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in 21st Century Teaching and Learning
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SCHOOL OF Education

Welcome to the 2014-15 issue of our School Newsletter. This edition will give you a snapshot into what has been another productive year for the School, including developments in research, the launch of two new Centres, and wonderful achievements by staff, students and alumni. We are extremely pleased to be back in the top 100 in the QS World rankings this year.

Assoc. Professor Carmel O'Sullivan

Head of the School

The theme of this issue is very much focused on interdisciplinarity and outreach. The School has been active in fostering valuable teaching and research links with other disciplines in Trinity College and further afield. Our commitment to high quality research, innovation in teaching and learning, and service to the discipline of education and the wider community is reflected in some of the pieces featured inside. Our particular thanks to our alumna Ms Ailish Tynan, for sharing some insights on her life as an internationally renowned soprano, and on her time as a student at Trinity.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue, and that it encourages you to stay in touch and possibly share your story in a future issue. You will be able to find out more about the School's latest news and activities on our website: www.tcd.ie/Education



Certificate in 21st Century Teaching and Learning



The School of Education's innovative new postgraduate certificate course in 21st Century Teaching and Learning was formally launched in October 2014 at The Foundry in Google, Dublin. The new postgraduate qualification is being delivered as part of a three year partnership programme between Trinity College and Google, which aims to affect a significant long term change in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) education through a range of innovative interventions focused on the second level system. Google has provided funding of €1.5 million to Trinity College Dublin to support the programme.

The postgraduate certificate is offered by Trinity's School of Education in partnership with the Trinity Access Programme (TAP), the School of Computer Science & Statistics and the Bridge21 project based at the Centre for Research in IT and Education (CRITE).

L-R: Dr Joseph Roche, Dr Michael Shevlin, Dr Keith Johnston, Provost Dr Patrick Prendergast, Tánaiste Joan Burton, David Sneddon (Google), Dr Carmel O'Sullivan (Head of School), Dr Damian Murchan & Dr Mark Prendergast

Puttnam plays Puttnam

As part of the Bachelor in Music Education *Coteaching Module* (course coordinator Marita Kerin) which facilitates a partnership between music education students from the Trinity College, School of Education and practicing primary school teachers and children from St Vincent's GNS, North William Street, Dublin 1, it was a huge treat and great fun for Junior Freshman B.Mus. Ed. students to *workshop* with internationally acclaimed composer/conductor Mr Sacha Puttnam. On hearing the fifth class girls perform "We could've been anything that we wanted to be" from the film *Bugsy Malone*, Sacha Puttnam congratulated B.Mus. Ed. student Séimí Campbell and acknowledged the efforts of all concerned in preparing for the *Puttnam plays Puttnam* concert at the *Convention Centre Dublin* which featured music from several of the successful movies produced by Sacha's father, Sir David



Puttnam. To celebrate the launch of Trinity Access 21 'College For Every Student' Mentoring Programme, B.Mus. Ed. students performed with the students from St. Vincent's Girls National School at the Convention Centre Dublin with Mr Sacha Puttnam in November 2014. In this unique concert, Lord David Puttnam reflected on his remarkable career while Sacha Puttnam performed solo pieces drawn from the world of his father's films.

Announcement of new collaborative research partnership – Learner Voice Research Study



L-R: Dr Paula Flynn & Dr Alison Cook-Sather

Dr Paula Flynn is the principal investigator for a study involving the collaborative partnership of the Inclusion in Education and Society (IES) Research Group, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) and the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD). This new collaborative project was launched at the Student Voice Seminar – ‘I’m Me, Learner Voice Research, Partnership and Planning’.

Following from the launch, a conference entitled ‘Nothing about us without us;

listening to the voices of our students’ took place in June 2015. It received extremely positive feedback from participants across a broad representation of stakeholders in education. This representation included students from primary, secondary and tertiary education; parents; teachers; principals; policy makers; researchers and academics. The keynote speaker was Dr Alison Cook-Sather from Bryn Mawr College and Coordinator of the Teaching and Learning Institute at Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges USA.

Irish astrophysicist makes short-list for proposed Mars mission before being jettisoned for urging scientific progress



Dr Joseph Roche, an astrophysicist and Assistant Professor in Science Education at the School of Education in Trinity College Dublin, volunteered for the Mars One mission in 2013 and two years later was included on the short-list of the final 100 potential candidates. Mars One is an organisation based in the Netherlands that proposed an ambitious plan to send a group of humans on a one-way trip to Mars within 10 years.

As a passionate scientist Dr Roche was eager to learn how Mars One hoped to overcome the technical, moral and financial obstacles that currently prevent humankind from undertaking a mission to Mars.

