - Dr Aline Vidotto

Laidlaw Scholar (2018)

Leaking Exoplanets: Understanding how Stars affect Atmospheric Escape in Exoplanets
Are you eligible to apply to be a Laidlaw Scholar?

You are . . .

A registered student

In the 2nd year of a 4 year undergraduate degree programme

OR
The 2nd or 3rd year of a 5 year undergraduate degree programme

OR
The 2nd or 3rd year of a 5 year integrated masters degree programme

Available to take part in all mandatory research and leadership sessions

Excited by the possibility of being one of Trinity’s Laidlaw Scholars!
Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme Overview
2020

Applications close 27th January

Interviews

Scholars announced/ Welcome event

Summer 1
6 week research project

Leadership 1
Two day training
8th – 9th May

Laidlaw Showcase

Leadership 2
Two day training
6th – 8th November

Leadership 3 (residential)
Three nights, two days training
26th – 28th February

Laidlaw events/ coaching /online learning ongoing throughout Programme

Leadership 4
One day training

Join the international Laidlaw alumni community

Summer 2
5-6 week ‘Leadership in Action’ experience

Final Poster and Report Submission

Poster Presentation and Closing Event

2021
### Commitments

- At least 7 days of leadership training
- 6 weeks full-time research in Summer 1
- 5-6 weeks ‘Leadership in Action’ experience in Summer 2
- Additional time for online learning
- Outreach activities
- Produce an academic poster
- Networking events and skill sessions
- A reflective report in Summer 1 and a multimedia final report in Summer 2
- Engagement with the Laidlaw community via the Laidlaw Network and Trinity Laidlaw group

### Benefits

- Financial support to the value of €6,500
- Opportunity to apply to a travel fund to support research beyond Dublin
- Gain valuable transferable skills in project management, leadership, communications and team working
- Undertake an original research project with an experienced academic
- Be part of a unique ‘Leadership in Action’ experience
- Increase your employability by developing your knowledge, skills and confidence
- Become involved in profile raising opportunities during the programme
- Join a prestigious international community of Laidlaw Scholars
### Aims

- Develop academic and practical leadership skills
- Understand and cultivate your personal leadership style
- Improve your resilience and self-management
- Enhance your ability to problem solve and communicate successfully
- Make a stronger impact in your academic and professional life

### Example Activities

- Residential leadership weekends
- An individual Leadership development plan
- Coaching and mentoring
- Teamwork activities with other Scholars
- ‘Leadership in Action’ experience
- Online learning and resources
- Community and schools outreach
1) Leadership Expedition

Participate in a 5-6 week international expedition with a team of Laidlaw Scholars from other participating universities to work on community-based leadership projects.

2) Leadership Placement

A leadership placement for 5-6 weeks in a not-for-profit/community-based organisation to give the scholar the opportunity to develop and apply their leadership skills in a practical setting, which will involve leading others.
In-field Application of Research

A second research period of 5-6 weeks, which includes continuation and application of the Summer 1 research project with the aim of creating positive change in society or that will allow leadership skills to be developed and applied.

This option will ideally be undertaken outside of Trinity and could include:

- A placement in an international university to develop and continue your research
- Application of your research within industry, e.g. with a relevant company
- Research field work in a community setting
Prevalence of Pancreaticobiliary Cancer in Irish Families with BRCA1 and BRCA2 Mutations

Robert Power, Cristin Leavy, Carmel Nolan, North White, Robin Clarke, David Gallagher, Maire Lowery
Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute, Dublin, Ireland

Abstract

Background: Germline mutations in BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes are associated with pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC), and have been linked with increased risk of biliary tract cancer (BTC). To determine the prevalence of PDAC and BTC in Irish gBRCAm families.

Objectives

- To determine the prevalence of PDAC and BTC in Irish gBRCAm families.
- To establish the likelihood that an untested family member with PDAC was a gBRCAm carrier.
- To compare the age and gender distribution of this group to that of the unselected Irish population with PDAC.

Methods

A review of all families referred to a national genetics clinic (9/11/1997-06/2006) was performed.

Results

3252 patients were reviewed, of whom 1193 had a first-degree relative with pancreatic cancer. The BOADICEA algorithm estimated the likelihood that an untested family member with PDAC was a gBRCAm carrier. A total of 27 (21%) families had a confirmed diagnosis of PDAC, and among 1159 BRCA1 families, 11 (9%) had a confirmed diagnosis of BDTC.

