Welcome

Dear colleagues and friends,

During 2018, the School of Medicine at Trinity continued to facilitate and provide healthcare education to the highest international standards; to train clinicians and allied health practitioners who are equipped to fulfil their professional roles in a caring, competent and patient centred manner and to produce individuals who through critical thinking and outstanding professional and ethical standards will become leaders in their field of practice.

The School has six excellent undergraduate programmes – Medicine, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Human Health and Disease, Nutrition and Dietetics and Radiation Therapy, the latter celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, and twenty postgraduate programmes. It has a vibrant and exciting research portfolio with a focus on Genetics and Genomics, Ageing, Neuroscience, Molecular Biology, Cancer, Health Services and Population Health and Clinical Research and Trials.

Our 10,000 or so alumni are spread around the world and we are delighted that most of them continue their lifelong affiliation with Trinity through the friendships they built as students and through keeping in touch and attending events. Our graduates are Trinity’s ambassadors to the world and their great achievements add to Trinity’s success as a world-class university.

I am especially delighted to pay tribute to Dr Stanley Quek, a School of Medicine alumnus, who has been elected by the University Senate as the next Pro-Chancellor of Trinity College. We are proud that Dr Quek will be the first Pro-Chancellor of the University who is from outside the British Isles. From his base in Singapore, Dr Quek has maintained a close connection with the School of Medicine and the University for over 45 years. Dr Quek was a member of the Tercentenary Board of the School in the run up to the 300th anniversary celebrations in 2011. He served on the board of Trinity Foundation and is now a member of the Campaign Cabinet and Provost’s Council, a small group of advisers to the Provost. He continues to make significant financial contributions to Trinity. For more than 30 years Dr Quek has given his time generously to the recruitment of excellent Singaporean students to Ireland through the Irish Medical Schools’ Consortium.

Dr Quek’s engagement with the University and his election to Pro-Chancellor is evidence that Trinity is a truly global university.

We value our alumni’s continued engagement with Trinity and I look forward to meeting you here in Trinity and on my trips around the world.

Please keep in touch.

Professor Michael Gill
Head of School
Dr Stanley Quek Elected Pro-Chancellor

Congratulations to Dr. Stanley Quek on his election as Pro-Chancellor of Trinity College Dublin. We are proud to have him as our graduate.

Stanley Quek, M.A., M.B., B.Ch, B.A.O. [1970] is a medic, diplomat, developer and designer. Once an eminent family physician in Singapore he is now known for his association with spectacular developments in Singapore, Australia and the United Kingdom. Dr Quek is Executive Chairman of Region Development Pte Ltd. Whilst not practising medicine, Dr Quek continues to be involved in promoting medical education, particularly in Ireland. Stanley has maintained close ties with the Irish Universities and Medical Schools Consortium, organising and recruiting appropriately qualified Singapore applicants for all the Irish medical schools since the 1980s. Dr Quek was the Republic of Ireland’s Honorary Consul General in Singapore serving the Irish communities in Singapore, Brunei and Indonesia in the 1990s before the Irish Embassy was established in May 2000 as a result of significant increases in Irish consular and trade activities. Dr Quek is Chairman of the Singapore Ireland Fund. He is a member of the Provost’s Council. Stanley, a major Trinity benefactor, has been leading efforts to raise funds for biomedical sciences in Trinity, with the current focus on the Trinity St. James’s Cancer Institute.