After Mars One publicly rejected offers of assistance from experts in the scientific community and failed to show any evidence of scientific progress, Dr Roche urged the organisation to be more open and transparent. He was subsequently removed from the short-list.

Dr Roche tweets about life on Earth as @joeboating.

Sports Scholarships

Two outstanding athletes from the Centre for Inclusion and Intellectual Disability (CIID) were presented with the Trinity College Sports Scholarships. Fiachra Costello and Maeve Philips, who are both first year students on the Certificate in Contemporary Living (CCL), were awarded the first ever Sport Scholarships for students on the CCL programme. Fiachra and Maeve were presented with their award by Trinity’s Head of Sport and Recreation Michelle Tanner as well as former Irish rugby international Hugo MacNeill who has been a champion of the CIID (formally known as the National Institute for Intellectual Disability, NIID) for many years.



L-R: Maura Gallahue (NIID), Hugo MacNeill (former International Rugby Player), Maeve Philips, Fiachra Costello, Dr Carmel O’Sullivan (Head of School of Education) & Michelle Tanner (Department of Sport & Recreation)

CAVE Launch



L-R: Dr John Walsh, Dr Carmel O'Sullivan, Prof Darryl Jones Faculty Dean, Jan O'Sullivan TD Minister for Education & Skills & Provost Dr Patrick Prendergast

The Cultural Academic Values and Education Centre (CAVE) was launched on 21st January by the Provost, Prof Patrick Prendergast and the Minister for Education and Skills, Jan O'Sullivan TD in the Trinity Long Room Hub. The Cultures Academic Values and Education Research Centre (CAVE) is a newly recognised research centre within Trinity's School of Education, founded by Dr Aidan Seery, Dr Andrew Loxley and Dr John Walsh.

Speaking at the launch, Minister O'Sullivan said "We are fortunate to have educational

institutions such as Trinity that do not just disseminate data but give their students the space to think and grow as rounded human beings. In this way Ireland can nurture its capacity to generate new knowledge within and across our academic institutions. I wish everyone associated with the CAVE research centre every success and I want to put on record my appreciation for the work Trinity is doing in making Ireland a renowned country for research excellence."

Micro-Teaching North & South



L-R: Dr Colette Murphy (TCD) and Dr John McCullagh (SUC) with Trinity College Dublin and Stranmillis students

A group of Professional Master in Education (PME) science students from School of Education, Trinity College Dublin took part in micro-teaching alongside Year 1 BEd post-primary Science and Mathematics students during their recent visit to Stranmillis. The 14 Trinity students, studying for their PME were accompanied by Dr Colette Murphy (TCD) as part of the 'Video In STEM Teacher Assessment' (VISTA) Project, funded by SCOTENS, in partnership with Dr John McCullagh from Stranmillis. The project seeks to explore the benefits of micro-teaching within initial teacher education using a participatory methodology to analyse students' experiences and perspectives.

Award by the Irish Research Council



The Arts Education Research Group (AERG) in the School, in partnership with the National Association for Youth Drama (NAYD), was recently awarded a 'New Foundations award: Engaging Civic Society' by the Irish Research Council (IRC). The research seeks to place youth theatre practice in Ireland within a cultural, educational, and societal context, on a national and international level.

Trinity School of Education in the top 100 QS Subject Rankings



We are delighted to announce that the School of Education has made it into the top 100 in the newly announced 2015 QS world subject rankings. We are the only School of Education in Ireland to appear in the top 100. The School was ranked 123rd in 2014.

CIID Launch

To celebrate the move of the National Institute for Intellectual Disability (NIID) to the School of Education following ten productive years as part of the School of Social Work and Social Policy, the School is delighted to announce the formal launch of the newly re-designed Centre for Inclusion and Intellectual Disability, or 'The Centre' as it will be more commonly known. The Provost Dr Patrick Prendergast officially launched 'The Centre' in May in the company of students, graduates, family members, and our business partners, whose consistent support is essential to promote pathways to employment for our graduates.



L-R: Prof Mary McCarron Dean of Health Sciences, Provost Dr Patrick Prendergast, Dr Paula Flynn (Director), Dr Michael Shevlin, Vice Provost Prof Linda Hogan, Ms Denise Kelly (NCCA) & Dr Carmel O'Sullivan

Fulbright Awards 2015



L-R: Dr Ann Devitt & Dr John Hegarty

Congratulations to Dr Ann Devitt, one of 31 Irish recipients who was presented with a Fulbright Award to the USA at a reception in Iveagh House recently by Minister for Diaspora Affairs Jimmy Deenihan TD and the US Ambassador to Ireland Kevin O'Malley. Dr Ann Devitt is an Assistant Professor in the School of Education in Trinity College Dublin working in the area of language and literacy. As a Fulbright TechImpact Scholar at the University

of Michigan, Ann will work at Professor Nick Ellis' Language Learning Lab in the School of Psychology investigating the semantic distributional properties of language which optimise second language acquisition.

