

Trinity's Inflammageing Research Group receive My Green Lab certification

Trinity's Inflammageing Research Group received a near perfect score in their recent My Green Lab certification (94%!). PhD researcher Tara Kenny led the process that resulted in more efficient procedures, less waste and reduced energy use. Dr Nollaig Bourke leads the lab, which is part of Trinity Translational Medicine Institute (TTMI) and based in St James's.

Some of the changes they made include:

- Reduced waste by checking Trinity's surplus inventory system prior to making equipment and materials purchases
- Worked to understand how to work green chemistry principles into operations
- Managing and minimizing energy from all the equipment that is plugged into the wall
- ("plug load")
- Using fume hoods more efficiently (one fume hood uses 3.4 times more electricity than an average Irish household)
- Developed accurate cold storage inventories
- Reduced the environmental impact of biosafety cabinets and fume hoods

Tara adds "I would highly recommend the green labs certification process to anyone working in a lab. The accreditation process helped us identify ways to make our lab more sustainable through a few small and simple changes and Dumitru was always available with guidance to help us achieve our goals!"

Green Team members also include Michelle Kearns, Matt McElheron, Jordy Smith.

Tara Kenny investigates mechanisms of inflammation in female reproductive health and disease and is particularly interested in the role of inflammasomes in endometriosis and infertility.

Trinity Sustainability has funding for 24 more labs (26 labs signed up already) to undergo the Green Lab certification process.

Contact [Dumitru Anton](#) for more info.