



**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**

**Summer 2025**



## Update from the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities, School of Education, Trinity College Dublin

### Summer 2025

Dear Partners,

I hope that you are all enjoying the Summer so far. As always I would like to thank you all for your incredible ongoing support for the TCPID.

I am asking for your help immediately with our upcoming internships and placements. We urgently need to set up the following:

- **8 x 6 month graduate internships, 2 to start as soon as possible and the rest to start in September 2025. These would be paid roles for up to 12 or 15 hours per week or whatever you might have available.**
- **11 x student placements to start in February 2026. These would be unpaid roles on Thursday mornings for 8 weeks, starting in February 2026.**

If you think that you might be able to help us with either (or both) of these, please let me know.

Thank you so much as always for your ongoing support which means so much to us,

TCPID Business Partnerships Manager - Email: [devittma@tcd.ie](mailto:devittma@tcd.ie) / Tel: 087-6664548

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From our recent TCPID Graduates.....What would you say to anyone considering coming to study in Trinity College Dublin?

Be yourself don't be pressured into anything you don't want to do but try to open up to new opportunities in college e.g. Mentor. Class Rep and societies.

It is a lovely place to study there is so much to do there is a pub on campus the Pavilion and there are also lots of societies that students can join. I would tell them to definitely give it a try.

I would to say to them that I always do your best in your own way it's not always studying your future it's how you shape it in your own way!

It is very good course and help you with a lots of things, help you become independent getting into town, doing an internship, and learning new subjects. It is cool in Trinity.

I would tell them to go for it. That they will enjoy studying at trinity there is a lot of history in them walls. If walls could talk the stories would be great. They will have a fun time there and make new friends.

Be brave work hard and don't be shy to ask questions if you are stuck.

Work well with the others in your group along with the lecturers as they will be a great source of strength for you.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Reflections

Our latest group of 2<sup>nd</sup> year students have now completed the Certificate in Arts, Science and Inclusive Applied Practice and are really looking forward to starting their internships. We recently interviewed them about their time as students in Trinity College Dublin, about their hopes for their graduate internships and about their goals for the future.

These interviews took place before the students knew which companies they would be doing their internships with.

### Your time in Trinity College Dublin

#### 1) What is your greatest memory of your time as a student in Trinity College Dublin?

“Meeting my new friends and gaining more confident throughout the 2 years.”

“My favourite memory from first year was visiting the Art museum with John Kubiak. That day I had the feeling of being a student, like everyone else and it felt so nice.”

“Being part of some of Trinity’s society is the best thing I ever like meeting with other people chatting and understanding Their experience in college.”

“It was so cool to be in Trinity College because it is so hard to get into college and going to classes and activities where I had fun, learned so much and made new friends.”

“I guess my greatest memory is doing different projects with each student in trinity and in my class.”

“Making new friends and improving my skills and making new skills.”

“When I first walked into the TCPID building and began the course.”



## 2) What will you miss the most about Trinity College Dublin?

"The staff and the laughs whenever we just had a casual chat every day."

"I miss my college friends and while we will keep in touch it won't be the same. I will miss the lecturers too and the outside of college meetups with my classmates and the fun times we had together "

"I'm probably missing going to the Buttery they have the best foods that anyone can ask, I really gonna miss that place."

"I will miss going into college, learning new things, being on the campus as a student and my friends."

"I will miss going to the library the most. The people in my class, the lecturers and all the other people I have met and worked with."

"Waking up and getting the dart and walking to trinity. Enjoying my time with you guys and having funny and working together as if we were in a team."

"The various classes and lecturers."

## 3) What are your hopes for your graduate internship?

"Gaining more experience in the working world and doing things that will help me throughout life."

"I would like to get a job that involves greeting people or a job that is more on the interactive side of things. I like the office setting and think maybe a job at a reception or something like that would be good for me."

"I hope that I can find my place someday even if it's not that I wish I'm always happy to help people I can do."

"I hope to get interesting internship that will help me to learn what working part time is like and how I can work within my abilities."

"I Hope to do well in it and that it leads to me getting a job some day."

"Passing and getting a job that will Accept me on who I am."

"To learn new things about life."



#### 4) What are your goals for the future?

“Travel a lot before I turn 30 if a job comes across my path than that’s one off my goals achieved.”

“I would like my life to be happy, I would like to be happy in whatever job I do. I would like to pass my driving test and have my own car. I would like to have my own house or apartment eventually. I would like to meet someone and have my own family “

“My goals well I’m not sure if I like to tell but I’m ok how far I got to reach out people, they are really kind and friendly and I respect their efforts they do.”

“I would like a part time job that is fun and interesting and traveling.”

“To graduate and to look for a place to work in. I also want to keep being happy. Thanks for the memories.”

“Being able to do my internship for a year and then maybe move back to Spain and find a job and help my mum with my grandparents.”

“To get a job after doing the graduate internship.”



## Student laptops from the Rory McDonagh Trust

We are so grateful to the Rory McDonagh Trust for their continued commitment to purchasing new laptops for all incoming 1<sup>st</sup> year students. This gift makes such a huge difference to our students every year and allows them to develop key computer skills and to participate fully and equally throughout their Trinity College studies.

**Here are some messages from our 11 1<sup>st</sup> year students highlighting how the laptops have helped them.**

### How did getting a new laptop in September help you with your studies?

“This laptop has been very helpful to me because it gave me the tools to study independently and with confidence as I had all my classwork in one place, and it kept me organised. I have learned how to use excel and word and these helped me to do my work and manage my assignments all in one place. It was a easy laptop to carry around in my bag and meant I always had everything I needed with me for college. It really made a difference to me, and I couldn't imagine how I would have coped without it. Thank you so much.”

“I do not write very well and spell very well and reading can be hard but having a laptop has made it easy for me.”

