

Department of Microbiology hosts DAPI Symposium

Wednesday, 20th January, 2016

The sixth annual symposium of the Dublin Academy of Pathogenomics and Infection Biology (DAPI) was hosted by the Department of Microbiology on Friday, 15th January at the Moyne Institute.

DAPI was established in 2010 to encourage enhanced synergy in research and teaching between researchers based in University College Dublin and in Trinity College Dublin with an interest in infection biology. This year's event saw more than 75 researchers attend the meeting.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Suzan Rooijackers from the University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands. Suzan delivered a fascinating seminar about the molecular basis of the interaction between bacteria and the human immune system. She described her research on how complement kills bacteria and the various strategies that bacteria have evolved to resist complement. Suzan's talk was sponsored by the Microbiology Society.

The remainder of the talks were delivered by PhD students and postdocs from both universities offering an important opportunity for early stage researchers to gain experience of communicating the results of their research. The research being carried out in UCD and TCD was further showcased by the 28 participants who presented posters of their findings. The prize for best postgraduate speaker was awarded to Leanne Hays, (TCD) and the prize for the best poster presentation was awarded to Siobhan Turner (UCD).

The DAPI meeting was a success in facilitating discourse between Infection Biology researchers across both TCD and UCD and will hopefully act as an incubator for further collaborations between the two universities in the future.



Professor Steve Gordon (UCD) awards Leanne Hays (TCD) the prize for 'best speaker'