



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Update from the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities

School of Education, Trinity College Dublin

July 2018



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Dear Partners,

I hope that you have all been enjoying the stunning weather lately. It has been wonderful to have such a nice Summer!

Thank you as always for your support over the past year which has allowed us to continue to develop our education programme for our students as well as allowing us to develop new internship opportunities for our graduates. I am very happy to let you know that all 6 of our graduating 2nd year students are currently working with some of our partners as part of our TCPID graduate internship programme.

I would like to particularly welcome some new TCPID Business Partners who have come on board with us since our last update in February. We are so looking forward to working with all of you.

Here are just a few of our highlights over the past few months here in the TCPID.

With warmest thanks as always for your support,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mae Devitt".

TCPID Pathways Coordinator

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Please follow all our latest news on our website at www.tcd.ie/tcpid as well as on Facebook [@InclusionTCD](https://www.facebook.com/InclusionTCD), Twitter [@IDTCD](https://twitter.com/IDTCD) and Instagram [inclusiontcd](https://www.instagram.com/inclusiontcd)



TCPID Students



Our 2nd year students after completing their last TCD assignment

Our 1st year students successfully completed their second semester, studying modules including Emergency and Disaster Management, Application of Numbers, Poetry, Applied Health Sciences, Occupational Therapy and Exploring Art. We are looking forward to having them back with us in September to start 2nd year.

Our 2nd year students have also successfully completed their final year of the **Certificate in Arts, Science and Inclusive Applied Practice**. They are all

looking forward to their graduation here in Trinity College Dublin in Autumn 2018.

Earlier this year the 2nd year students completed their work placement module where they worked for one morning each week with one of our business partners. In their own words, here are some comments about the placements:

Niamh Biddulph completed her work placement in Bank of Ireland:

“Doing work placement gave me some new aspects about what work life is like and how to be independent in work.”

Mark Hogan completed his work placement in EY: *“Work placement was really interesting because I got my dream job to work in an office.”*

Shane McGilton completed his work placement in Arthur Cox: *“My colleagues were great to work with! Everyone was so friendly and helpful. I learnt a lot about Law from working there. There was great craic and joking at the coffee breaks!”*

Hugh O’Callaghan completed his work placement in A&L Goodbody: *“I benefitted from my work placement by getting experience in different areas, such as litigation, going to a hearing, talking to the Marketing manager, as well as in the area I mainly worked in which was banking.”*

Dairine O’Rourke completed her work placement in GE Capital Aviation Services: *“I felt important going to work in GECAS because I was like other people on the train going to work too. I enjoyed my work placement and I am grateful to have had work here.”*

Marian O’Rourke completed her work placement in Bank of Ireland: *“I learnt new things in the workplace and I enjoyed meeting new people.”*



Summer Workshops with Business Partners

Following the huge success of the TCPID Business Partners workshops last year, we collaborated with our partners to put together a very comprehensive series of workshops for both our 1st and 2nd year students. Some of the workshops this year included:

- Two Careers Workshops with Cpl Resources
- Advanced Administration Skills Workshop with GE Capital Aviation Services
- NTMA Workshop, including a Questioning Skills workshop
- Fidelity Investments Workshop, including a Lego workshop and a visit to the Virtual Reality Lab – a huge highlight for our students as you will see from the photos!



TCPID students and staff with the GE Capital Aviation Services team

We were thrilled to have so many fantastic workshops on offer for our students. Each company put together a wonderful agenda which included the opportunity to meet with a large number of the team. We are already looking forward to our next Business Partner workshops in May 2019.



TCPID students and staff with Mary Carroll of Cpl Resources



Lego workshop in Fidelity Investments



Virtual reality in Fidelity Investments



Students and staff with the NTMA team



Students and staff visiting NAMA as part of the NTMA workshop



Virtual reality in Fidelity Investments



Students and staff with the Fidelity Investments team



Virtual reality lab in Fidelity Investments



SciFest@TCPID 2018

We hosted our second annual **SciFest@TCPID** student exhibition and awards in the Science Gallery in Trinity College Dublin on May 31st. Many of you were at this wonderful event.

The SciFest event was opened by Dr. Kevin Mitchell, the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Science Education in Trinity College Dublin and by Professor Damian Murchan, Head of the School of Education.