“It help me as I don't have to use books and it keep my work in one place. It also helps my computer skills as this would be useful when I am looking for a job after college.”

“I was delighted to receive a laptop from the Rory McDonagh Trust. It has helped me to take notes in class, organise my notes so I could use them to study and for my assignments google was very helpful for research and checking facts the laptop shows me when I spelling a word wrong or a sentences doesn't look right it gives me suggestions the laptop is a great support in trinity.”

“It was great to have my own laptop. I have all my work on it and I can find all my emails and presentations very easily now.”

“I'm able to study at home and in Trinity, that makes my life easy, and I'm not under pressure. I can use the internet for research and looking things up, because I have my own laptop, I can use it whenever I want. If I didn't have a laptop, I would have to share and wait my turn to use the house computer.”

“Getting a laptop help me with my assignments. It helps me access my work essay. Having the laptop helps me produce my work in a higher standard.”



“Getting a new laptop really helped in September because when I got the laptop the software that I use in collage was already downloaded where if I got my own laptop I would of have to buy the software.”

“The laptop helped me send emails, submit assignments, keep track of course work and how it help me with my assignments.”

“It helped me to increase my typing speed which was one of my goals for this year. It also helped me to be organised and keep all my work in one folder on the laptop. I prefer to use my laptop while I am studying from home and in college.”

“It helped me by keeping on track with my assessments and it also helps me by storing documents on the computer.”

## Thank you messages from the students

“To everyone at the Rory McDonagh Trust thank you so much for providing me with the dell laptop. It makes life easier as my handwriting is poor and typing is better. It also helps me keep my work in one place. My computer skills have improved since I got the laptop.”

“Thank you very much for the laptop, I read all about Rory McDonagh, I love football, rugby and golf, he liked those too. It’s so generous kind and caring. Having a laptop makes me feel like being a student.”

“Thank you so much for giving me a laptop. It really helps me to do my work. I had a laptop in secondary school so it’s great to have that support continued in college.”

“Thank you very very much. I love having a laptop to get my work and do my assignments on. It corrects my spelling and it is easy for me to contact my lecturer if I have a question.”

“Thank you to the Rory McDonagh Trust for investing and providing the 1<sup>st</sup> years with the laptops for this year. It was really kind of you, and we will be forever grateful to you. The laptops were a great benefit and support to our study and college and experience.”





"It has been a pleasure of you lending me this laptop and thank you for the laptop."

"I would like to thank the Rory McDonagh Trust for giving me my own laptop to help my studies in Trinity. I use the laptop every day my Lectures and for my assignments having Blackboard on my laptop to keep me on track and organise. The spelling suggestions and being able to change the front or highlight words is very useful. All my work is on my laptop, and I can find things easily like emails, assignments on Blackboard, notes and feedback and google research. I am a slow writer, but I am a fast typer and know how to use most of the keyboard shortcuts. Thank you for giving this laptop to me it has help so much."

"Thank you very much for the laptop, I have learnt how to use word email Powerpoint and excel. It was tricky at the beginning but now that I have a laptop I was able to practice lots and I am much better at it now."

"I just want to thank the Rory McDonagh Trust for the laptop at the start of my collage year. I really appreciate this kind gesture. Getting the laptop has really made a big difference in me being able to get my collage work done and staying in contact with my lectures. I think it's a great thing the family is doing in memory of Rory."

"To the Rory McDonagh Trust, I wish to thank you so much for the gift of my laptop. It really made a difference to me in my college experience. I was able to learn how to use a computer and keep all my work in one place. It had everything I needed on it including Excel and Word programme and these made me assignments possible and easy to do. I was able to store my schedule, and my lecturer's notes and assignments on it and have easy access anytime I needed them. It was light and fit in my bag and was very durable and amazing to use. I feel I don't need to ever worry about being in a work environment as I will always be able to do some work on a laptop like everyone else. Thank you again for making such a difference in my life by giving me the gift of this amazing laptop."

"Hi to everyone on the Rory McDonagh Trust, thank you so much for giving me a laptop in September. I really appreciated it!"



## Business Partner Workshops April / May 2025

We had a packed series of business partner workshops this year, running from April 29<sup>th</sup> until May 29<sup>th</sup>. We had our biggest number of workshops ever this year, with 22 workshops - 9 for our 1<sup>st</sup> years and 13 for our 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.

We are incredibly grateful to you all for providing these workshops for us.

### Abbott

We kicked off our 2025 workshop season with a visit to Abbott in Liffey Valley where we were welcomed so warmly, not only by the Liffey Valley team, but also by the Abbott mentors from around the country who were getting ready to help our students with their SciFest projects each week.



*Abbott Liffey Valley workshop*

## Abbott SciFest workshops

For four Thursdays in the month of May, a team of 11 mentors from Abbott came to the TCPID to work with their assigned student on their SciFest@TCPID projects. The work involved researching project topics, developing project ideas, designing and producing an experiment or a survey, producing project boards with all the content and project findings, practicing how to present each project and finally presenting them projects to invited guests at the annual SciFest@TCPID exhibition in Trinity College Dublin on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

**You can watch the video of some of the highlights from the Abbott mentor sessions at this link:**  
<https://www.tcd.ie/tcpid/news/scifest-2025.php>



*Abbott SciFest workshop group*



## Here are some messages from each of the students for their Abbott mentors



*Al Martin with Kelly O'Sullivan*



*Al Martin with Kelly O'Sullivan*

Dear Kelly,

Thank you so much for being such an amazing mentor during the SciFest project. Your support and guidance really helped me stay on track and gave me the confidence to push forward with my ideas.

I especially appreciate the way you encouraged my research and helped me think critically—your input made a big difference. I'm really grateful for all the time and effort you put in.

Thanks again for everything!

