



THE G(e)OSSIP

The official newsletter of the Geology Department

26 May 2022 | Issue 14

WELCOME

With plenty going on in the department in the next few months, including lots of conferences to look forward to in June, grab a cup of tea and read on to stay up to date on all the news and information.

The sun is shining and iced coffees and ice creams are firmly back on the menu as we near the end of May, so what better time for a bit of (postponed) festive cheer? We hope you are all looking forward to the Geology ChristMa(y)s Party this Friday! Don't forget to buy your ticket if you haven't already from Sarah's Office (on the first floor of the Museum Building, near the Main Lab). It's time to dig out the Christmas jumpers from the bottom of your wardrobes!

The G(e)ossip will be released on the last Thursday of each month. Past issues are archived and uploaded on the Geology website which you can access [here](#).

If you have feedback or anything to be added to upcoming newsletter issues, please send us an email at geossip.tcd@gmail.com.

-The G(e)ossip Team

STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Robin Edwards grew up on the south coast England close to the beach and not far from the oldest human remains recovered in Britain. He wanted to be an architect right up until the point he went to an architectural practice and realised he didn't. Following a failed attempt to enlist in the Navy to fly helicopters (when he discovered he was colourblind) Robin ended up studying Oceanography in Southampton (where he discovered he gets seasick). It was here that he also discovered his interest in sea-level change and submerged landscapes, getting to mess around in boats collecting seismic data for his dissertation which traced buried palaeovalleys drowned by rising sea level.

Robin completed his PhD in sea-level change at Durham trying to figure out how to use foraminifera to produce precise relative sea-level reconstructions (what is now called the 'geological tide gauge approach'). After two years as a postdoc in Amsterdam applying the technique to the saltmarshes of Connecticut, USA, he got a lectureship back in Durham. In 2002 Robin went to visit his brother in Dublin and accidentally got a job in Trinity. He thought he'd stay in Ireland for a couple of years but fell in love with the place and has been here ever since. He lives in Howth with his wife, two children and Stan the dog (who is seeking an adjunct lectureship after his contributions to online teaching during Covid).

One of Robin's favourite things about his job is that he gets to indulge his somewhat eclectic interests whilst working with a bunch of smart people: whether this is reconstructing sea-level change from saltmarshes; investigating submerged landscapes with archaeologists; analysing ocean circulation change with marine geologists and oceanographers; or reconstructing Ireland's former ice sheet with geophysical modellers and glaciologists. He teaches Quaternary science as well as the Trinity Elective 'Becoming Human: the Science of Us', a module on human evolution that he delivers with colleagues in genetics.

MEET THE TEAM

Robin's research team is comprised of two PhD researchers and one Postdoc. Meet them below!

Fermin Alvarez (PhD)



My PhD research is part of the A4 project, where I work with Professor Robin Edwards and Dr. Zoë Roseby, seeking to improve our projections of future sea level rise by better understanding the drivers of sea level change over the past centuries in the North Atlantic. This aim will be achieved by the application of the "geological tide gauge" approach, based on the analysis of sea-level indicators in buried high-saltmarsh sediment, where its effective application allows producing multi-decadal relative sea level reconstructions from saltmarsh environments extending back several centuries to millennia. I did my undergraduate studies in Geology at the University of the Basque Country (North of Spain). Once finished, I did an MSc in Marine Environment and Resources in different universities along Europe under the Erasmus Mundus grant. Then, I worked for four years in the Renewables Energy Industry, and in March-2020, hand in hand with Covid, I came to Dublin to start my PhD here at TCD.

Sabrina Renken (PhD)

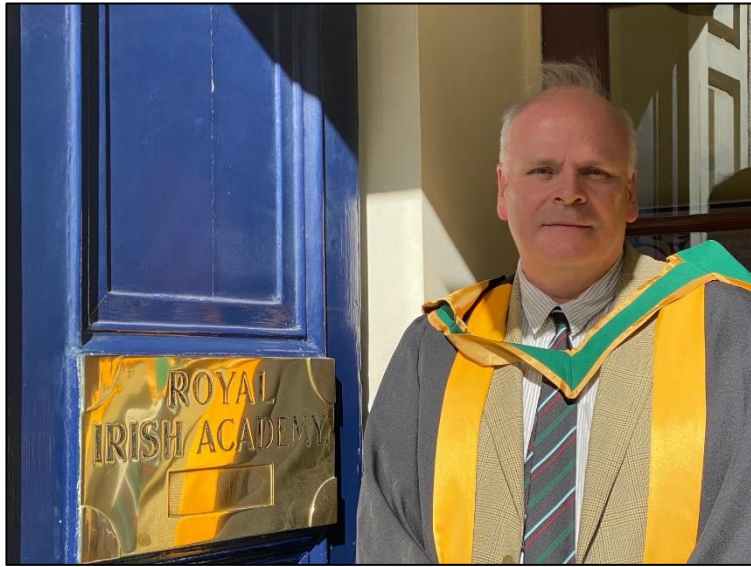
Hi all, I'm Sabrina. Some of you may have never seen me around as I work from Germany. I live here with my husband and two kids (4 & 2 years). I am in the final stage of my PhD under the supervision of Robin Edwards. My keen interest in the reconstruction of the palaeoclimate and oceanography using proxies brought me to TCD a several years ago. With the help of foraminifera, I am linking oceanographic variations offshore west Ireland to events related to the demise of the former British Irish Ice Sheet or alike ice surge events such as Heinrich Events. When I don't get crazy over writing up my thesis (and the kids don't drive me nuts), I enjoy baking and try to learn Japanese.



