The Economy of Ireland -
National and Sectoral Policy Issues

Monday 21 March 2005 saw the launch of the ninth edition of The Economy of Ireland: National and Sectoral Policy Issues. Launched by Mr. Brendan Keenan of The Irish Independent, the book was edited by Prof. John O’Hagan and Dr. Carol Newman of the Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin.

The book features contributions from the following TCD Department of Economics staff: Prof. Philip Lane, Prof. Alan Matthews, Prof. Dermot McAleese, Ms. Tara McIndoe, Dr. Fran O’Toole and Prof. Frances Ruane.

JMD (Michael) Coey, Professor of Experimental Physics at Trinity College Dublin has been elected as a Member (Foreign Associate) of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States. He is the only Irish-based scientist to belong to the Academy. The very first foreign associate, elected in 1865 just after the National Academy of Sciences was founded by Abraham Lincoln, was another Trinity professor, William Rowan Hamilton, whose bicentenary is celebrated this year. Hamilton has come to be regarded as Ireland’s greatest scientist, to date.

Prof. Coey is one of several members of the School of Physics at TCD who determinedly overcame the handicap of an absence of national research funding in the 1980s and most of the 1990s. His extraordinary achievements won him a personal TCD chair for his substantial output of published research. His legendary capacity for work, enormously entertaining presentations on subjects such as “Cold Fusion” and networks of collaboration with leading groups worldwide, attracted students from many countries to work with him.

He was the coordinator of over 60 laboratories across Europe working in one of the first concerted action research programmes of the EU: his activities brought him to work around the globe, and particularly in the US, Canada, Brazil, China and France. Prof Coey was one of the initiators of the CLUSTER group of leading European technological universities, and his work and connections with the great European Centre for magnetics research at the Institute National Polytechnique Grenoble led to his honorary doctorate from that university.

Continued on page 4

At the opening of Trinity College’s new pioneering research centre, The Trinity Centre for Bioengineering are Prof. Patrick Prendergast, Director of the Centre, Prof. Jane Grimson, Vice Provost of Trinity College, Minister for Education & Science, Mary Hanafin, TD and Prof. John Fitzpatrick, Head of the Department of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering.
In February 2005, Prof. Cecily Begley (PI) and Declan Devane of the School of Nursing and Midwifery, in conjunction with Prof. Mike Clarke of the UK Cochrane Centre, began recruitment to the main section of the first randomised study to evaluate the effectiveness of midwifery-led care compared to consultant-led care for healthy women without risk factors for labour and delivery in the Republic of Ireland. The study, known as ‘The MidU study’, which stands for ‘Midwifery Unit’, has been commissioned and is supported by the Health Service Executive - (North Eastern Area) based on the recommendations of the Maternity Services Taskforce. A grant of €248,000 was awarded to Declan Devane, under the HRB’s Equipment/Information Infrastructure Grants 2004, for a fully integrated Maternity Information System to assist in the evaluation.

Further information can be found on the study website: www.nehb.ie/midu/midu.htm

Other recent HRB grants awarded to the School include €29,998 awarded to Dr. Mary McCarron, also under the Equipment Grant scheme. A further €140,460 was awarded to Dr. McCarron in May 2004 for a study entitled ‘The Cost effectiveness and Quality of Life in Service Delivery for Persons with the Dual Disability of Down Syndrome and Alzheimers Dementia’ and she received a further €100,000 for a study entitled ‘A Palliative Care Model to Support persons with Intellectual Disability and Advanced Dementia.’ In December, a team of six academics from the School with Prof. Begley as PI was successful in obtaining a further €38,619 from the Western Health Board to continue and develop a study measuring the workload of Public Health Nurses in the Health Board.

An expert group set up by the European Commission to examine the likely impact of a European Research Council has found that a pan-European mechanism funding frontier research would have a major effect on the level of excellence of research in Europe. In their view, a European Research Council would be arguably the single most important means to remedy Europe’s current weakness in high-quality research and in new, fast-developing research areas. This report comes only a short time after the European Commission’s proposal for such a mechanism as part of its proposals for the 2007-2013 Framework Programme for Research and Development, and supports the approach to this new body taken by the Commission.