Al



*Al Martin with Erika Dovgalyte*



*Al Martin with Erika Dovgalyte*

Dear Erika,

I just wanted to say a big thank you for all the help and encouragement you gave me throughout the SciFest project. Your advice and insight made the research process so much more engaging and helped me grow both personally and academically.

You've been such a supportive mentor, and I truly appreciate everything you did to help me succeed.

Thanks so much!

Al



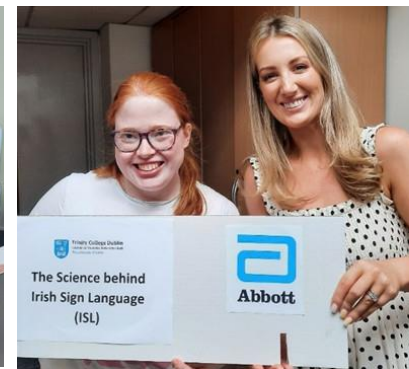
*Robert Walsh Garcia with Paddy O'Rourke*



*Robert Walsh Garcia with Paddy O'Rourke*



*AJ Shrahan with Orla Hunt*



*Orla Hunt with AJ Shrahan*

Dear Paddy,

I just want to say thanks Paddy for being my mentor I really enjoyed your company. And thank you for taking your time on Thursdays to help me with my project.

Wish you the best of wishes.

Robert

Dear AJ,

Thank you so much for all your help with my project. I really enjoyed work with you.

I can't wait for everyone to see our project!

Thank you,

Orla





Leanne Murphy with Thomas Monk



Leanne Murphy with Thomas Monk

Dear Leanne,

Thank you so much for your help with creating my SciFest exhibition display.

It was a very fun and enjoyable experience working with you along with both of us having a shared love for playing video games.

Thank you so much and hopefully we'll see each other again at some point in the future.

Thomas



Alex Byrne with Ronan MacDonnell



Alex Byrne with Ronan MacDonnell

Dear Ronan

Thank you for helping me with our SciFest project. You were very kind to me and you made me feel relaxed.

Hopefully I will meet you again.

From,

Alex



*Louise Brady with Ava McCahey*



*Louise Brady with Ava McCahey*

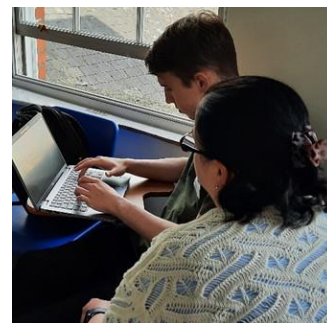
Dear Louise,

I just wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank you for your guidance and support. Your mentorship has made a meaningful difference in my growth, both professionally and personally. Your thoughtful advice, encouragement, and the way you lead by example has been truly inspiring.

I feel incredibly fortunate to have had you as my mentor. Thank you for sharing your time, wisdom, and experience so generously.

With Love,

Ava



*Rhys Merriman with Denise Hannigan*



*Rhys Merriman with Denise Hannigan*

To Denise

Thank you for helping me to make my project for the SciFest. I really had fun doing it you gave me good advice.

Thank you also for helping me to come up with ideas to put into it.

Kind Regards

Rhys



*Conor Quinn with Roseleen Murphy*



*Conor Quinn with Roseleen Murphy*



*Kate Peters with Alex Byrne*

Dear Roseleen,

Thank you for being a great friend and partner. It's really cool to discuss and research with you and I am grateful to be working with you Roseleen.

Thank you really much!

Thank you,

Conor

To Kate

Thank you for helping me with the SciFest project.

You were very nice to me and helped me a lot.

Hopefully I will see you soon,

From,

Alex

”



Hi Rachelle,

I just wanted to take a moment to say a sincere *thank you* for all your help and support during Sci Fest. Your willingness to step in, stay on top of things, and bring such a positive attitude truly made a big difference.

From setting things up to making sure everything ran smoothly, you were such a reliable and calming presence in the middle of the chaos. It was a huge relief knowing I could count on you. Your contributions didn't go unnoticed, and I really appreciate the time and energy you gave to help make the event a success.

Thanks again for being awesome—it honestly wouldn't have been the same without you!

AI

Dear Rachelle,

I am very grateful to you for helping to set up the Sci-Fest Programme for us to do.

It has been an enjoyable experience and very fun to do. Thank you oh so much for all this.

Kindest Regards.

Thomas

Thank you so much for the first two weeks. I really enjoyed Paddy's company and I know the SciFest will be amazing and fun.

Kind regards

Robert

Dear Rachelle,

Thank you for organising the SciFest programme. I enjoyed visiting Abbott and I really enjoyed working with AJ on my project about Irish Sign Language. She was very nice and helpful and it was fun working with her.

From Orla



Dear Rachelle,

Thank you for organising the Sci fest programme for all of Us. It was very interesting and I really appreciated all your hard work. Hopefully see you soon.

From Alex

Dear Rachelle,

I just wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you for all the hard work and dedication you put into organizing the SciFest project. Your efforts made everything run so smoothly, and it was clear how much thought and care went into every detail.

Thanks to you, the experience was not only successful but also incredibly enjoyable and inspiring. You brought everyone together with such positivity and professionalism, and it truly made a difference.

We really appreciate all that you've done—thank you again!

Ava

Thank you for being a great friend. It's really cool to discuss and research with you and I am grateful to be working with you Rachelle. Thank you really much!

From Conor

To Rachelle

Thank you for organising the SciFest project programme. Thank you for the mentors that worked with us. I'd like to say I really had a lot of fun doing it. The class and I really enjoyed it, it was a great.

Kind Regards

Rhys





## Aer Lingus



Thank you messages for Orla, Chantelle, Stephen, Rachel, and Bronagh

Thank you so much for the brilliant workshop at Aer Lingus. It was such a wonderful experience, and we really appreciated your time, insights, and warm welcome.

The session gave us a valuable look into your work and culture, and it was both inspiring and enjoyable from start to finish.