Zoë Roseby (Postdoc)



I am a postdoctoral researcher, interested in reconstructing past environmental change using sediment cores and microfossils found within them. My current research focuses on producing sea level reconstructions from Ireland, working with Professor Robin Edwards and Fermin Alvarez as part of the A4 project. In addition to my research, I participate in outreach activities on the topics of climate change and sea level rise. Prior to my appointment at Trinity College Dublin, I carried out a bachelors and integrated master's degree in Geological Oceanography at Bangor University and a PhD with British Antarctic Survey (BAS), University of Southampton and Durham University. My PhD project reconstructed the deglacial history of the Anvers-Hugo Trough, western Antarctic Peninsula shelf. I am passionate about supporting equality and diversity in STEM and sit on the Athena SWAN self-assessment team in the School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.



Patrick Wyse Jackson was recently admitted a Member of the Royal Irish Academy. The citation read: "Patrick Wyse Jackson is Associate Professor of Geology, Curator of the Geological Museum, and Head of the School of Natural Sciences at Trinity College Dublin. He is an international authority on fossil bryozoans, a large phylum of invertebrate animals, and the foremost expert on the history of Irish geology. He currently leads a major project on Irish building stones to inform government about heritage conservation."

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Congratulations to Quentin Crowley who was recently appointed to the Geoscience and Geographical Sciences multidisciplinary committee of the Royal Irish Academy. Committee members help to advise the Academy and contribute significantly to public engagement and outreach programmes.

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Adrienn Szucs was recently selected as the winner of the Zeiss Student Award at the GGRiP2022 conference in early May. Her presentation was titled 'Reaction pathway towards bastnasite; the role of dolomite and aragonite in bastnasite formation'.

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Congratulations to Maura Morgan on her promotion to the School of Natural Sciences technical staff!

CHRISTMA(Y)S PARTY

Christmas in MAY?!?
Sleigh it ain't snow!

There's no need for a meltdown!

CHRISTMA(Y)S PARTY

When?
Friday 27th May

Where?
We'll kick things off in the Geology Common Room at 5:30 then onto Kennedys at 7:30

Your presents is required
Join us for drinks, finger food and festivities.
Christmas clothing encouraged

Tickets €5

PODCASTS

This month's podcast recommendations are...



Bogcast Ireland
Listen [here](#)



PlanetGeo: The Geology Podcast
Listen [here](#)



The **Irish Geosciences Early Career Symposium (iGEO2022)** is only two weeks away (9th and 10th June 2022) and Registration is now closed. Stay updated before the conference on the [iGEO2022 website](#) and [Twitter](#).



Are you a member of the LGBTQ+ community? Are you a researcher? Then Pride in Research 2022 wants to hear from you! **Pride in Research TCD** is an event set up by fellow LGBTQ+ researchers in Trinity with the goal of increasing the visibility of LGBTQ+ people in academia. As well as this, there is a need to build a stronger community of queer people within our university's research environment. This is the second year the event has run, but it will be the first time it is hosted in-person and will take place in M4, Museum Building on 16th June 2022 right in the middle of pride month! The event will take the form of an academic conference, with researchers of all levels, from all disciplines invited to present their work. In addition, presenters are also encouraged to share a little about their experience as members of the LGBTQ+ community in academia. There will be plenary talks and discussions too from some very interesting speakers! Thanks to financial support from the TCD Equality fund, this event is free of charge. Tea, coffee and lunch will be provided for attendees over the course of the day.