Conclusions

- The 3252 patients with pancreatic cancer had a first-degree relative with pancreatic cancer. The BOADICEA algorithm estimated the likelihood that an untested family member with PDAC was a gBRCAm carrier. A total of 27 (21%) families had a confirmed diagnosis of PDAC, and among 1159 BRCA1 families, 11 (9%) had a confirmed diagnosis of BDTC.
- The prevalence of PDAC and BTC is increased in BRCA1/2 families.

References

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laidlaw Scholar</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Research Project Title</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bidemi Afolabi</td>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>An Assessment of the Efficacious Role of cannabinoids in an in vitro Cell-Based Model of Cachexia</td>
<td>Dr Richard Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Bodor</td>
<td>BESS</td>
<td>The impact of being a second generation immigrant and having a different cultural background to the country you are living in, on young people's understanding of mental health</td>
<td>Dr David Ralph and Dr Charlotte Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damien Doherty</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>The effect of a maternal ketogenic diet on foetal brain development</td>
<td>Dr Denis Barry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Doherty</td>
<td>TSM Mathematics and Music</td>
<td>Mathematics for the Ears: An Explanation of the Hidden Mathematical Structures in Post-Tonal Music</td>
<td>Dr Sergey Mozgovoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deirdre Donohue</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Moving to, and Growing Up in, Ireland: Immigrant children's experience of early life stress, supportive relationships, and long-term psychological wellbeing</td>
<td>Dr Lorraine Swords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lile Donohue</td>
<td>PPES</td>
<td>Improving Ireland’s Recycling System: A Comparative Analysis of Welsh and Irish Waste Management</td>
<td>Dr Anna Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Duggan</td>
<td>Human Genetics</td>
<td>A multi-model approach to the action of the Bcr-Abl kinase and imatinib resistance in Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia (CML)</td>
<td>Dr Adrian Bracken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ciara Finan</td>
<td>Nanoscience Physics and Chemistry of Adv. Materials</td>
<td>Observing Carbon Dioxide Reduction at Single Enzymes</td>
<td>Dr Kim McKelvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filip Grajkowski</td>
<td>Nanoscience Physics and Chemistry of Adv. Materials</td>
<td>Polydopamine-functionalised electrodes: fabricating tailored materials for cathodic processes with applications for a sustainable energy economy</td>
<td>Dr Paula Colavita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alannah Grealy</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Can the Cingulum get you down? A study into the cingulum bundle's more outré deviations and their involvement in depression</td>
<td>Dr Veronica O'Keane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Hall</td>
<td>Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering</td>
<td>An investigation into the material properties of various polymers for the purposes of filling tram tracks for cyclist</td>
<td>Dr Ciaran Simms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zahar Hryniv</td>
<td>BESS</td>
<td>From ISDS to MIC: The Underlying Factors Behind the EU Establishing a New Model for Investor-State Relations</td>
<td>Dr William Phelan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aoife Kearins</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Applying mathematical insights on transient dynamics to ecology, what can we learn about how plant populations respond to disturbance in a changing world?</td>
<td>Dr Kirk Soodhalter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen McGrady Hogan</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Does intense physical exercise (e.g. gymnastics) have a notable effect on the genetic potential for the onset of puberty in pre-adolescent children? If so, how does this differ between males and females?</td>
<td>Dr Louise Gallagher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire McNamara</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>An interaction tool for clinical researchers to analyse Linked (RDF) Data</td>
<td>Dr Declan O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Monahan</td>
<td>Nanoscience Physics and Chemistry of Adv. Materials</td>
<td>Using Microcantilevers with Bio-Functionalised Surfaces for Malaria Vaccine Diagnosis</td>
<td>Dr Martin Hegner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anurag Nasa</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>An investigation of the efferent pathways of the amygdala in Major Depressive Disorder using high resolution, multimodal MRI</td>
<td>Dr Erik O’Hanlon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean O'Brien</td>
<td>Theoretical Physics</td>
<td>Microplastics and Nanoplastics in the Environment: Investigating Microplastics Down to the Nanoscale</td>
<td>Dr Rachel Kavanagh and Dr Lewys Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camilla Persello</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>An investigation into the application of Frankfurt-cases as an alternative approach to the problem of freedom of time-travelling agents</td>
<td>Dr Alison Fernandes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gráinne Sexton</td>
<td>TSM English Literature and History</td>
<td>‘Tear down this wall’: Borders and boundaries in the Native American literature of Leslie Marmon Silko</td>
<td>Dr Philip Coleman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roisin Winters</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Exploring the benefits of exercise for the brain: the role of inflammation</td>
<td>Dr Áine Kelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Define a research question which ...</td>
<td>Identify a Research Supervisor who will...</td>
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<td>❖ Is feasible as a project over one 5-6 week research period in Summer 1</td>
<td>❖ Write a supporting statement confirming your project is feasible within the period and is of academic value</td>
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<td>❖ Is not part of your core, assessed curriculum</td>
<td>❖ Whose research interests are aligned with your project</td>
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<td>❖ Has the potential to integrate with your leadership training to enhance the impact of your project</td>
<td>❖ Be available to support you in refining and progressing your project throughout the period</td>
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<td>❖ Will support you in any necessary ethics/lab safety requirements</td>
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How to define your research question