SciFest @TCPID is an initiative that was developed in 2017 in association with **Abbott Ireland** and **SciFest**. SciFest was founded over 10 years ago by Sheila and George Porter. The SciFest programme aims to encourage a love of science, technology and maths through active, collaborative, inquiry-based learning and to provide a forum for students at local, regional and national level to present and display their scientific investigations. The SciFest@TCPID exhibition in 2017 was the first time that the programme had specifically included an exhibition for students with intellectual disabilities.

Abbott Ireland provided a team of mentors to work with our students on their science projects over a six week period. The Abbott team included Ciara Hayes, Sinead Hickey, Derek Kelly, Katie Holian, Rosemary Clarke, Renata Futo, Deirdre Mulholland and Silvia Onos. The mentors worked with our students every week and a fantastic bond developed between each project team. It was an incredibly rewarding experience for everyone involved.



Abbott Ireland team



Our Course Coordinator, Dr. Mary-Ann O'Donovan with our Senior Occupational Therapist, Barbara Ringwood



Some of the project topics in this year's exhibition included:

Music Through Bones, which looked at how music can affect your mood

AerLuke, which looked at the origins of aircrafts and included an experiment on crafting the perfect paper airplane

Advancement of soccer from Pele to Ronaldo, which looked at the differences in soccer and soccer equipment over the past 50 years

Singing Science, which examined the vocal range differences between men and women

#MoodFood, which looked at food flavours and included a blind taste experiment involving a number of different flavoured foods.



Dave McPhillips of The Coronas with student Adam Farrelly



Student Stephen Ryan with his proud Mum and Auntie and his mentor Derek Kelly from Abbott Ireland



Ciara Hayes, Abbott Ireland, student Jessica Lawlor and Sheila Porter from SciFest



We are so proud of the work that has been completed this year by the five first year students who participated in SciFest@TCPID 2018. They have shown true commitment and huge enthusiasm and the resulting projects show real creativity and imagination.



Student Adam Farrelly with his project 'Singing Science'



Daragh Fallon and Ciara Hayes from Abbott Ireland with George porter of SciFest



Student Stephen Ryan presenting his project to a captive audience

The students were all presented with '**Science Excellence**' awards by SciFest and Abbott Ireland.



Trinity College Dublin Library Video Project

The Library of Trinity College Dublin worked with our students this year on a research project to try to improve accessibility to the library for students with intellectual disabilities. The Library is committed to providing an inclusive library environment so that all readers have complete and equitable access to the entire Library service.

As part of this research project, a video was produced which now appears on the Library of Trinity College Dublin website. The video was scripted and acted by our students.

To view the video 'Getting to know Trinity Library', you can go to either of the following links:

<http://www.tcd.ie/tcpid/videos/index.php>

<https://www.tcd.ie/library/using-library/disabilities.php>

The students and their parents were invited to an event in The Long Room Hub to celebrate the launch of this video.



Students with Geraldine Fitzgerald of the Trinity College Dublin Library at a reception for the launch of the Library video project



A screenshot from the video 'Getting to know Trinity Library'



First Ever TCPID Summer School

We held our first ever **TCPID Summer School** on June 26th, 27th and 28th. We were delighted to welcome 21 students to Trinity College to gain first-hand experience of what being a Trinity College student would be like.

We want to thank our colleagues from across Trinity College for joining us in welcoming our Summer School students over the three days. We particularly want to thank our **School of Education** colleagues, our **Trinity College Sports Centre** colleagues, our **Trinity College Library** colleagues as well as our teaching team who put on 'taster' classes for the students.

The Summer School was a huge success and we are already looking forward to doing it again in 2019!



Happy faces in the Trinity College Dublin sunshine at the end of our Summer School



TCPID Summer School students



Appointment of National and Schools Coordinator

Following the news in our last TCPID Business Partners Update about the Social Innovation Fund Ireland award, we have received funding to allow us to appoint a National and Schools Coordinator, Des Aston. Des is responsible for establishing a National Forum of Higher Education Providers with the aim of supporting the existing and future inclusive educational programmes for people with intellectual disabilities across Ireland to become sustainable.

This National Network of inclusive Higher Education Providers will collaborate and work towards ensuring young people with intellectual disabilities have real choices after they leave secondary level education. The National Forum of Higher Education Institutions will act as a live database of viable, accessible and appropriate pathways through education for young people with intellectual disabilities across Ireland.

TCPID's National and Schools Coordinator will also be responsible for promoting positive and early transition planning across secondary schools in Ireland for students with intellectual disabilities. By conducting site visits to secondary schools and by speaking with students, teachers, guidance counsellors etc. Students with intellectual disabilities will be able to take ownership of their own educational journey and be able to plan for their future at a much earlier stage than is currently the case.