Abstract submissions are open to all LGBTQ+ staff and students and registration is open to all fellow LGBTQ+ staff, students and allies. Click [here](#) to join the Pride in Research symposium this June and celebrate the great diversity of research carried out at Trinity College Dublin by LGBTQ+ people!

environ 2022

The **32nd Irish Environmental Researchers Colloquium (Environ 2022)** will be held at Ulster University in Belfast from 20th to 22nd June 2022. You can view the Agenda [here](#) or register [here](#).

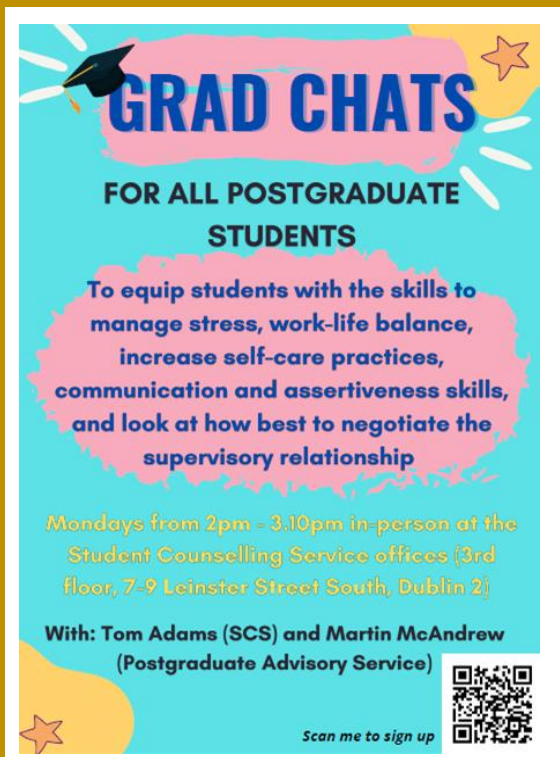


The **iCRAG Summit 2022** will be held at the Hodson Bay Hotel in Athlone from 21st to 22nd June 2022. You can view the Agenda [here](#). Click [here](#) to register; this will close on 10th June.



Goldschmidt 2022 will be held in Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA, and online from 10th to 15th July 2022. You can find more information on their website [here](#) or register [here](#).

POSTGRAD SUPPORT




GRAD CHATS

FOR ALL POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

To equip students with the skills to manage stress, work-life balance, increase self-care practices, communication and assertiveness skills, and look at how best to negotiate the supervisory relationship

Mondays from 2pm - 3.10pm in-person at the Student Counselling Service offices (3rd floor, 7-9 Leinster Street South, Dublin 2)

With: Tom Adams (SCS) and Martin McAndrew (Postgraduate Advisory Service)



Scan me to sign up

Learn more about student support on the PG Grad Chats [webpage](#) and pre-register for upcoming sessions [here](#).

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

TCD's Student Counselling Services is open and available to all registered students. Check out their website [here](#) to read about the services they provide, email them at student-counselling@tcd.ie to request an appointment, and follow them on Instagram at [@tcd_headspace](#) for mindfulness and mental health awareness tips. They now offer [PhD research support groups](#) to keep you on track!

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

The School of Natural Sciences and all departments are on Twitter. Give them a follow to stay connected!



School of Natural Sciences - [@TCD_NatSci](#)
Department of Geology - [@TCDOnTheRocks](#)
Department of Geography - [@TCD_Geography](#)
Department of Botany - [@TCBotanicGarden](#)
Department of Zoology - [@TCDZoology](#)

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES EQUALITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

2022 Trinity College Dublin Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Survey

All staff have been invited to participate in the **2022 Trinity College Dublin Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Survey**. This survey offers an opportunity to share your views and experiences, to help the College ensure a supportive and inclusive university culture and identify areas where improvements could be made. Your contributions will further inform the School of Natural Sciences Athena SWAN silver award application. We would like to ask **all staff to participate** (it only takes 15 minutes!) so that we can build an action plan that champions a fair and equal working environment. Access the survey [here](#).

Pride in Research

On the 16th June **#TCDPrideInResearch** is hosting their first ever in-person event to celebrate this pride month by showcasing the great diversity of research carried out at Trinity College Dublin by LGBTQ+ people. Pride in Research will take the form of an academic conference and is open to researchers of all levels and faculties to present their work. Registration is open to all fellow LGBTQ+ staff, students and allies. Register [here](#).

Resources

Let's Talk About Race in the Higher Education Sector: This programme aims to develop greater awareness of the nature of racism, and in particular provide an understanding of how racism may take the form of inequality and bias that is embedded in our universities in a systemic way. It provides insights to enable the conversation about racism, and calls us to action to take responsibility to reduce racism in our university. Access the programme [here](#).



If you would like more information please view our website [here](#).