Leading on Dementia Prevention

Dementia is one of the greatest challenges facing us as a society today with an estimated 47 million people affected world-wide. These numbers are expected to double by 2040 because the world’s population is ageing. If we could delay the onset of dementia by five years, the numbers affected would be reduced by 40%. At present, there are no treatments that can prevent, delay the onset or slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, the commonest cause of dementia. This is why researchers based at Trinity College and the Global Brain Health Institute (GBHI) are joining forces with major universities in the UK and France - Edinburgh, Oxford, Cambridge and Montpellier to find early indicators or markers in people at mid-life to point to an increased risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease in the future. If we can find markers in mid-life that indicate the risk of getting Alzheimer’s disease later in life, we would have the potential to intervene before people develop the damaging brain changes of Alzheimer’s disease. This project is called PREVENT and involves studying people between the ages of 40 and 59 who may or may not have a parent with Alzheimer’s disease. These volunteers undergo a large battery of assessments, including memory tests, MRIs, and give blood, urine and spinal fluid and then have repeat assessments after two years. Prevention of dementia is now a major focus for TCD. PREVENT is led by Professor Brian Lawlor, School of Medicine, and Dr Lorna Naci, School of Psychology, and is funded by GBHI, Alzheimer’s Association (US), Alzheimer’s Society (UK) and the Trinity alumni.

For more information, please go to www.preventdementia.ie and www.gbhi.org

Ellen Mayston Bates Professor of Neurophysiology of Epilepsy

In 2018 Professor Mark O. Cunningham was appointed the Ellen Mayston Bates Professor of Neurophysiology of Epilepsy. Ellen Mayston Bates left a generous bequest of £3.5 million for the study of epilepsy. This gift allows us to draw together the expertise that currently exists at TCD and enables a strategic vision for cutting-edge research in epilepsy.

Professor Cunningham, who is now leading epilepsy research at Trinity, began his scientific career at Queen’s University, Belfast, where he read Physiology as an undergraduate. He obtained his PhD in Physiology from the University of Bristol examining the impact of anti-epileptic drugs on synaptic function. He then undertook post-doctoral positions at Bristol University, University of Leeds, Heidelberg University and Newcastle University. His research is focused on understanding the cellular and synaptic mechanisms underlying epilepsy at the level of the neuronal microcircuit. He has a particular interest in understanding how pathological electrical activity is generated by the epileptic brain. To date he has published 56 articles and over 100 conference proceedings, with 3700 citations and an H-index of 31. Professor Cunningham’s research has been supported by the BBSRC, MRC, Wellcome Trust, Epilepsy Research UK, Action on Hearing Loss, Hadwen Trust, Institute UK, Wolfson Foundation and The Royal Society. He has had collaborative funding agreements with a number of global pharmaceutical companies and acts as a consultant for Neurport, a contract research organisation that provides specialist electrophysiology and neuroscience expertise in the provision of novel drug discovery and academic research.

Professor Cunningham currently sits on the Scientific Advisory Committee for Epilepsy Research UK and is a member of Biomedical Resource and Technology Development Committee at the Wellcome Trust. He is a member of the Brain Tumour-Related Epilepsy international research consortium and a fellow of the Centre for Aid Drug Discovery and academic research.

The Derry and Phyllis Kelleher Travel Fellowships

Professor Dermot Kelleher, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and former Head of School of Medicine at Trinity, established the Derry and Phyllis Kelleher Travel Fellowships, in his parents’ memory, for young medical graduates to travel internationally for further research experience. 2018 Kelleher Travel Fellowships were awarded to Dr Abirami Subramaniam and Dr Catriona Mary Gallagher, both based in Tallaght. This generous award enables them to expand their research experience internationally.

Singapore Institute of Technology and Trinity

Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) was established in 2010, by the Ministry of Education in Singapore, as an umbrella group for the polytechnics in Singapore. In 2014 SIT obtained university status and is the fifth publically funded university in Singapore. While initially part of the mission of SIT was to provide upgrading opportunities for diploma holders the current remit is to deliver industry focussed education, leading to highly desired graduates for growth sectors of the economy.