The report “Frontier Research: The European Challenge” is the result of the work of a high-level group set up by the Commission, chaired by William C. Harris of the Science Foundation Ireland, and composed of eminent scientists, research managers and economists from Europe and the United States.

To read the report:

To read the executive summary of the report:
Welcome from the Dean of Research, Professor Ian Robertson

"Trinity and Ireland will only compete internationally through maximising the creativity that interdisciplinary research engenders."

Welcome, on behalf of the Director and staff of the Research and Innovations Office at Trinity, to the second edition of Trinity Research News. Thanks in part to Editor Valerie Smith. This newsletter exists in part because of my surprise at the lack of awareness of busy Trinity staff of the world class scholarship and science going on down the corridor. As the leading research-led university on the island of Ireland, and the only one on the island in the top 100 of the world's universities*, we are the victim of our own success and are in danger of becoming too busy to find out about the considerable achievements of our colleagues. We must work to break down these barriers, because Trinity and Ireland will only compete internationally through maximising excellence and fostering the creativity that interdisciplinary cross-fertilisation of ideas engenders. Trinity Research News exists to help build bridges across disciplines, as well as to show readers outside of Trinity how we are leading, through excellence in education and research, Ireland's transition to a knowledge-intensive society and economy.

Professor Ian Robertson, Dean of Research, TCD

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*Times Higher Education Supplement 2005
Fiadhnaí O’Keeffe, Department of Psychology & Institute of Neuroscience has been awarded the Rennick Award for contribution to the International Neuropsychological Society Conference 2005. It is given for the best graduate student contribution at an INS meeting. Her PhD is supervised by Prof. Ian Robertson.

Trinity Professor receives International Honour

Continued from page 1

As Director of one of the first laboratories opened in the O’Reilly Institute in 1989, his keen interest in applying his knowledge and discoveries in magnetism led to the formation of the spin-off company Magnetic Solutions Ltd, now operating in the TCD Enterprise Centre, and specialising in advanced tools for the semiconductor manufacturing industry.

Following the award of the Charles Chree medal and prize of the Institute of Physics in London in 1997, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2003. One of the first scientists to be awarded a research professorship in the new Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) scheme when it was initiated, he is now deputy director of the CRANN Nanotechnology Project headquartered in TCD.

A measure of this latest distinction from the National Academy of Sciences, may be gauged by some of the other foreign members also elected this year, including Prof. Alec Jeffreys, UK, (known as the inventor of DNA fingerprinting for forensic science), and Prof. Adi Shamir, Israel, (one of the inventors of the RSA algorithm for secure encoding of messages).

Prof. Coey was honoured this year with a poem written by his physicist colleague Prof Iggy McGovern, who termed him "Mister Magnetic Carbon 60".

Trinity continued its long term investment into the development of research facilities at the University with the opening on 10 May 2005 of its new pioneering research centre, The Trinity Centre for Bioengineering. The Centre, which will search for solutions to emerging bio-mechanics problems in medical device technologies, is part of a major investment by the College, in partnership with the Government, into the arena of research and development. Funded under the HEA’s Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTLI) Cycle 3, the Centre was officially opened by the Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, TD.

"The Trinity Centre for Bioengineering is particularly important from a strategic perspective, as the highest concentration of the medical device industry is in Ireland," stated the Provost of Trinity College, Dr. John Hegarty at the opening. Over 80 companies involved in the design, manufacture, and distribution of medical devices, including ten of the world’s top 15 medical devices companies are located here. Exports worth €4 billion are exported annually. Employment in the bioengineering industry in Ireland has grown to the level where the industry now directly employs over 22,000 people in Ireland, of which up to 20% are graduate engineers and scientists.

"Mechanical Engineering in Trinity has been pursuing an ambitious development plan, driven by a determination to consolidate and develop our international reputation for research, to maintain and strengthen our degree programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level and to underpin the needs of Irish industry," stated Prof. John Fitzpatrick, Head of the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering.

