

Provost's Welcome



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Aine Nolan

COVER IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHER

Naoise Culhane

Contact

Trinity Development
& Alumni
East Chapel
Trinity College Dublin
Dublin 2
Ireland

t. +353 (0)1 896 2088
e. alumni@tcd.ie
w. www.tcd.ie/alumni

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Dear fellow alumni,

Welcome to the latest edition of *Trinity Today*.

In the last year Trinity has celebrated many key milestones, all of which will continue to enhance the education that our students receive and the impact which Trinity is making on Ireland and the world.

Trinity is enormously grateful to the Naughton family who made the single largest private philanthropic donation in the history of the state to the new E3 initiative by donating €25 million. E3 will be without precedent in Ireland and among the first internationally to integrate engineering, computer science and natural sciences, at scale, to address some of the greatest challenges facing the planet with the overall aim of finding balanced solutions for a better world. This transformative gift will be combined with €15 million in Government funding from the Department of Education and Skills. In this issue of *Trinity Today* we outline the plans for the development of E3.

In July 2018, An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar T.D., launched a far-reaching plan for the creation of the Grand Canal Innovation District in Dublin. A memorandum of understanding has been agreed between Dublin's universities and a special government-led advisory group established to develop the new district. This will include the proposed development of a €1 billion Trinity campus at Grand Canal Quay.

In March 2019, Trinity's new Business School will open its doors with a significantly expanded business curriculum at undergraduate, masters and doctoral level and world-class research in the fields of international business, finance, management and entrepreneurship. In addition to the new Trinity Business School, the 11,500sq metre development will house Tangent – Trinity's Ideas Workspace and incorporate a 200-seat café, as well as a 600-seat auditorium, kindly supported by Kyle & Alan Dargan, B.B.S., F.C.A. (1974).

The University also joined forces with one of the U.S.'s top universities, Columbia University, in a strategic partnership. It will give students from all over the world the opportunity to study in these two globally renowned universities on both sides of the Atlantic. Already the course is in great demand from students all over the world.

Within the magazine this year we celebrate the achievements of many of our alumni. The University's Chancellor, Dr Mary Robinson, LL.B., M.A., S.C., LL.D. (h.c.), H.F.T.C.D. (1967), discusses her remarkable contribution to law, politics, human rights and climate change with fellow alumna and RTÉ broadcaster Áine Lawlor, B.A. (1982).

We also hear from graduate Caroline Haughey, LL.B. (1999), working to combat human trafficking and feature new fiction from award-winning author and graduate Louise O'Neill B.A. (2008). We discover how Trinity geneticists are rewriting Ireland's relationship with the Vikings and learn about the University's latest research and innovation strategy and spin-out companies.

Trinity has over 115,000 alumni living in 150 countries and I had some excellent trips in the last year. I was fortunate to meet many of our internationally-based alumni when I visited Abu Dhabi, Beirut, Berlin, Boston, Cairo, Copenhagen, Cork, Dubai, Edinburgh, Hong Kong, Kuwait City, London, Muscat, New York, Palo Alto, San Francisco, Stockholm, Toronto and Washington DC. This is a part of my role which I enjoy very much and I look forward to meeting many more of you throughout the year ahead.

Dr Patrick Prendergast B.A.I, Ph.D., Sc.D (1987)
Provost