In October 2010, SIT approached TCD with respect to degrees in Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Radiation Therapy and Diagnostic Radiography. The present VP for Global Relations Professor Juliette Hussey and Professor Derride Connelly from Occupational Therapy in Trinity College developed one-year programmes in Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy commencing in September 2012. In September 2014 programmes in Diagnostic Radiography and Radiation Therapy also commenced under the leadership of Professor Suzanne Dennan and Professor Michelle Leech. The relationship between the two Universities progressed further and following extensive discussions led by Professor John Gormley, TCD Academic Director of SIT programmes, a joint four-year degree in Physiotherapy commenced in 2016. There are currently 365 students on various years of the four-year joint degree programme with a further 152 students on the one-year programmes. The programmes are delivered by full time Trinity academic staff based in Singapore along with a number of staff who teach for intensive teaching periods at the Nanyang and Dover campuses of SIT. Students on all of the programmes engage in a placement in Trinity College and Ireland on their Overseas Immersion Project (OIP). The OIP includes lectures, seminars and visits to healthcare facilities. Students also get the opportunity for cultural activities in Trinity and in Ireland while experiencing life abroad with their fellow overseas counterparts.

Dr Catriona Gallagher, Assistant Professor/Registrar, Clinical Medicine, Tallaght Hospital.

Dr Abirami Subramaniam, Assistant Professor/Registrar, Clinical Medicine, Tallaght Hospital.
Dr Robert Pollock Scholarship for a Medical Student

Lesley Lawrence established a scholarship in memory of her father Dr Robert Pollock (1910-1999), a Trinity medical graduate. From County Monaghan, Robert attended Trinity from 1932 to 1936, obtaining a BA, a BCh, and MB. As a student he won a number of prizes notably, the O'Sullivan Memorial Scholarship and the Professor’s Prize in Anatomy.

Medicine was his passion. Due to limited finances he taught students to help make ends meet, and from 1935 to 1936 joined Trinity College’s Officer Training Corps. After university he worked as a Clinical Assistant at the Central London Ear, Nose, and Throat Hospital for six months in 1938. When war broke out he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, first as a Lieutenant, but was elevated to the rank of Captain. He was sent to the Central London Ear, Nose, and Throat Hospital for six months in 1938.

He spent the entire war working as a doctor in various P.O.W. camps. Trinity College was aware of his capture as he mentions in one of his letters of 1941 to his mother in Monaghan that, ‘Miss Kinney of the Medical School, has written “giving all the news of the college”.’ In another letter from November 1943 he says, ‘I received a very nice surgery book sent by the authorities at Trinity.’ This letter was from Stalag Luft V1 at Hoydekrag (now Lithuania) where he had been sent to assist with the prisoners who’d been shot down. In July 1944 the camp was evacuated because of the Russian advance. He was taken to Stalag Luft V1 at Gross Tychow (now in Poland) where he became Chief Medical Officer. But in early February 1945 the entire camp was evacuated once again; those too ill to walk were transferred to Stalag Luft 1 at Barth. The rest of the prisoners were told that they would have to march for a couple of days to another camp. The forced march to Stalag Luft 1B1 at Fallingbostel lasted for fifty days and was undertaken in one of the coldest winters that century. After eleven days at the camp most of the airmen were forced to march again, but Dr Pollock remained at Fallingbostel to care for those too weak to continue, and was liberated in April 1945.

The horrid conditions at the camp and during the forced march are described in the 2003 book entitled, ‘The Last Escape,’ by John Nichol and Tony Rennell (Penguin) where his surname is spelled Pollack by mistake.

Dr Pollock was mentioned in Despatches by the British, but it was the Americans who honoured him with one of their highest medals, the Bronze Star, in 1946, for his efforts to help so many of their airmen.

After the war he worked at the Mile End Hospital in London before he went into General Practice in the town of Bedford. Dr Pollock died in 1999.

Dr Samuel Lam Becomes a Benefactor through the Centuries

Samuel Lam, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.D. (1963), an alumnus from Hong Kong, through a major philanthropic donation enabled Trinity to develop a M.Phil. in Chinese Studies, which is one of the programmes at Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. Dr Lam’s name is engraved on the frieze among the Benefactors through the Centuries Roll of Honour which recognises the people who have made substantial gifts to Trinity. His name is embossed permanently on the frieze beneath the ceiling of the grand entrance to the Dining Hall, which is adorned with the words of Virgil, the first-century BC poet: “SEMPER HOMO NIMENQUE VIVAM LAVDESQVE MANEBVNT” — “Your name, honour and praise shall always remain.”