Thank you again for such a memorable day!

Thank you really much for help it's great to see how it goes well in Aer Lingus I really miss being back there but I have really much fun thank you so much for being a mentor have a great day and I'll see you soon!



I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the insightful and engaging workshop. Your expertise and enthusiasm made the session both informative and enjoyable. I truly appreciate the effort you put into making it a valuable experience for all of us.

Thank you so much for an amazing workshop. I love seeing the training area and learning all about Aer Lingus. It was a great day and Aer Lingus seem like a great company to work in.



Thank you for the tour you gave us and teaching us safety protocols in the place that you work in. I really had a lot of fun doing the safety practice and being in the cockpit.





## AerCap



**Thank you messages for Eimear, Jennifer, John, Niamh and Mike**

Thank you for the nice welcome. It was interesting to see about the airplanes and helicopters. We had a great time and loved the gifts and snacks.

I would like to say a big thanks to Eimear, Jennifer, John, Niamh and Mike for having us a part of their workshop and for all the goodies you have given to us

Thank you so much for having us. It was so interesting to learn what AerCap does

Thank you for the wonderful workshop and the lovely treats and the goodies that you gave me. It was really decent of you.

I really enjoyed seeing the different types of planes and helicopters.

I loved the model AerCap 50 the most.

Everybody was welcoming and friendly, it was a really fun workshop.





Thank you so much for the opportunity to visit AerCap. I enjoyed learning about the different aircrafts and the important jobs some of them do like putting out fires and finding and rescuing people and the Garda helicopter. Thank you for giving us tips for presentations and the lovely snacks. It was a very kind and nice surprise to get a gift bag.

I am very grateful for the workshop in AerCap.

I learnt a lot and I had a really interesting time.

Thank you so much for the generous gifts.

Thank you for a really fun workshop!







## **Bank of Ireland**



**Thank you messages for Aileen, Adam and John**

Thank you for the workshop and tour that we did in Bank of Ireland. I loved the tour so much. Thank you John for telling us all the information. I really enjoyed seeing the vaults and to see different safe and the and the safe deposit boxes.

I would like to thank you and your team for having us and showing us around. We really appreciated it.

I really enjoyed my visit to the bank. It was very interesting to see the vaults and learn the history. Everyone was very friendly and so welcoming. Thank you for the hospitality and the refreshments that were delicious.

Thank you for the friendliness and hospitality. You were very good at explaining things.





Thank you for having us in Bank of Ireland. I loved seeing the vault.

Thank you for having us. It was interesting to learn about Bank of Ireland.  
It was fun going in to the vault and the room of commons.

I would like to say thank you to the team, especially to Aileen Adam and John for having us in their workshop I have loved this experience and thanks again for having us.

Thank you for organising the workshop for us. I had a great time.

I really enjoyed the workshop with you. Thank you for organising showing us around the vault.

I just wanted to say a big thank you to you and your team at Bank of Ireland for the great workshop. It was so interesting to find out about all that you do in the Bank. To top it off it was so interesting to be able to see the Vault/Safe and what it was like inside, I found this amazing.





## Coillte



**Thank you messages for Megan and Mark**

I would like to say thanks to you guys for showing us around the forest walk.

Thank you for a great day we had a lot of fun in the trees and on the big slide. Thank you so much for the lovely food and drinks they were delicious. It was great to hear that you replace the trees.

Thank you so much for having us. It was interesting to learn about the park, trees and animals. It was fun going down the slide. It was interesting to learn what Coillte do.



Thank you so much for a great and fun workshop. I enjoyed it so much.

I would like to say a big thank you to the amazing team for having us at their workshop. I have loved my time here at Coillte and I have loved everything that we did here in your workshop.

I had a great time with you in Coillte. Thank you for a lovely day.





I just wanted to say a thank you Megan and Mark for a great day in Coillte  
It was great to see the views from the top of the treetop walk and to find out about what you all do on a day to day basis. I found this very interesting.  
Thank you again for an enjoyable day.

I really enjoyed the workshop and the forest walk. Thank you for organising it for us.

Thank you for giving us the gorgeous tour in the forest and bringing us to the slide and giving us some food.

Thank you for the wonderful forest tour and the lovely lunch. I had a great time.







## Cpl



**Thank you messages for Niamh, Emma, Rachel, Marian, Mei Lin, Barry,  
and all the amazing mentors at Cpl**

Thank you so much for the incredible support and guidance during the workshop. It was such a valuable experience. I really appreciated the opportunity to learn from each of you.

The one-to-one sessions and career advice were so helpful, and hearing from Marian, Mei Lin, and Barry was especially inspiring – your stories really motivated me.

Huge thanks again to everyone involved. Your time, energy, and encouragement meant a lot!

Thanks for the your help it's great to be working with you and I hope you are doing great have a lovely day and thanks for everything!

Thank you very much a great workshop and thank you help me with my CV and interview skills.



I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the enriching mentoring session we had on Thursday. Your collective expertise, passion, and genuine commitment to fostering growth and development were truly inspiring.

Thank you once again for your time, encouragement, and the positive impact you've had. I look forward to staying connected and continuing to learn from such a remarkable group of mentors.



Thank you for having us in your workplace and doing a cv practice with us.

Thank you for teaching us how to look up jobs on LinkedIn which will be very useful for us in the future.



I want to express my gratitude for the amazing mentor session we had on Thursday. The guidance and insights shared have provided a key perspective that I will apply in my personal journey. Cpl's dedication to generating talent and nurturing a supportive and inclusive environment is at the heart of your approach to mentoring.



## DAA



**Thank you messages for Julie-Ann, Breda, Eve and everyone in DAA and Dublin Airport**

Thank you for being so nice and friendly. Thank you for the lovely snacks. I loved learning about the airport and the planes and I really liked the sensory room.