Where to find an academic supervisor?

How to decide what research to do?

www.tcd.ie/research/themes
Trinity Scientists Unravel the Complexities of Debilitating Visual Diseases
Read more

Recent open access featured publications & research outputs
- Interactions of fibres with simple arrangements of soap films
- Dynamics of a flexible fibre in a sheared two-dimensional foam: numerical simulations
- Bubble-bubble interactions in a 2D foam, close to the wet limit

Search for expertise
Find out more about Trinity Researchers by entering a name or research topic in the search box below
### Trinity Research

#### Expertise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expert</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Rose Anne Kenny</strong></td>
<td>Centre For Medical Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Mary Mc Carron</strong></td>
<td>School Of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Virpi Timonen</strong></td>
<td>Sch Office - Social Work &amp; Social Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Desmond O’Neill</strong></td>
<td>Centre For Medical Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Aisling O’Halloran</strong></td>
<td>Centre For Medical Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Sabina Brennan</strong></td>
<td>Adapt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Claire Donnellan</strong></td>
<td>School Of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Eilish Purke</strong></td>
<td>School Of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Aileen Maria Lynch</strong></td>
<td>School Of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Hilary Cronin</strong></td>
<td>Centre For Medical Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Patrick Moore</strong></td>
<td>Centre For Medical Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Fiona Newell</strong></td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Caomhain Mac Giolla Phadraig</strong></td>
<td>Dental Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Darren Mc Causland</strong></td>
<td>School Of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Charles Normand</strong></td>
<td>Public Health &amp; Primary Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ms. Joan F Brangan</strong></td>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Roman Romero-ortuno</strong></td>
<td>Centre For Medical Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Gabrielle Mc Kee</strong></td>
<td>School Of Nursing &amp; Midwifery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Ian H Robertson</strong></td>
<td>Trinity Inst. Of Neurosciences (tcnr)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

275 experts found, page 1 of 14
Sources of information on current research projects

- Archive of Trinity news items is a great source of information about what research is going on and what the impact is:
  - [http://www.tcd.ie/Communications/news](http://www.tcd.ie/Communications/news)

- Research Support System profiles
  - [http://peoplefinder.tcd.ie/](http://peoplefinder.tcd.ie/)

- Policy on Good Research Practice (PDF)
## Funding Step-by-Step

- Financial support to the value of €6,500 including a stipend of €3,300 for the Summer 1 project (tax exempt)

- Funding available to your supervisor for any project related expenses e.g. lab materials, subscriptions, equipment

- Additional support throughout the programme through workshops, coaching, and funding for the Leadership in Action experience in Summer 2

- Separate travel grant on a case-by-case basis for research related trips e.g. research visits to other universities, conference attendance, field work

- Payments can only be made to Irish bank accounts and all Scholars must have PPS Number
How do you apply to be a Laidlaw Scholar?

➢ Go to www.tcd.ie/careers/ to submit an application before 27th January 2020

Prepare and submit the following:

1. **Research project proposal** (1000 words max.)
   - Including project title and short summary of the research question, objectives, and impact in simple terms that can be understood by a non-expert in the field
   
   Projects with an interdisciplinary or international element are encouraged

2. **A ‘Leadership in Action’ statement** (500 words max.)
   - Your preferred option for Summer 2
   - How you would apply your research from Summer 1 or develop your leadership learning

3. A statement of support from your project supervisor(s)

4. A personal statement on how you wish to develop as a leader and what difference you want to make through leadership (300 words max)
Contact Details

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www.tcd.ie/careers/laidlaw/

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Thank You