Dr Rupert Indar – a Son of San Fernando

Dr Rupert Indar presents the book “With Satisfaction and Thanks: Rupert Indar – Celebrating a Son of San Fernando” about his father, Dr Rupert Indar, a Trinity medical graduate, to Professor Michael Gill, Head of School of Medicine. Dr Mary Henry and Mrs Kimberly Indar are also pictured.

60 Years since the Discovery of Burkitt Lymphoma

On 24 September, the opening day of Cancer Week, Professor Owen P. Smith, CBE, MA, MB, BA Mod. (Blochern) (1960), FRCPCH, FFPRCPCH, FRCP (ed., Edn., Lon., Glasg.), FRCPath, FFpathRCPath, DHMSA, Hon. FTCD, 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, gave a lecture 60 Years since the Discovery of Burkitt Lymphoma’ at Trinity. Denis Parsons Burkitt (1911-1993), who graduated from Trinity in 1938, discovered Burkitt lymphoma. His contributions to cancer remain salient today, and his discoveries continue to generate new research.

Orrin Devinsky, MD, Delivers 2018 John Kirker Memorial Lecture

The 2018 John Kirker Memorial Lecture, named in honour of the pioneering epileptologist and Trinity College Dublin graduate Dr John Kirker, was recently delivered by Orrin Devinsky, Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry at the New York University School of Medicine. The lecture entitled ‘Medicinal Cannabis for Epilepsy’ was presented on as a keynote talk of the meeting of the Irish Chapter of the International League against Epilepsy. Dr Kirker left a bequest to fund an annual lecture in epilepsy.
Medical Alumni Symposium

As always, Medical Alumni Symposium took place during the Alumni Weekend. Pictured L–R with former Regius Professor of Physick Donald Weir (second from left), speakers included Professor Dermot Kelly CBE, Professor of Paediatric Hepatology, the University of Birmingham; Professor Owen Smith CBE, Professor of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine, University College Dublin; Hon. Regius Professor of Physic (1637); Professor Cliona O’Farrelly, Professor of Comparative Immunology, School of Biochemistry & Immunology and School of Medicine, Trinity College (symposium chair); Professor Michael Gill, Professor of Psychiatry, Head of School of Medicine; Professor Avice O’Connell, Professor of Imaging Sciences and Director of Woman’s Imaging at the University of Rochester Medical Center; Professor Dermot Kelleher, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Vice President, Health, University of British Columbia; Professor Thomas Farrell, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and Trinity.

Bequests to Trinity

Stephanie Saville 1927-2018

Stephanie Atterton (née Saville) B.A.O., B.Ch., M.B. (1947) had a distinguished career as an anaesthetist, holding appointments at the Royal City of Dublin Hospital, Bath, Bristol, Albany (in Upstate New York), and again in Bath, before establishing herself in London where she was at St Stephen’s Hospital until her retirement in 1987. Stephanie left a significant bequest at St Stephen’s Hospital until her retirement in 1987. Stephanie left a significant bequest to Trinity College.

Anthony Wicks 1940-2017

Anthony Wicks, B.A., M.B., (1962) who died in June 2017, aged 77, left a generous bequest to the School of Medicine in ‘recognition of Anthony’s excellent medical education’. Former Consultant Physician at the Crumlin Hospital and then a major problem in Ireland. Anthony Wicks left a generous bequest to Trinity College. Please read the full obituary: https://www.tcd.ie/alumni/alumni/trinity-remembers/Anthony-Wicks-1940-2017/.

Trinity Remembers

Beulah Bewley

Dame Beulah Rosemary Bewley, CBE (1929-2016) was a British public health physician and ex-President of the Medical Women’s Federation on the General Medical Council. She qualified at Trinity College Dublin in 1953 and was conferred with an Honorary LLD in 2002. Beulah served on the Royal Society of Medicine’s section on Epidemiology and Public Health. In her career she worked at several hospitals including the Academic Department of Community Medicine at King’s College Hospital Medical School, Denmark Hill, London, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In 1982 she served on the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom and at the Department of Community Medicine at St Thomas’s Hospital Medical School in London.