Public Lecture

The School of Education hosted a public lecture by the highly distinguished educational theoretician and activist Professor Michael Apple. Professor Apple discussed his latest book 'Can Education Change Society' which is part of his very well respected body of work including the highly influential 'Education and Power' (1982), 'Ideology and Curriculum' (1979) and 'Global Crises, Social Justice, and Education' (2010).



L-R: Dr Andrew Loxley, Dr Maija Salokangas, Prof Michael Apple & Dr Carmel O'Sullivan

Chief Executive's Award for Teaching Excellence in Hong Kong



In July, Mr Kevin Toong, a student on the M.Ed. (Drama in Education) programme, was awarded the Teaching Excellence award for English Language Education in Hong Kong by the Honourable C. Y. Leung. The Chief Executive's Award for Teaching Excellence is organised by the Education Bureau with funding support from the Quality Education Fund, and is open to teachers of Curriculum Leadership and Special Educational Needs.

Arts and Early Childhood Education in China



Dr Carmel O'Sullivan with colleagues from UNICEF (China) in the area of early childhood education, discussing plans for a teacher education initiative with Drama Rainbow and the All China Women's Federation (ACWF).



Dr Carmel O'Sullivan gave a keynote address entitled: 'Special Education and Different Learning Abilities', and several specialist workshops on Drama and Autism at the Hong Kong Drama/Theatre and Education Forum (TEFO) international conference: *Decades of Praxis: Emerging Issues and Possibilities of Drama Education in Asia and Beyond*, which was co-organised with the Hong Kong Art School in May. The Conference welcomed academics, practitioners, researchers, policy-makers, teachers and students to exchange ideas and share practices in the field of drama and theatre education.

Trinity Walton Club

Minister for Skills, Research and Innovation, Damien English TD, and Marion Woods, daughter of Nobel Prize-winning physicist, Ernest Walton, officially launched the Trinity Walton Club in May. The 60 secondary school students who completed the pilot year of the

Club showcased their STEM projects at the special event.

Damien English, TD, said: *"I commend Trinity and the team for this innovative and exciting initiative dedicated to supporting second level students in their pursuit of science,*

technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Today more than ever, STEM competencies are in high demand and it is important to provide as many opportunities for young people to engage and enhance their skills in these areas."

The Walton Club has been built on the foundation of



L-R: Prof Arlene O'Neill, Dr Gillian Martin, Mr Damian English TD Minister for Skills, Research & Innovation, Prof Sinead Ryan, Dr Carmel O'Sullivan, Prof Clive Williams & Prof Igor Shvets



a partnership between the Schools of Physics, Mathematics and Education at Trinity. The Trinity Walton Club offers secondary school students the unique opportunity to express, shape and grow their interest in STEM.

What have Science, Maths and Music got in common?



In April, staff and students from the Schools of Physics and Education at Trinity College Dublin ran exciting workshops for young people at the National Concert Hall exploring

the links between worlds of quadratics and quavers. Dr Shane Bergin (Physics) and Ms Marita Kerin (Education) worked with Dr Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin (from UCD's School of Mathematical Sciences, and former Ph.D. student in the School of Education) to bring the links between music, maths and science alive for the children attending. Undergraduate students from physics and music-education smashed wine glasses with sound, questioned why musical instruments have their special shapes and pared the science of music right back to the anatomy of a simple sound wave.

Russian Global Education Scholarship Programme

Under the terms of the new Russian Federation Government-sponsored scholarship programme that offers Russian citizens an opportunity to study at leading foreign universities, 99 students were successful in receiving funding. 288 universities in 32 countries were deemed eligible to receive students under this scheme, and Trinity has been successful in receiving 4 of those awards, all of whom are for students who will be studying for the M.Ed. degree in the School of Education in 2015 -16.

One-to-One with Ailish Tynan Soprano



Ailish Tynan Soprano
(B.Mus.Ed. Class of 1997)

What are you doing these days?

Life is completely hectic but in a wonderful way. I'm really glad I had as much craic as I did while studying at Trinity because at the time I had no idea how seriously I would have to take a performing arts profession. As an Opera singer I'm sure people think it's only singing a few songs, but it's singing those "songs" in about fourteen different languages perfectly, inhabiting a role so completely on stage that the audience believe every moment, travelling for about eight to ten months of the year and never switching off as there are always new roles to be learnt and your voice to look after.

Why did you choose your current career?

