Trinity Alumni Weekend 2018

Medical Alumni Symposium

Friday, 24 August, 14.00 to 17.15

Stanley Quek Lecture Theatre, Level - 1
Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute
152 - 160 Pearse Street
Programme

Chair: Professor Cliona O'Farrelly, Professor of Comparative Immunology, School of Biochemistry & Immunology and School of Medicine, Trinity College

14.00 Opening Remarks by the Chair

14.05 Recent Developments in Trinity Medicine
Professor Michael Gill, Professor of Psychiatry, Trinity College; Consultant Psychiatrist, St James’s Hospital; Head of School of Medicine

14.15 The biggest riddle of them all: What is Life? Keynote
Professor Luke O’Neill, Chair of Biochemistry, Trinity College; Fellow of the Royal Society

15.00 Celebrities and Breast Cancer – what can we learn?
Professor Avice O’Connell, Professor of Imaging Sciences and Director of Women’s Imaging at the University of Rochester Medical Center

15.30 Coffee break

15.45 Development of the nervous system in the fetus
Professor Thomas Farrell, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and Trinity College Dublin

16.15 Growing up with Liver Disease - are all teenagers equal?
Professor Deirdre Kelly CBE, Professor of Paediatric Hepatology, the University of Birmingham, Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist

16.45 60 years since the discovery of Burkitt Lymphoma
Professor Owen Smith CBE, Professor of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine, University College Dublin; Consultant Paediatric Haematologist, Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin; Chief Academic Lead to the Children’s Hospital Group; Hon. Regius Professor of Physic [1637]

17.15 Concluding remarks by the Chair
Profiles of the Speakers

Michael Gill

Michael Gill, MD, MRCPsych, FTCD, is Head of School of Medicine. He is Professor of Psychiatry at Trinity College Dublin and Consultant Psychiatrist at St James’s Hospital. He leads the Neuropsychiatric Genetics Research Group which conducts Phenotypic and Genomic research to identify and investigate the function of genetic variation contributing to risk as a means of improving understanding, developing better methods of diagnosis, and new therapeutic approaches. The group has been part of several significant discoveries in recent years published in journals such as Nature, Nature Genetics, Archives of General Psychiatry and the British and American Journals of Psychiatry. Professor Gill is a member of the steering group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium and a lead investigator on the international PGC3 award, focusing on whole genome sequencing of large pedigrees segregating psychiatric disorders. In 2011 he was appointed as Director of the Wellcome/HRB Clinical Research Facility at St. James’s Hospital which opened in 2013 and has been highly successful with over 120 studies on its books. Professor Gill is Director and PI of the Wellcome HRB Irish Clinical Academic Training (ICAT) Programme involving six universities; the postgraduate training bodies in the North and the South and the HSE and HSC. ICAT will appoint 8 clinician PhD fellowships per year for a 5-year period.

Thomas Farrell

Thomas Farrell, MA, PhD, MB, BCh, BAO (1976), is Senior Lecturer in Anatomy; Deputy Director, Graduate Entry Programme, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Dr Farrell studied philosophy and medicine at TCD. He completed his internships in the Meath and Adelaide Hospitals in Dublin. He was a Demonstrator in Anatomy in Trinity College, Dublin and in 1995 was appointed Lecturer in Anatomy in the RSCI. He is currently pursuing research in techniques of regional anaesthesia and anti-coagulation in post-operative patients. Now retired from clinical practice he teaches medicine at RCSI and philosophy at Trinity.

Deirdre Kelly

Deirdre Kelly, CBE, B.A., M.B., M.D., F.R.C.P.I. (1971) is Professor of Paediatric Hepatology at the University of Birmingham, Consultant Paediatric Hepatologist and Founding Director of the Liver Unit for Birmingham Children’s Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. She set up the Liver Unit at Birmingham Children’s Hospital which provides a national and international service for children with liver failure and undergoing liver transplantation, transforming survival and outcome for these children. She runs an active research programme focusing on viral hepatitis in children, molecular genetics of inherited liver disease, quality and outcome of life following liver and/or intestinal transplantation. She is on the council of the General Medical Council and a non-Executive Director of the Health Research Authority. She was Commissioner on the Care Quality Commission and Healthcare Commission. She has been the Medical Director of the Children’s Hospital, and President of the European Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, British Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and the International Paediatric Transplant Association.
Avice O’Connell

Avice O’Connell, MD, FACS, FRCPI (1971), is a Professor of Imaging Sciences and Director of Women’s Imaging at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Educated in Trinity, she received her radiology training here in Rochester. She has 30 years of experience in breast imaging and is actively involved in teaching and research evaluating newer imaging modalities.

Dr O’Connell is a world renowned speaker and is very active in teaching medical students, residents and is frequently solicited for her expert opinion in the media.

Luke O’Neill

Luke O’Neill, BA (1985), PhD, FRS, holds the Chair of Biochemistry in the School of Biochemistry and Immunology in Trinity College Dublin. His research group focuses on the signaling processes involved in innate immunity and inflammation. Professor O’Neill is regarded as a world authority on Toll-like receptors, innate immune signaling and immunometabolism. Professor O’Neill has filed patents surrounding a number of key proteins in the innate immune cascade. Professor O’Neill’s group has demonstrated excellence in the identification of drug targets for inflammatory diseases. Professor Luke O’Neill is a Co-Founder of three spin-out companies focusing on the search for new anti-inflammatory medicines: Opsona Therapeutics, Inflazome Ltd and Sitryx Ltd. He is the chief scientific adviser to all three, and is on the Board of Directors of Opsona and Inflazome. He also has had a number of major relationships within the pharmaceutical industry. He has a PhD in Pharmacology from the University of London and has won numerous awards for his research, notably the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal for Life Sciences, the Royal Dublin Society/Irish Times Boyle medal for Scientific Excellence, the Science Foundation Ireland Researcher of the Year Award and most recently the Milstein Award, the highest honor that can be bestowed by the International Cytokine and Interferon Society. He was elected a Fellow of Royal Society in 2016 and is in the top 1% of researchers in the field of Immunology in the world based on citation.

Owen Patrick Smith

Owen P. Smith, CBE, MA, MB, BA Mod. (Biochem) (1980), FRCPCH, FFPRCPI, FRCP (Ire., Edin., Lon., Glasg.), FRCPATH, FFpathRCPI,, DHMSA, Hon. FTCD, is Professor of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine, University College Dublin; Consultant Paediatric Haematologist, Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin; Chief Academic Lead to the Children’s Hospital Group; Hon. Regius Professor of Physic [1637], Trinity College Dublin. Since returning from postgraduate training at Great Ormond Street Children’s Hospital, London in the early 1990’s he has devoted the last twenty five years of his career to caring for neonates, children and adolescents with cancer and blood disorders. One of his main areas of research has been in evidence-based randomised peer-reviewed paediatric haemato-oncology clinical trials, focusing on clinical questions within all domains of paediatric blood and cancer. He is a member of numerous associations and societies, including; the Medical Research Council Childhood Leukaemia Working Party, the International Berlin Frankfurt Munster Study Group for Childhood Leukaemia, and the United
Kingdom Children’s Cancer Group. Professor Smith was awarded the St Luke’s Medal by the Royal Academy of Medicine and St Luke’s Hospital for his work on improving outcomes in adolescent cancers with specific reference to the haematological malignancies.