Trinity College Invests Further in Research and Development with Opening of New Bioengineering Facility

Tissue Engineering Laboratory - Postgraduate Research student Eric Farrell explains the method of using adult stem cells & bioreactors to create bone & cartilage for implantation into the human body to the Minister for Education & Science, Mary Hanafin, TD at the opening of Trinity College's new pioneering research centre, The Trinity Centre for Bioengineering.
TCD academics launch prize-winning book


In January 2005, Dr. Alan Kramer presented a paper at the Research Seminar of the Humanities Institute of Ireland, University College Dublin, on ‘German atrocities, 1914, a joint project in the transnational history of mentalities and culture’. In February 2005 he gave a paper on ‘Italian prisoners of war in the First World War’ at the Research Seminar in European Social and Cultural History at the University of Oxford, and gave a special lecture at the Modern History Faculty, University of Oxford, on ‘Holocaust at Louvain: Cultural Destruction and Mass Killing in the Epoch of the First World War, 1912-1933’.

The excellent co-operation between Dr. Caitríona Leahy, Department of Germanic Studies, TCD and the very energetic cultural-attaché of the Austrian Embassy, Mag. Peter Miki continues to grow, following last year’s exhibition entitled Writing against War. That exhibition formed part of a series of events, including a conference and musical and theatrical performances commemorating the 30th anniversary of the death of the writer, poet, philosopher and essayist, Ingeborg Bachmann, one of Austria’s most important twentieth century literary figures. Academics and artists from 11 countries attended papers and performances in the library seminar rooms.

A book and two CDs recording some of the highlights are now in production, for publication this autumn. The book is only one result of the memorable Trinity Bachmann days. In December 2004, they again joined forces in organising a public lecture on the work of the 2004 Nobel Laureate for Literature, Austrian writer Elfriede Jelinek. Now plans are well underway for a further joint venture: as 2005 sees Austria commemorate 50 years as a Republic, the Department of Germanic Studies and the Austrian Embassy will be joint hosts of an international conference on the reflection of the past 50 years in Austrian literature. This will continue the traditionally strong Austrian research links of the Trinity Department, forged over many decades by Prof. Emeritus Eda Sagarra and Austrian specialist Dr. Gilbert Carr.

Organisers and Participants at the ‘Writing against War’ exhibition in the Library, TCD.
Probability based infrastructure maintenance management

Dr. Alan O'Connor of the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering has received a research grant of €608,000 under the INTERREG III B programme. The grant represents the largest individual award ever received for Structural Engineering research by the Department. Dr. O'Connor was a member of the successful MEDACHS project, which got the go-ahead in January of this year. The project, with a total budget of €2.7 million, will run until December 2007. Other members of the project consortium include CDGA Bordeaux, GeM Nantes, EP Portugal, Labein Bilbao, LPC Nantes, LEPTAB La Rochelle, LNEC Lisbon and the Port of Nantes.

Research performed in the Department of Civil Engineering will focus on the development and incorporation of time dependent material deterioration models for concrete structures into a reliability analysis framework and on probability-based infrastructure maintenance management.

The project will directly fund four PhD students with two more expected on linked projects. A post doctoral researcher will also be recruited later in the year to work on this and other projects. The award represents a significant breakthrough for Dr. O'Connor and for his structural reliability research group in TCD.

For further information contact Dr. Alan O'Connor, Department of Civil Engineering, ext 1822 or email: alan.oconnor@tcd.ie

HRB award to Trinity for research into diabetes

Type 2 diabetes is increasing and the consequences of poor diabetic care include increased heart disease, strokes, amputation and blindness. The Department of Public Health and Primary Care has recently been awarded €1,000,000 for research in this area. They aim to train up patients with diabetes who will then provide peer support to others who have the disease. Dr Susan Smith, the principal investigator in the study, said “we hope our findings will be internationally generalisable to other healthcare systems struggling with this increasingly common and serious disease.” The research team is also investigating the effect of an intervention on people with Type 2 diabetes who are in poor control. This is the first time families will be involved in trying to find a solution to this disease.