It chose me really. I did the Bachelor in Music Education at Trinity with a view to becoming a teacher but after teaching for two weeks and realising that teaching is definitely the hardest job in the world, I applied to go back to the Royal Irish Academy of Music to do a masters in Music Performance and towards the end of that year I entered some competitions. I was without a doubt the outsider to win any of these, in fact most people wouldn't have thought I would get to the final round but I won all three. This was what propelled me over to London and I did the Opera Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where I was spotted to become a Young Artist at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and this was really the makings of me. They picked five singers from all over the world - South Korea, Russia, Australia, Norway and Ireland, and they

trained us all day everyday for two years on everything we would need for our solo careers. Language, voice training, musicianship, sword fighting, dancing, acting... It was really amazing.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I have a really wonderful husband and a gorgeous little Jack Russell and there is nothing I love more than spending any free time I get with them. I LOVE good food and a cocktail or two or a glass of Champagne so we do spend a lot of time eating. It's just about my last vice... Almost! I also love rambling or going for cliff and forest walks. Anything that gets me out of London city.

Are you still in touch with other alumni?

I recently had almost all my Trinity class come to stay with me in London. It was wonderful to see them after all these years as I'm really hopeless at staying in touch. They came to a recital I did in Ireland and we organised the informal reunion shortly afterwards. We had so many stories to tell and lots of ones that I had forgotten so, it was really special to have that time with them.

What are your strongest memories of Trinity?

This will sound terrible but I really enjoyed the social life. I had so many great nights in the Buttery and the cricket Pavilion. I'm so grateful now that I did lots of wild things while I was there as the profession is so serious that it was great to let my hair down there and learn a lot about life and interacting with people as that's

very often what's required in my job. Both my brothers went to Trinity before me studying Law and Mechanical Engineering and they seemed to have had a ball there, I thought I wasn't going to miss out!

Have you any advice for students or fellow alumni?

Enjoy every second of it! It's such a huge gift to get to go to Trinity, they were the maddest, happiest years of my life. Work hard but try not to work so hard that you miss all the fun.

Who would you invite to your dream dinner party?

Friends and family. Since coming to London fifteen years ago I have made friends that are like family to me and I also have a wonderful family back home so I can't imagine anything better than having all of them at my dream dinner party. The thoughts of having a dinner with strangers who are brilliant but nonetheless strangers, doesn't appeal at all!

What is the most useful piece of advice you've ever received?

Be yourself and don't give a damn what anyone else thinks about you.

What are your Top 3 Desert Island Discs?

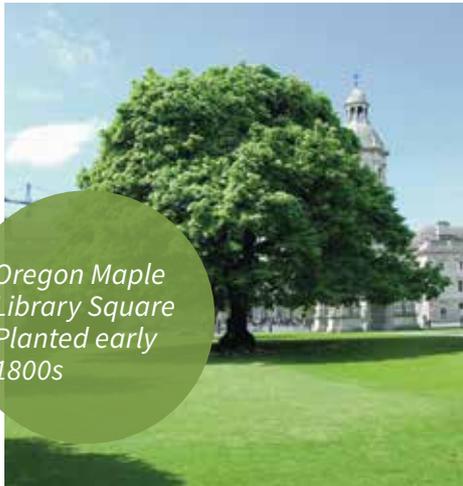
Elly Ameling (also known as the Dutch nightingale) singing anything French or German

Strauss Four Last Songs

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau singing Schubert

What are your plans for the future?

Well I'm looking at a busy season even though it's already been a very busy year but I have an evening recital at Wigmore Hall which I'm currently preparing, a BBC prom (I think my 13th!) with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, a return to Covent Garden next year and numerous recitals and concerts all over the place. Plenty of return trips to Ireland planned with Irish Chamber Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra for Mahler 4 on the 6 May 2016 and the Ulster Orchestra later that month. I also have a Schubert disc coming out this November.



Oregon Maple
Library Square
Planted early
1800s

Remember.

The power of a legacy to Trinity

There's an old saying that the true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade one does not expect to sit. When you leave a legacy to Trinity however big or small, you're planting a tree which will grow to provide shelter to many. You're empowering ground-breaking research which will benefit people in Ireland and all over the world. You're supporting students from all backgrounds to access a Trinity education. You're helping preserve our unique campus and heritage for new generations.

When you remember Trinity in your will, you join a tradition of giving that stretches back over 400 years – and reaches far into the future. For more information about leaving a Legacy to Trinity, please contact Eileen Punch.

T. +353 1 896 1714
E. carmen.leon@tcd.ie
www.tcd.ie/development

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School of Education
Room 3128,
Arts Building
Trinity College Dublin,
Dublin 2
www.tcd.ie/education