Trinity CSI Newsletter #1 2019

The FIRST of a series of newsletter's for the Trinity Centre for Social Innovation (CSI)

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Trinity Centre for Social Innovation (CSI)

This Issue

Exciting things happening in the Centre for Social Innovation!

- **Research: Urban Resilience** - Short Video, Conor Mark Dowling, PhD Researcher, CSI, Trinity Business School shares his research

- **Engagement: Vietnam** - Professor Mary-Lee Rhodes, Director of the CSI, Trinity Business School gives an update on her Irish Aid sponsored visit to Hanoi Dec '18

- **Impact: Top 20# most influential faculty thinkers** - Dr Tanusree Jain, Assistant Professor, CSI, Trinity Business School

- **Student Profile: Arthaud Mesnard** - Student, entrepreneur and scholar

- **Contact Us**
Research in Urban Resilience

The Provost’s Office together with Conor Mark Dowling, PhD Researcher, CSI, at Trinity Business School produced this video on resilience of critical infrastructure systems and their interdependencies. Supervised by Professor ML Rhodes, Conor’s research in the area of Urban Resilience focuses on the complex nature of cities and how they react to flood events. The development of a Resilience Management Framework aims to help city managers to enhance their city’s resilience.

Visit to Center for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Hanoi

VIBE Project - A collaboration between high-ranking Irish and Vietnamese universities and their respective Centres of Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship.
Prof. ML Rhodes, Director of the CSI, Trinity Business School visited the center for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CSIE) in the National Economics University (NEU) in Hanoi in December 2018. Prof. ML Rhodes delivered four workshops covering a range of topics related to social enterprise research and education (workshop summary below). During the trip Prof. ML Rhodes worked closely with the Director of the CSIE, Prof. Truong Thi Nam Thang, visited Social Enterprises, met with Pham Kieu Oanh of the Centre for Social Initiatives (CSIP) and Sean O’Connell (Human Rights officer for United Nations Development Programme), and had lunch with the President of NEU, Prof. Tran Tho Dat and met the Irish Ambassador and Deputy Head of Mission in Vietnam. The visit and ongoing collaboration activities between the two centres are funded by Irish Aid under the Vietnam-Ireland Bilateral Exchange (VIBE) Programme.

One of the main activities in the collaboration is the creation of ‘iMap’ - is the first digital map of social enterprise in Vietnam. In the first half of 2019, the CSIE will focus on the roll-out of iMap as an important marker for the sector in Vietnam. This is to be launched in a conference in May – the details of which are in planning.

Arising from this visit, Prof. Rhodes believes that there are a number of possible directions to pursue to support research and roll-out of social innovation and entrepreneurship in Vietnam: 1) creating/fostering a support network for new SEs in Vietnam, 2) supporting of social innovation to improve the situation of ethnic minorities, 3) pilot initiatives in the area of impact investing (in rural areas and agriculture) and 4) transferring knowledge in curriculum development in business ethics, social innovation and social enterprise.

Workshop Summary:

1. “Mapping and ‘Making’ Social Enterprise in Ireland and Vietnam”.

A workshop with researchers on key research and policy/practice questions in Social Enterprise. An overview of the research being done in Trinity College in Social Enterprise and related areas and the current state of mapping SEs in Ireland.


During this session with funders/stakeholders, Prof. Rhodes provided a systems framework for examining the role of government and funders in Social Enterprise ecosystems and lead a discussion on issues or opportunities in either (or both) countries for more effective policies and/or participation by stakeholders.

3. “Vietnamese Social Impact Businesses”- “What we don’t know might hurt us: the experience of SEs in Vietnam and Ireland”

Prof. Rhodes delivered a brief overview of social enterprise in Ireland and the areas identified by stakeholders as limiting their growth and success. She and Prof. Truong Thi Nam Thang lead a workshop
with attendees to identify areas of overlap or difference in the Vietnamese context and highlight any potential areas for research, education or training.

4. “Teaching and learning for SE students and managers”

During this workshop with students and lecturers, Prof. Rhodes presented Trinity Business School curricula principles and design for modules aimed at students and/or practitioners of SE and led a discussion on the potential areas of SI/SE curricular development for students and/or managers in Vietnam.

1 - Workshop with researchers

2 - Meeting with NEU President
3 - Workshop with Vietnamese Social Impact Businesses

4 - Workshop with academics “Teaching and learning for SE students and managers”
University of Bath launch #thinklist: a quarterly list of the 20 most influential faculty thinkers on issues of responsible business in social media. Congratulations to Dr Tanusree Jain, Assistant Professor in Ethics Business, CSI, Trinity Business School for being named in the **top 20 most influential faculty thinkers** on issues of responsiblebusiness in #socialmedia as part of the Uni of Bath's #thinklist. [Read more](#).

"These are the movers and shakers in the academic world who are breaking out of the ivory towers and leading key debates in social media".
Student Profile: Arthaud Mesnard

Arthaud Mesnard graduated recently from the Business & French programme and is a Trinity Scholar and winner of the **Trinity Business Student of the Year award** in 2018. During his time as an undergraduate, Arthaud was part of a student led team to develop a social enterprise 'KeepAppy', a mental wellness app which he and his fellow students developed while taking the CSI modules: Social Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation and Social Impact. As a result of work done in their final year,
Arthaud and his team received funding from TBS/CSI to compete in the Global Social Innovation Challenge in San Diego, CA - in which they were the winners in a number of categories and received $17,500 in prize money to continue developing their idea - the highest payout to any team in the competition. Arthaud continues to work with the team on 'KeepAppy' (as Chairman), while pursuing a Masters degree in 'Deep Tech' entrepreneurship at HEC, France and Berkeley, USA.

Hear Arthaud discuss his experience in the short video below or Read more.
Contact Us

Get in touch!

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