Thank you for the opportunity to visit Dublin Airport Authority. I really enjoyed everything about our visit. I felt like a VIP. I loved to see behind the scenes where luggage goes and the training rooms and the sensory

room in the airport. Everyone was so nice. Thank you for the lovely lunch and our giftbag.

Thank you for having us. It was interesting to learn what you do. It was fun to go around the airport and go to security and see the planes and go to the sensory room.



I am very grateful for the trip to Dublin Airport, it was amazing, I loved the Sensory Room.

All the Staff were really nice.





Everybody was very friendly and welcoming, it was exciting to go the airport, I loved the Safeguarding Civil Aviation, and the x-ray machine.

Plane spotting was exciting, I learnt a lot and I had a really exciting time. It was the best workshop I've ever been to.

Thank you for the magnificent workshop and the treats and goodies. It was really decent of you. Hope you all enjoyed me and my friends to come over to see you all. I really enjoyed the tour and relaxing in the sensory room with my friends. And I also enjoyed seeing the planes while I was on the tour.

Many thanks to you all for a great workshop and for the free foods and drinks. It was great to see behind the scenes.





## EY



**Thank you messages for Brenda, Gina, and Margaret**

Thank you so much for the fantastic series of EY workshops over the past few weeks. Each session has been incredibly engaging, informative, and valuable for all of us.

We have learned so much and deeply appreciate the time, effort, and energy you've all put into making this series so worthwhile.

Looking forward to the final session next week and thank you again for everything you've shared with us so far!

Thank you for teaching us about internships it's great to learn more about it than ever it really helps us so we can expect to see when we have jobs!



Thank you very much for all your hard work in workshop. I enjoyed learning all about internships and work

Thank you so much for having us at EY for the last few weeks. It has been a great experience learning about how the employability business works.

I am truly grateful for the enthusiasm and effort you showed us during our time at EY that made each session very informative and intriguing.

Thank you all for the dedication in creating a working environment where learning and growth is encouraged.



Thank you for teaching us how you work in your workplace and showing us how taxes work this will be very useful in the future.

You were all very kind to us and answering all our questions.

I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the exceptional workshops you've led over the past few weeks.

Your expertise, enthusiasm, and thoughtful facilitation have made each session not only informative but also truly engaging. The insights shared have been invaluable, and I deeply appreciate the effort you've put into creating such a positive and enriching learning experience.





## ICON



**Thank you messages for Mary Anne, Sophie and Vesi**

Thank you for having us. It was interesting learning about the company and going around the labs

Thank you so much for the wonderful day in your company. I enjoyed the tour. I hope one day to come back again.

I liked wearing a lab-coat it made me feel important. It was exciting to tour around the lab it's nice to know that Sophie who went to Trinity, she has a job there.



It was really nice to see Sophie and Mary Anne working for ICON. Thank you all so much.

I would like to thank you for letting us see ICON. We appreciate your time and dedication and we enjoyed see all your nice faces and getting to know every one of you. You all did an amazing job.



I would like to say a big thank you to the team at ICON and to say thank you to Mary Anne, Sophie and Vesi for having us at their workshop and for taking their time out of work to talk to us and we loved meeting you all and thanks again.

Thank you for the opportunity to go to visit you in ICON. I enjoyed the tour and learning how tablets are made. It was very interesting.

Thank you for the very interesting workshop I was really interested in all the research that you do the make better drugs and to make them safe. We loved the cup of tea and biscuits.





## LinkedIn



**Thank you messages for Ross, Lucas, Ronan, Veronika, and the LinkedIn Team**

Thank you very much for showing us around LinkedIn office and for helping me setup my LinkedIn profile. I really enjoy my visit and everyone is so nice and helpful.

I just wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank you all for the fantastic workshop on Wednesday. It was incredibly insightful, and I really appreciated the time and effort you all put into making it such a valuable experience. The content was engaging, and I learned a lot that I can immediately apply.

I especially enjoyed [meeting all of you and setting up my LinkedIn account and adding my pictures], and I'm excited to continue building on the knowledge I gained.

Thank you once again for your support and expertise. I look forward to any future opportunities to collaborate with you all!

PS - OMG your roof top garden was just amazing! I was speechless!

Thanks for your help and learning about LinkedIn profile it's amazing to see a potential for me in a future I can make.



Thank you so much for an amazing workshop in LinkedIn. I loved setting up my LinkedIn profile and I can't wait to use it.

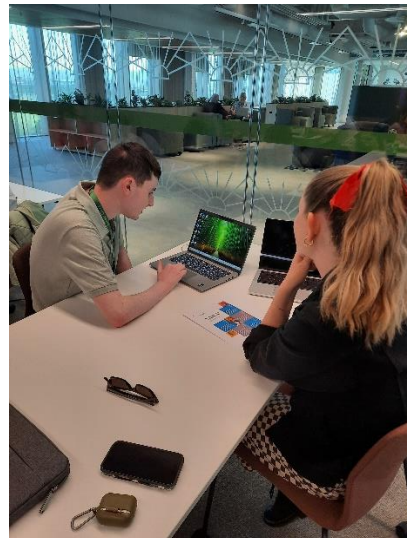


Thank you for a great workshop and for helping me to set up my LinkedIn profile.

Thank you so much for the enjoyable experience. It was so interesting to set up my own LinkedIn profile and make it in my own image.

Hope you all have a great time working in your new building.

Thank you for showing us around your place of work, you were really kind to me and my whole class. You were really good showing us how to do a cv and put it on the LinkedIn profile.





## Microsoft



**Thank you messages for Amanda, Lorraine, and Emma**

Thank you all so much for having me at Microsoft. I truly appreciated the warm welcome and the opportunity to connect with each of you. It was a pleasure to learn more about the team, the impactful work you're doing, and the inspiring culture at Microsoft.