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Graduate Internship Programme

As part of the development of our TCPID Graduate Internship programme, our students who recently completed their final year are all currently working with TCPID business partners. The companies who have offered the internships are:

- Arthur Cox
- Bank of Ireland
- EY
- Fidelity Investments
- National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA)
- SMBC Aviation Capital
- Trinity College Sports Centre

We hope that this graduate internship experience will lead to further employment opportunities for these very talented young people. Our plan is to organise further internships for each graduate once they complete their current contracts.

In addition to the companies listed above, we also still have graduates completing internships in:

- Avolon
- PayPal
- Permanent TSB

We want to thank all of our partners who have taken on one of our graduates for an internship. The mentors within each business have been incredibly supportive and have made a real difference to the lives of each of the graduates.

We are in discussions to have further graduate internships over the coming months with a number of other business partners.



New TCPID Graduate Dairine O'Rourke proudly displaying her two Special Olympics Ireland National Games medals with her colleagues in Fidelity Investments



New TCPID Graduate Niamh Biddulph with her colleagues in Bank of Ireland



TCPID Graduate Margaret Turley now Permanent in EY

Since our last Business Partners update, another of our graduates, Margaret Turley has been offered a permanent contract working with **EY**. Margaret has been working with EY since April 2017 and has made such a huge impact during her time there. In Margaret’s own words: *“Working in EY means everything to me. I love being part of society, getting a pay cheque, being able to grumble about having to pay taxes and being able to save money.”*

We are incredibly grateful to all the team in EY for all the support that they have given to Margaret since she started there. The fact that Margaret has been given a permanent contract has had a huge impact, not only on Margaret, but on her entire family.



Colin Farquharson, Margaret Turley, Brenda Kealy and Luke Charleton of EY

In addition to this, EY run a global awards programme called “Better Begins With You” with nominations being open to all 250,000+ people from across EY’s 160 countries. Awards are given in categories of Pursuing Innovation, Building the Highest Performing Teams, Driving

Exceptional Client Service and Strengthening our Communities. The teams involved in the Business Partner Programme with the TCPID were nominated under the Strengthening our Communities category for their efforts in making their involvement with the TCPID a huge success.

The teams have been shortlisted as finalists within the UK and Ireland Region with the judging panel recognising their work with the TCPID as truly delivering on the EY promise of Building a Better Working World. All those involved, including our two graduates Margaret and Mark, have been invited to the Awards ceremony in London in September where the regional winner will be announced. All of the regional winners will then be shortlisted again and go forward to the global final.

Being shortlisted for this award really showcases the importance EY places on the TCPID Business Partner Programme and how it is helping us to deliver on our promise of Building a Better Working World. It is fantastic that our TCPID graduates, interns, their buddies and their teams are recognised for the hard work, dedication and inclusive mind-set they bring to work every day. **Laura Hogan, Talent Development EY**



EY colleagues Laura Hogan, Brenda Kealy and Margaret Turley with Marie Devitt TCPID



New Collaborations

We are delighted to announce some exciting collaborations with new TCPID Business Partners / Business Patrons.

These partnerships will allow us to create further opportunities for our students and graduates to develop essential workplace skills and knowledge. This will be achieved through work placements, mentoring, training workshops and graduate internship opportunities.

Janssen Sciences Ireland Janssen is the pharmaceutical company of Johnson & Johnson and was founded by Dr Paul Janssen in 1953. Janssen develops sustainable, integrated healthcare. Janssen affiliated with the Johnson & Johnson family of companies in 1961. Johnson & Johnson is one of the world's largest and most diverse healthcare companies with more than 265 operational companies in 60 countries, and more than 128,000 employees worldwide. Almost 4000 people are working for Johnson & Johnson in Ireland with offices and manufacturing sites in Dublin, Cork and Limerick. We are in discussions with Janssen for a TCPID graduate internship which we hope will start within the next few months.

Mason Hayes & Curran Mason Hayes & Curran are a top business law firm, with offices in Dublin, London, New York and San Francisco. The company has over 400 staff, including 80 partners. Mason Hayes & Curran invest in society and communities through a range of focused programmes, in particular educational programmes. We hope that the collaboration will include student work placements in early 2019.



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Thank you as always to all of our Business Patrons, Business Partners and other collaborators for your continued support



GECAS





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Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnta
National Treasury Management Agency