Beulah was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2009 for her services to public health and in recognition of her leading role in promoting equal opportunities for women. Beulah and her husband Thomas maintained their lifelong links with Trinity and Ireland. From 2007 to 2012 Beulah served on the Tercentenary Board and helped make the 300th anniversary of her alma mater a great success. Beulah left a generous bequest to Trinity College. Please read the full obituary: https://www.tcd.ie/alumni/alumni/trinity-remembers/Beulah-Bewley-1929-2016/.

Memorial Service for Niall O’Donohoe

On November 14 the Trinity community gathered in the Chapel for a memorial service to celebrate the life of Niall O’Donohoe. An eminent paediatric neurologist, who was an inspiration to patients and colleagues alike, he became Professor of Paediatrics at Trinity College Dublin in 1980. Prior to coming back to Ireland in 1959 as a consultant at Our Lady’s Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin, he worked in the UK and the US. Specialising in epilepsy, he wrote a world-famous textbook ‘Epilepsies of Childhood’ which was described in the New England Journal of Medicine as the ‘authoritative’

Michael Fry

R. J. Michael Fry, BA. (1946), MB., B.Ch. (1948), MD. (1962) died in November, 2017, at his home in Indianapolis, IN., aged 90 years. Born in Dublin in 1925, Michael entered Trinity’s School of Physic, as the School of Medicine was then known, in 1942. During his student years he was an active member of the Irish Medical Students’ Association as well as the DU Motor and Golf Clubs. While a student, Michael became interested in the efforts of Dr Noel Browne to treat tuberculosis and its underlying causes, then a major problem in Ireland.

After graduation, Michael completed the pre-registration year at The Royal City of Dublin Hospital and then spent a year in general practice in Lincolnshire, UK. Returning to Dublin in 1951, he became a medical officer of the Guinness Brewing Company. Ironically Michael was diagnosed with pulmonary tuberculosis, which was successfully treated. On medical advice, he changed his career path from clinical to academic medicine, and in 1953 he accepted a position in Trinity’s Physiology Department, where he began independent research in haemato-physiology that became the basis of his MD thesis.

Michael and Shirley (nee Jackson) B.A. (1955) MBB., B.Ch. (1957), a rising fifth year TCD medical student, were married in England in 1955, and later, when Shirley specialised in occupational and radiation epidemiology, they shared research interests. In 1959 Michael moved to the US Atomic Energy’s (AE) Argonne National Laboratory (ANL), outside Chicago, IL, to conduct experimental research using ionizing radiations and radioactive materials. On the successful presentation of his MD thesis in Trinity in 1962, he and his family emigrated to the US and he continued his work at ANL. He subsequently became a Senior Scientist and Head of Argonne’s Biology Division’s Carcinogenesis Section with a joint appointment as Professor of Radiology at the University of Chicago. He moved in 1977 to the AEC’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), in Oak Ridge, TN, where he headed that Laboratory’s Biology Division’s Carcinogenesis Section until 1991. Michael was a member and guiding light for the Radiation Research Society for well over 50 years where its ‘Young Investigators’ Award is named the ‘Michael Fry Research Award’ in his honour. Michael authored three scientific books and authored or co-authored more than 100 articles.

Please read the full obituary: https://www.tcd.ie/alumni/alumni/trinity-remembers/.

Beulah Bewley and Dame Beulah Belewly

Stephanie Atterton (née Saville) B.A.O., B.Ch., M.B. (1947) had a distinguished career as an anaesthetist, holding appointments at the Royal City of Dublin Hospital, Bath, Bristol, Albany (in Upstate New York), and again in Bath, before establishing herself in London where she was at St Stephen’s Hospital until her retirement in 1987. Stephanie left a significant bequest for the benefit of the School of Medicine. Please read the full obituary: https://www.tcd.ie/alumni/alumni/trinity-remembers/.