Looking forward to staying in touch and thank you again for the hospitality and your time.

Thank you so much to all of the team at Microsoft I had a great time exploring the office and your gorgeous view from the roof top garden. I

loved exploring the indi machine and the delicious lunch you provided us with was much appreciated.

I had a super time thanks again so much.



Thank you for the lunch and teaching about coding it's cool too see the computers and technology is amazing I really like, thanks for everything!

Thank you for having us in the workshop. i really enjoyed visiting Microsoft on Wednesday and doing tour of office. I liked Dream space it was so cool and coding the robot. Lunch was good too.





I would like to thank you for giving us a tour of the place you work at. You treated us so well we had fun with the indie robot. You also explained everything clearly to us about all the jobs people do in your offices.

Thank you so much for the Workshop. It was a great experience to learn about how Microsoft works as a company and how you work on things beside computers.

Thank you for having us in Microsoft. I really enjoyed my time learned a lot and it was great to see people with disability working in Microsoft.





## National Lottery



### **Thank you messages for Liam, Niamh and Rachel**

Thank you for having us. It was fun thinking about ideas for an event. Also thank you for the pizzas

Thank you very much I am very happy that the rights of people with different types of disabilities are being made better and that you are trying to make them better. We loved the pizzas you were very kind to give them to us.

Dear Liam, Niamh, Rachel and everyone at National Lottery, I liked working with a group to brainstorm. The pizza was delicious. It was great to see Liam was so happy in his job.

Thank you all for the pizza and for helping us with everything.

Thank you so much for the lovely pizza. It was decent of you. I really enjoyed the whole experience of your company.

I would like to thank you for the amazing time and thanks for letting us give us your time and eat some yummy food.





Thank you for the opportunity to go to the National Lottery. I really enjoyed the brainstorming in groups and about Inclusion. It was very interesting. Thank you very much for the lovely pizza.



Thanks for a great workshop and the yummy pizzas!

I would like to say thank you to the team at the National Lottery and to say a big thanks to Liam, Niamh, Rachel and their team for having us apart of their workshop I really enjoyed my time and to say a big thanks for the pizza and sweets that you have giving us and thanks again.



## Sisk



### **Thank you messages for the Sisk team,**

I just wanted to say a big thank you for the workshop with you and the Sisk team on Wednesday. It was really interesting to see what a day of work was like on a building site and being able to see the safety masers in place for working on a site was interesting and to top it off being able to sit in a fork lift that was on site and to see how the different machines working. Thanks again for a great workshop

Thank you for having us at the workshop. It was interesting to find what the company does and it was fun and enjoyable.

I would like to thank all the team for welcome us into the building. We really enjoyed working with all of you and getting to know a little bit each one and what their job means.

Thank you so much for inviting us to Sisk. Everyone was so welcoming and helpful. We learned how to build a door and take it apart again and everyone got to do a bit. We used the VR headset to see a hospital that Sisk have built and we could walk into different rooms on it. We had a great chat. We learned about safety on a building site and had to wear hi-vis and hard hat on site.

I really enjoyed my day and I learned a lot. I especially loved the puzzle with my name on it



Thank you to Sisk for being a great company to visit for a workshop. I loved the tour to the fork lifter and I loved playing with the toy digger by remote control, my time there was interesting.

The Sisk Staff that we met made me feel happy, welcome and relaxed, everybody was nice there. It was generous to give us a gift bag.





I really enjoyed the joinery at The Training Centre and I kept my jigsaw as a memory.

I learnt about the safety equipment and rules. I also learnt SISK is a big construction company that made very important buildings like a factory and hospitals.

I felt very proud to tell my family and friends about visiting Sisk for a workshop, which was a good experience for me.



Thank you everyone in Sisk! I learnt a lot about carpentry and the rules of a construction site. Thank you for all the free stuff and giving us a tour of the site. It was interesting to see the different jobs in the company.

Thank you so much for having me in your workshop. It was interesting to see your construction site. I found the whole workshop very enjoyable so a huge thank you all for the day.

I would like to say a big thank you for having us at your site. I have loved meeting each and every person there. I really enjoyed my time and meeting everyone was a lovely experience. I loved it!

I loved my visit to Sisk. It was really interesting and great to see how the crane worked and the virtual reality was great. Everyone was very positive and I loved the safety clothes we had to wear. I really enjoyed my day and want to thank them for it, they were very friendly. I really liked my bag of gifts too, they were very kind. I would like to go back some day.

Thank you all so much for a lovely workshop. It was really interesting. I love how you welcomed us. I really enjoyed going to the construction site.







## Squarespace



### **Thank you messages for the Squarespace team**

Thank you having for having us for the past two weeks. It was fun making our own website. Thank you for the treats and the breakfast

Thank you for the fantastic time. We loved the delicious breakfast, the game of pool and making our website on Portugal. It is really a lovely place for work. We enjoyed doing our presentations and meeting everybody.

Thank you for being so kind and generous to us everybody, was so friendly and welcoming. I loved the food & the games.

I would like to say a big thank you to the team at Squarespace it was really incredible to work with all of you and I really would like to say a big thank you to Fergus for helping us to create our websites and presenting them to everyone I really loved working with all of you and to say thank you for all the sweets and the pizza and for the big breakfast and all the things that you have been doing for all of us here in Trinity and thank you again.

I really enjoyed the delicious breakfast. Thank you for your help today and last week and for showing me how to make my ad.

Thank you for the lovely treats and the delicious breakfast. It was decent of you. I enjoyed the website making. I hope you all had a great time.

Thanks for letting us be part of the workshop and seeing you all. You were all nice/ Thank you for the breakfast and showing us where to go in different places. We really enjoyed learning about different experience in the workshop.



Thank you to everyone in Squarespace. I liked that we all got to have our own part of the webpage. I was nervous but proud to share my basketball photos to the people in the room. Thank you for this great opportunity and the delicious breakfast and all the lovely snacks.