For further details contact Tom O'Dowd todowd@tcd.ie
Adrian Constantin, School of Mathematics, TCD (Erasmus Smith’s Chair of Mathematics) and Walter A. Strauss (L.Herbert Ballou University Professor, Brown University, USA) have had a recent research paper designated as a ‘new hot paper’ by ISI Essential Science Indicators www.isinet.com/products/rsg/products/esi/>

‘Hot papers’ are selected by virtue of being cited among the top one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) in a current bimonthly period. Papers are selected in each of 22 fields of science and must be published within the last two years.

The paper opens the door to the study of water waves with eddies. These waves are commonly seen in nature, e.g. waves generated by wind which propagate over running water. Tidal waves and tsunamis also possess eddies. The research is concerned with periodic waves which propagate steadily in a fixed direction on water running over an impermeable flat bed. They are plane waves on the water’s surface, the motion being identical in any direction parallel to the crest line. Almost all previous mathematical studies for waterwaves have assumed that there is no vorticity at all; that is, that there are no eddies in the flow. However, there are many circumstances where vorticity plays an essential role, for example in the interaction of water waves and nonuniform currents. This paper opens the door to a general study of water waves that have vorticity and large amplitude. Even though the paper does not specifically consider tsunamis, they do possess a lot of vorticity and the recent tragic tsunami in Asia may also have heightened interest in their paper.

The researchers developed a mathematical method to analyze the motion of the water particles below the surface in conjunction with the motion of the surface wave.

Prof. James Sexton, who is on sabbatical leave from the School of Mathematics and Trinity Centre for High Performance Computing, has recently received a number of awards for his role in the core development of IBM’s Blue Gene supercomputer.

As a member of the BlueGene team he won ‘Design Team of the Year’ from EETimes. He also received an IBM ‘Research Division Award’. While on sabbatical, Prof. Sexton is currently working on the Blue Gene research project at IBM’s premier research centre, T J Watson, in New York. The Blue Gene supercomputer will be used to understand the challenging problem of protein folding.

The IBM machine was recently placed first on the world’s Top 500 supercomputers reaching >70 teraflops - this is twice the performance of the NEC Earth Simulator which has held no. 1 for the last two years.

Prof. Sexton has built up a multidisciplinary research programme in the physical and biomolecular sciences in Trinity, that covers scientific aspects of modelling complex systems.

In March 2005, Trinity Centre for High Performance Computing (TCHPC) moved into the new Lloyd Building on the Trinity Campus. It has 800 m² of dedicated floor space for computational physical science and TCHPC, with 100m² of purpose built machine room. Dr Geoff Bradley is pictured here configuring the IITAC High Performance Computing cluster.

For more information see www.tchpc.tcd.ie

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IRCHSS Post-Doctoral Fellowship Scheme
TCD applicants received eight of the twenty-three Post-Doctoral Fellowships awarded by the IRCHSS for 2005-2006. The Institute of Neuroscience did particularly well with two fellowships.

Research Fellowships Scheme
Under the Research Fellowships scheme, Trinity was awarded two out of ten fellowships – this is particularly impressive given that only three proposals to this scheme were submitted from Trinity. The Fellowships were awarded to the Schools of English and Drama.

Senior Research Fellowships Scheme
Trinity was awarded two Senior Research Fellowships, out of a total eight awarded, and these were in the French and History Department.

Postgraduate Scholarship Schemes
TCD had 19 successful applicants to both IRCHSS and IRCSETS Schemes.

SFI
TCD had one successful application to SFI’s Walton Visitors Scheme. Of TCD’s 12 applications to the President of Ireland Young Researcher Awards Scheme, seven were shortlisted by TCD for submission to SFI. Under the Research Frontiers Programme, 29 Trinity applicants were invited by SFI to submit revised budgets. The total revised amount requested by Trinity under this scheme is over €4 m. Trinity was awarded a Ureka site by SFI, which allows for a number of undergraduates to undertake training in Trinity during the summer period.