Anthony Wicks, B.A., M.B., (1962) who died in June 2017, aged 77, left a generous bequest to the School of Medicine in ‘recognition of Anthony’s excellent medical education’. Former Consultant Physician at the Crumlin Hospital, he died peacefully at home in Kilbowie, Largs. Dearly loved Husband of Ann, father of Stephen, David and Andrew and a loving grandfather.

Dr Thomas Bewley & Dame Beulah Bewley

Beulah Bewley

Dame Beulah Rosemary Bewley, CBE (1929-2016) was a British public health physician and ex-President of the Medical Women’s Federation on the General Medical Council. She qualified at Trinity College Dublin in 1953 and was conferred with an Honorary LLD in 2002. Beulah served on the Royal Society of Medicine’s section on Epidemiology and Public Health. In her career she worked at several hospitals including the Academic Department of Community Medicine at King’s College Hospital Medical School, Denmark Hill, London, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In 1982 she served on the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom and at the Department of Community Medicine at St Thomas’s Hospital Medical School in London.

Beulah was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2009 for her services to public health and in recognition of her leading role in promoting equal opportunities for women. Beulah and her husband Thomas maintained their lifelong links with Trinity and Ireland. From 2007 to 2012 Beulah served on the Tercentenary Board and helped make the 300th anniversary of her alma mater a great success. Beulah left a generous bequest to Trinity College. Please read the full obituary: https://www.tcd.ie/alumni/alumni/trinity-remembers/Beulah-Bewley-1929-2016/.

Memorial Service for Niall O’Donohoe

On November 14 the Trinity community gathered in the Chapel for a memorial service to celebrate the Iife of Niall I. O’Donohoe. An eminent paediatric neurologist, who was an inspiration to patients and colleagues alike, he became Professor of Paediatrics at Trinity College Dublin in 1980. Prior to coming back to Ireland in 1959 as a consultant at Our Lady’s Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin, he worked in the UK and the US. Specialising in epilepsy, he wrote a world-famous textbook ‘Epilepsies of Childhood’ which was described in the New England Journal of Medicine as the ‘authoritative’...
The Celine Heeran Medal

Celine Heeran was immensely proud of being a student of medicine at Trinity College, and she also made time to take part in College life. She graduated in 1987. Tragically Celine and her brother Raymond were killed in a car accident on 17 January 1988. Celine was 24. Celine and Raymond’s brother David decided to honour the memory of his beloved siblings by establishing medals in their respective universities this year of the 30th anniversary since their death. On 22 November the family and a great group of Celine’s fellow medical students gathered in Trinity Anatomy Museum to mark the inauguration of the Celine Heeran Medal. The medal will be awarded annually to the student attaining the highest mark in the Laboratory Medicine prior disclosure essay assessment. This year’s medal went to Richard Grainger.

The History and Heritage of St James’s Hospital, Dublin

Written by Davis and Mary Coakley, The History and Heritage of St James’s Hospital describes the history of St James’s Hospital that stretches back to 1703. Davis Coakley was formerly a consultant physician in St James’s Hospital and professor of medical gerontology in Trinity. He is the author of books on medicine, the history of medicine, and Irish literature. His most recent book was entitled Medicine in Trinity College Dublin. Mary Coakley studied English and Italian in University College Cork. She has co-authored and co-edited with Davis Coakley a number of books including: Wit and Wine: Literary and Artistic Cork in the Early 19th Century (1985) and The Pilgrim Soul: Irish Poets on Ageing (1985).

The History and Heritage of St James’s Hospital, Dublin

Hardback, 528 pages, €40.00, available from Fourcourts Press +353 (0)1 4534668 www.fourcourtspress.ie

Get Involved

Trinity has a long tradition of outreach and community engagement. To find out about the numerous ways you can get involved with Trinity both at home and abroad, please visit www.tcd.ie/alumni/volunteer

Upcoming Events

Please visit www.tcd.ie/alumni/events

Class Notes

Do you have any news or updates that you would like to share with your fellow alumni? Submit your news with an image, subject of study and year of graduation to alumni@tcd.ie

For more information please visit www.tcd.ie/alumni/classnotes

www.medicine.tcd.ie