Thank you all so much for the 2 workshops. You were all amazing. Thanks for all the treats and the breakfast. I had a wonderful time doing the workshop with you all.



## SciFest@TCPID Event on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2025

What a day we had for our annual SciFest@TCPID exhibition on Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup>! Regent House was packed with students, graduates, families, business partners and friends, all who came to support our incredible 8 students **Al, Ava, Conor, Robert, Thomas, Alex, Orla and Rhys**. These students worked on developing their projects with mentors from **Abbott** over 5 weeks.



*TCPID students and staff with the team from Abbott*

We are so grateful to the team from Abbott who once again gave up their time every week to come to TCPID and work with our students. You have no idea how much this meant to the students and to us.

Thank you to **Rachelle Waters, Kate Peters, Kelly O'Sullivan, Amy Jayne Shrahan, Leanne Murphy, Louise Brady, Ronan Mac Donell, Patrick O'Rourke, Roseleen Murphy, Erika Dvorgalyte and Denise Hannigan.**

A huge thank you to the very talented **Kelly O'Sullivan** from Abbott who created the beautiful artwork on each of the projects.



*Kelly O'Sullivan*





Thank you to **Sheila Porter George Porter and Hugo Rowsome** from **SciFest CLG** for having us as part of your wonderful programme. We love doing this wit you every year.



*TCPID students with the team from SciFest*

During the event, the students were all presented with awards by SciFest and Abbott.

A number of the students also made heartfelt speeches about their time in Trinity and about their experience of doing their projects with their Abbott mentors.



*Orla Hunt with AJ Shrahan*

**You can read the Abbott TCPID SciFest@TCPID 2025 brochure written by our graduate Conor Lynch and our colleague Jill Woodnutt here:**  
<https://www.tcd.ie/tcpid/assets/docs/2025/scifest-2025-booklet.pdf>

As always, we were thrilled that many of our TCPID graduates and business partners joined us for this very special event.





*Kate Peters with Alex Byrne*



*Alex Byrne with Ronan MacDonell*



*Ava McCahey with Louise Brady*



*Robert Walsh Garcia with Paddy O'Rourke*



*Ciara Hayes, Sinead Hickey, Marie Devitt and Sheila Porter*



*TCPID graduates and current students*



*Roseleen Murphy with Dale O'Neill*



*Conor O'Donnell, Marie Devitt, Neil Byrne and Piotr Sadowski*



*AJ Shrahan*



*Liam Foley*



*Patricia McCarthy, Ava McCahey and Gaston McCarthy*



*Marie Devitt and Ann Devitt*

We already have a date for your diaries for SciFest@TCPID 2026. This will take place on **Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup> 2026**. Please hold the date in your diaries if you can.





## Graduate Internships

As I mentioned above, we are looking for your help with 8 new internships to start over the coming months. If you would have a role available please let me know and we can meet to discuss and plan.

We currently have internships with the following companies underway, recently finished, or due to start in the coming months.

As always, we are incredibly grateful for your support in providing these wonderful internship opportunities for our graduates:





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Grant Thornton



Jones  
Engineering

 kefron



Microsoft



National  
Lottery

Ornua  
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## Trinity College Dublin Internships and Permanent Roles

We are thrilled to let you know that **another of our TCPID graduates has recently received a permanent contract within Trinity College**. This graduate is working as part of the Estates and Facilities / Premises Team.

This brings to 3 the number of graduates now working in permanent roles within Trinity.

In addition to that we also have two other graduate internships within Trinity either already underway or due to start in the coming months. One internship with the Trinity Central Events team and one with the Trinity Development and Alumni team.

Our goal is to work with our colleagues in Trinity to increase the number of graduates working within our beautiful campus over the coming years.



Trinity College Dublin  
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## Disability Rights Event

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year students hosted a powerful and inspiring event titled **No Limits!** in April.

The event was a culmination of months of hard work by students in their Disability Rights module, during which they formed their own Event Planning Committee and took responsibility for organising and delivering a full awareness event around the theme of Accessibility, based on Article 9 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

The student-led committee worked together throughout the semester to plan every aspect of the event. They took on various leadership roles, including Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and several officer positions, and demonstrated excellent teamwork, creativity and professionalism in putting together a meaningful and engaging programme. The theme of Accessibility was selected by the class as a whole, and the students expressed their shared goal of raising awareness of the barriers that disabled people face in education, transport, public services and online spaces.

The event was opened by **Professor Carmel O'Sullivan, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**, who welcomed guests and celebrated the students' leadership. This was followed by a thoughtful and impactful presentation by **student class representatives Alex Martin and Orla Hunt** on behalf of their class, who outlined the reasons behind the chosen theme and spoke about their personal experiences of inaccessibility, including challenges in secondary school, online learning systems, social events, transport, and employment. Their reflections were honest and moving, highlighting the real-world impact of limited access and the importance of inclusive design in every area of life.

The students were honoured to welcome **Minister James Lawless TD, Minister of State at the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science**, as the keynote speaker. Minister Lawless spoke about the government's commitment to increasing accessibility in higher education and improving opportunities for disabled students. Students had an opportunity to ask the Minister questions and engage in conversation about accessibility issues that affect them in their daily life and other areas of interest. Members of the committee led the discussion with insightful and well-prepared questions on the challenges they have encountered in accessing college and work opportunities, advocating clearly for policy changes that would make a meaningful difference.