EURYI
Congratulations to Stefano Sanvito, Physics Department, who was one of the two candidates chosen from all of Ireland to go forward for the European Young Investigator Award (EURYI).
Construction of CRANN gets underway

The Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Mr. Micheal Martin, TD announced the commencement of construction of Ireland’s first purpose-built nanoscience research institute, The Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN) on 10 February 2005. The planned 6,000 m² research institute, will be known as The Naughton Institute in recognition of a €5m donation from Dr Martin Naughton, Chairman of the Glen Dimplex Group and a member of the Board of Trinity Foundation.

The Centre will house 150 scientists, technicians and graduate students in a state of the art facility and provide them with the tools required to explore the world of nanoscience. Science Foundation Ireland has committed €21m to CRANN to date, with almost €10m being used to fund research activity and €11m for the construction of specialised vibration-free laboratory facilities. Projected to cost €29m and to be completed by the end of 2006, the Institute will be situated at the corner of Pearse Street and Westland Row. Researchers and scientists at the Institute will be able to develop apparatus and techniques to build new structures and devices atom by atom, which has endless possibilities for biotechnology, information and communications technologies.

The Institute will have ultra-low vibration, temperature and humidity controlled laboratories to allow highly sensitive measurements of nanoscale structures and state-of-the-art clean rooms, where even the finest particles of dust are carefully filtered out to allow high-purity fabrication of nanotechnology devices. There will be specialist laboratories for nanoscale and biomolecular mechanics, magnetics, optics, chemistry and computation. It will also house a Science Gallery, which will spearhead an innovative outreach programme.

The SFI funded first phase of CRANN’s research focuses on the physics and chemistry of materials, including biomolecules, which may be structured at the nanoscale with the aim of achieving novel device functionality.

From nanoscience, technologies are already emerging that will change our lives in the coming decades, and the range of possible future products and applications is constantly growing. Nanotechnologies are set to yield the next generation of microelectronics to meet the ever-growing demand for smaller and faster electronic devices. Novel drug delivery systems are anticipated, which can deliver medication directly to the source of pain or illness. Other potential applications range from medical imaging techniques and prosthetics to computer memory and fuel cells.

For further information, please visit: www.tcd.ie/Physics/Crann/

Trinity to host the British Association Festival of Science

The BA Festival of Science is one of the UK’s biggest science festivals. It attracts 400 of the best scientists and science communicators from the UK and abroad, who reveal the latest developments in research to a general audience.

The BA Festival of Science 2005 will take place in Dublin from 3-10 September 2005, hosted by Trinity College Dublin.

See www.the-ba.net/the-ba/Events/FestivalofScience/ to view the latest details on what will be happening during the week.

The theme for the Festival, as decided by the President for 2005 Professor Robert Winston, will be ‘Setting the agenda for science’. Staff and students of Trinity College Dublin can apply for a free weekly ticket. At the time of booking you must provide your student or employee ID number.

Booking

Bookings can be placed online, by phone or by post. If you have any questions about the Festival, please e-mail the bafos2005@the-ba.net
The Policy Institute is delighted to announce the arrival of Prof. Bob Stephens, Associate Professor of Public Policy, School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand as a temporary Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute until 30th June 2005.

Prof. Stephens main area of research is social policy, with a particular emphasis on the tax-benefit interface and the measurement of poverty, along with the development of short- and long-term solutions to poverty. He is a founding member of the New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project. He has published extensively in New Zealand and internationally on poverty and social security issues. He is a member of the New Zealand Ministry of Social Development’s Strategic Social Reference Group.

While at the Institute, Prof. Stephens's research will explore European initiatives, particularly those developed in Ireland, to tackle poverty and social exclusion as part of a wider project to summarise work on poverty and social security in New Zealand.

The Policy Institute has recently published four more papers under its Studies in Public Policy series, as follows:


16th: Angels and IPOs: Policies for Sustainable Equity Financing of Irish Small Businesses, Diane Mulcahy, former Visiting Research Fellow.

