CIT'S HINCKS CENTRE HOSTS SEMINAR ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION FOR INNOVATION WEEK

The Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence at Cork Institute of Technology will host a seminar specifically for entrepreneurship educators on March 12th as part of CIT's on-going Innovation Week. The seminar addresses the transition from college to work in a specific entrepreneurial context and will explore how we can develop the entrepreneurial mind-set in our teaching.

According to Dr Breda Kenny, Head, Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence, CIT one of the key aims of the seminar is to provide "An insight for educators responsible for creating or delivering an enterprise and entrepreneurship curriculum so that they can help students develop enterprising behaviours, attributes and skills as well as entrepreneurial mind-sets and capabilities."

The seminar has two primary themes. The first will explore how the student learning experience may be enhanced bringing the entrepreneur into entrepreneurship education. This theme will be explored with speakers such as Pat Lynch, Serial Entrepreneur, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the year award team, Frank O'Keefe, Partner in Charge and Claire Harrington, Senior Associate, and Dr Natasha Evers, Lecturer NUIG and co-author of "Technology Entrepreneurship: Bringing innovation to the marketplace". This session will highlight practical teaching resources to enhance the student learning experience.

The second theme looks at enhancing the student learning experience with peer learning in a multidisciplinary setting and Irish and Norwegian experience will be used to explore this second theme. The Irish case is CIT's own 'Interdisciplinary New Product Development' module bringing mechanical engineering, biomedical science and business students together. In fact, the 2013 Enterprise Ireland Think Outside the Box winners took part in this particular module in the last academic year. Seán F O'Leary, Senior Lecturer, Cork Institute of Technology, will deliver this session. The Norwegian experience will be presented by Andreas Sønning, Associate Professor, Norwegian Academy of Music, on the European Creative Futures Programme. This programme brings together learners from different backgrounds in art, design, IT, music, theatre, business and communications, to share experiences and, through inter-disciplinary collaboration, learn about entrepreneurship and innovation through creativity.

The seminar is funded under the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning seminar series and addresses the thematic area Teaching for Transitions. For more details contact Dr Breda Kenny, Head, Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence, CIT breda.kenny@cit.ie