*TCPIID students and staff with Minister James Lawless*



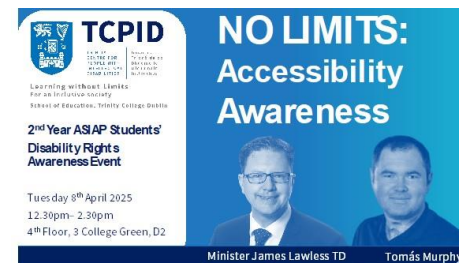
Guests were also treated to a special video message from **disability rights campaigner Joanne O’Riordan**, who offered encouragement and praise for the students' advocacy efforts. Her message served as a reminder of the importance of using your voice to create change. This was followed by a speech from **Tomás Murphy, a proud alumnus of TCPID and Co-Chair of the Board of Directors at Inclusion Ireland**. Tomás shared his personal journey through education and into leadership, emphasising the value of inclusive education and the need for accessible career pathways. Once again, the committee demonstrated their confidence and commitment by leading a second Q and A session, asking questions that reflected both personal experience and a deep understanding of systemic barriers.

The event concluded with closing remarks from **Professor Conor McGuckin (Director of TCPID, School of Education)** and **Professor Ann Devitt (Head of School of Education)**, who praised the students for their hard work, professionalism and advocacy. The atmosphere throughout the afternoon was one of pride, solidarity and purpose. The students' message was clear: accessibility is a right, not a luxury, and all people should be able to take part fully in education, employment and community life.

Among their recommendations, the students called for more accessible school places for disabled children, equal opportunities for study abroad, inclusive apprenticeships, flexible working arrangements, and better access to social and public spaces. They highlighted that many barriers—such as inaccessible transport, mismatched timetables, lack of physical access to rooms, or inflexible systems—can and should be removed with the right will and design.

No Limits! was a celebration of student voice and leadership, and a powerful demonstration of what can be achieved when disabled students are given the platform and support to lead. The students of TCPID not

only highlighted the issues but offered solutions, showing themselves to be the changemakers of today and the leaders of tomorrow.



You can watch the No Limits event video here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGjM4fS052M&t=1s>



*TCPID students and staff with Minister James Lawless*





## Student to Student Mentor Awards

The Student 2 Student (S2S) Awards took place in the Dining Hall in Trinity College Dublin on April 9th. We were very proud that two of our students Alex and Conor both received awards from **Provost Linda Doyle** for their brilliant work as mentors over the past year.

S2S is a student-led initiative and is part of Trinity's Counselling Service. There are currently over 600 students volunteering in the service who ensure that any student in Trinity can get information and support throughout their time in College.

Huge congratulations to Alex, Conor and all the incredible mentors who have provided so much support to their fellow TCD students.



*Provost Linda Doyle with Al Martin and Marie Devitt*



*Sadbh Feehan, Al Martin, Owen Barden, Provost Linda Doyle and Marie Devitt*



*Al Martin and Conor Quinn*



*Al Martin and Conor Quinn*



*Emer Murphy, Al Martin, Sadbh Feehan, Owen Barden and Marie Devitt*



*Provost Linda Doyle with Al Martin*





## Launch of Stranmillis University College Belfast Report

TCPID was delighted to join Stranmillis University College, Belfast in April for the launch of their **'Pathways to Inclusion' feasibility report**. This important work demonstrates how Higher Education can support young people with intellectual disabilities while maintaining strong academic standards.

The report highlights the work of the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities, and also incorporates insights from global best practices. In collaboration with the team at Stranmillis, TCPID worked to document it's Pathways Inwards, Through and Onwards ethos which facilitates clear pathways to higher education, a positive and impactful college experience and meaningful employment opportunities post-graduation.

Congratulations to all those involved in getting to this point. Best of luck to Stranmillis in the next steps in their goal to have a fully inclusive Higher Education landscape in Northern Ireland.



Colleagues from TCPID and Stranmillis University College Belfast



Colleagues from TCPID and Stranmillis University College Belfast



Colleagues from TCPID and Stranmillis University College Belfast



Colleagues from TCPID and Stranmillis University College Belfast



## Light The Way Event with Mr. Price

On June 18<sup>th</sup> the TCPID were well-represented at an amazing **Light The Way** event organised by Mr. Price. The event was a wonderfully uplifting celebration of inclusion and employment for people with disabilities.

Our own graduate Seadna O'Hara spoke as part of a fantastic employment panel about his career journey to date with Mr. Price. Seadna spoke about how .....**"Mr. Price feels like home!"**

We were very honoured that the TCPID were invited to be represented on the Partner Showcase discussion panel.



The event was a huge success and everyone left with a renewed motivation to try to create a more inclusive employment landscape. There are so many incredible companies and organisations, doing so many incredible things, but we all need to do more.

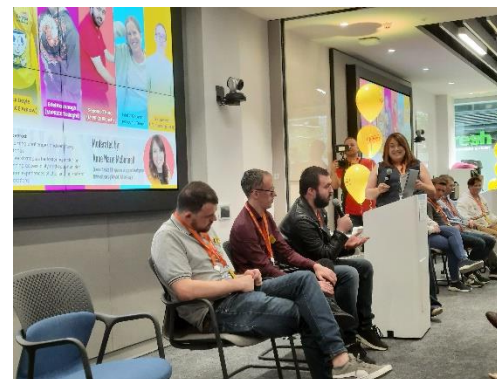
Edel Mc Sorley and her team have created such an inclusive culture within Mr. Price where diversity is truly celebrated and where there are real opportunities for everyone to thrive and to truly belong.



*Emma Flynn, Marie Devitt, Edel McSorley, Seadna O'Hara and Emer Murphy*



*Marie Devitt and Seadna O'Hara*



*Seadna O'Hara speaking as part of the Employment panel discussion*



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Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH)  
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**PATH**  
Programme for Access  
to Higher Education



# TCPID

TRINITY  
CENTRE FOR  
PEOPLE WITH  
INTELLECTUAL  
DISABILITIES

Ionad na  
Tríonóide do  
Dhaoine le  
Míchumair  
Intleachta

**Learning without Limits**  
For an inclusive society

School of Education, Trinity College Dublin



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