17th: FAS and Active Labour Market Policy 1885-2004, Prof Nigel Boyle.

18th: Towards Flexible Workplace Governance: Employment Rights, Dispute Resolution and Social Partnership in the Republic of Ireland, Prof Paul Teague, former Visiting Research Fellow.

A copy of the studies are available by contacting 01 6083486 or e-mailing: policy.institute@tcd.ie

Together with Dr Jason King in the Department of English at NUI Maynooth, Dr James P. Byrne and Dr Philip Coleman of TCD School of English are currently co-editing a two-volume 500,000-word encyclopedia of Irish-American relations for international reference publisher ABC-Clio. Due to be completed in 2006, the work is designed to provide comprehensive and readily accessible information about the numerous historical, cultural, social and political interrelations between Ireland and the Americas. It is explicitly intended to broaden traditional conceptualisations of the “Irish-American” axis to include all of the points of contact along the three continents of the Atlantic rim that bind Ireland and Canada, the Caribbean, and Latin America together within the same trans-Atlantic sphere. The timeframe covered ranges from the conquest of the Americas and the period of first contact to the present day, while the subject matter is multi-disciplinary. Despite this expansive geographical sweep and prolonged temporal framework, however, the work’s underlying focus on trans-Atlantic interconnections and relations between Ireland and the Americas will lend it a unifying sense of coherence. Authors interested in contributing to this unique and important project should contact the editors at the following email address for further information: irishamericanrelations@yahoo.co.uk.

Two patents were filed in April 2005 by the Centre for Telecommunications Value-Chain Research (CTVR). The CTVR is a telecommunications research centre involving nine third-level institutes around Ireland. Funded by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), the centre has its headquarters in Trinity College Dublin, and is directed by Prof. Donal O’Mahony. Established last year, the centre has a budget of €20 million over a five year period. It brings a multi-disciplinary group of researchers drawn from a number of Irish universities together with a number of industrial partners to work on engineering and scientific challenges that will make the most difference to the telecommunications networks of the future. The patents were generated through the work of Prof. John Donegan and his team in the CTVR.
65 studentships are available for new full-time postgraduate research students for the academic year 2005/06 (entry in Oct’05 and April’06). In addition, each faculty can award one Ussher fellowship on a competitive basis to its full-time new entrants. Both schemes fully cover EU and non-EU fees and provide an annual maintenance of €8,000 (postgrad) or €8,508 (Ussher) for two to three years.

Applicants for both schemes should apply using the standard form (www.tcd.ie/Graduate_Studies/g-admisn.htm) and send the completed application form to the Graduate Studies Office. Allocations are made locally at a faculty level. Original deadline for applications was 1 May 2005, but some positions still remain open so late applications are being accepted until all the scholarships/fellowships have been filled.

On Thursday 14 April 2005, Prof. Don Braben presented an Innovation Lecture "Promoting Innovation in a Bureaucratic World" with an introduction by the Provost, Dr. John Hegarty. Prof. Braben was appointed by BP in 1980 to create and lead a new research initiative 'the Venture Research Unit', concentrating on radical, exploratory, basic research and spawning a rich harvest of unforeseen and profitable industrial opportunities. Basing his talk on this experience, Prof. Braben gave his insight into Blue Skies Research, what it means and if it can be promoted.

According to Don Braben, everything we value came out of the blue. Until a few decades ago, creative researchers were free to explore. Furthermore academic research is nowadays subject to unprecedented levels of control. Companies focus on "core business", and severely restrict the range of their research. Consequently, caution is encouraged everywhere, and highly original research is curtailed. As a result, there has been a dearth of major new discoveries in recent years. In his Lecture, Prof. Braben discussed what policies and practices are needed for major new discoveries to happen in today’s world.

This event was arranged by Trevor Newsom, Director of Research and Regional Services at Queen’s University Belfast, and was sponsored by FIRST TRUST BANK.

Drs. Jonathan Coleman (Physics Department, TCD) and Yurii Gun’ko (Department of Chemistry, TCD) are involved in research which combines carbon nanotubes (which are incredibly small and strong and possess high electrical and thermal conductivity – all of these being highly useful physical properties) with polymers using organometallic chemistry approaches. Polymers are easy to shape and mould and when combined with the carbon nanotubes will be strengthened in a similar way in which concrete is reinforced with steel.

The resulting composite materials will have the benefits of both flexibility and strength and will have wide ranging uses in the areas of aerospace and textile industries. The process can be applied to different types of polymers with appropriate functionalities. In addition, the whole process could be utilised at an industrial scale. Coleman’s and Gun’ko’s groups are also working on ways of using nanotubes to make electrical and thermal conductors. Gun’ko believes that the organometallic chemistry of nanotubes should have a huge impact on nanotechnology in the near future.

Details at: http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/features/free/CW0501F0038.htm

Congratulations to Opsona Therapeutics Ltd, a TCD campus company, which recently announced a €6.25m series-A financing round. The three Trinity academic founders are Profs. Kingston Mills (Biochemistry), Luke O’Neill (Biochemistry) and Dermot Kelleher (Clinical Medicine). The company’s CEO, Dr Mark Heffernan, an Australian with biotechnology start-up company experience, has been working closely with the founders and the Innovation Office for the past year in forming Opsona. Opsona is a drug development company, focused on the development of therapeutics for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases. An impressive international investor syndicate has financed Opsona, including a multi-national biotechnology company. See www.opsona.com.
New Team Member in Research and Innovation Services

Research and Innovation Services is delighted to welcome a new member, Deirdre Caden, Research Projects Officer, to the team. Deirdre moved to RS from Trinity’s School of Business Studies, where her responsibilities included the administration of international exchanges and the co-ordination of the M.Sc. International Business programme, run in conjunction with Enterprise Ireland. Having gained her MSc in Applied Environmental Geology in Cardiff University, Deirdre went on to spend three years working in the Science Programmes Directorate of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) in the UK where, among other duties, she was involved in the peer review process of grant applications in the natural sciences.

In the Research Office, she is currently dealing with Science Foundation Ireland research applications, as well as other schemes.

The Research Office is situated in the O'Reilly Institute, University of Dublin, Trinity College. Entrance is through the Hamilton Building. Opening hours are from 9.00 to 13.00 and from 14.00 to 16.00, Monday to Friday.

Please note that proposals should be sent to the Research Office at least 24 hours, preferably 48 hours, before applicants need to submit them to sponsors.

Research and Innovation Services: Any enquiries regarding intellectual property, including confidentiality agreement, contracts etc, should be addressed by email in the first instance to Dr. Margaret Woods mjwoods@tcd.ie

Research and Innovation Services Contact Details

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
<th>Tel: (01)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Ian Robertson</td>
<td>Dean of Research</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dean.of.research@tcd.ie">dean.of.research@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 1634/1398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Eoin O'Neill</td>
<td>Director of Innovation Services</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eponeill@tcd.ie">eponeill@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 1427/1155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doris Alexander</td>
<td>Research Development Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:doris.alexander@tcd.ie">doris.alexander@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 2412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deirdre Caden</td>
<td>Research Projects Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cadend@tcd.ie">cadend@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 8483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Lardner</td>
<td>Administrator (a.m. Mon—Thurs)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:slardner@tcd.ie">slardner@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 1155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Anthea Lees</td>
<td>Research Support Services Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leesa@tcd.ie">leesa@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 8483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Smith</td>
<td>Research Projects Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vsmith@tcd.ie">vsmith@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 3839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Treanor</td>
<td>PANEL (<a href="http://www.panel.tcd.ie">www.panel.tcd.ie</a>)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maria.treanor@tcd.ie">maria.treanor@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 2870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Margaret Woods</td>
<td>Technology Transfer Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjwoods@tcd.ie">mjwoods@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>608 2159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridget Noone</td>
<td>Enterprise Executive, Trinity College Enterprise Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bnoone@tcd.ie">bnoone@tcd.ie</a></td>
<td>677 5655</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>