

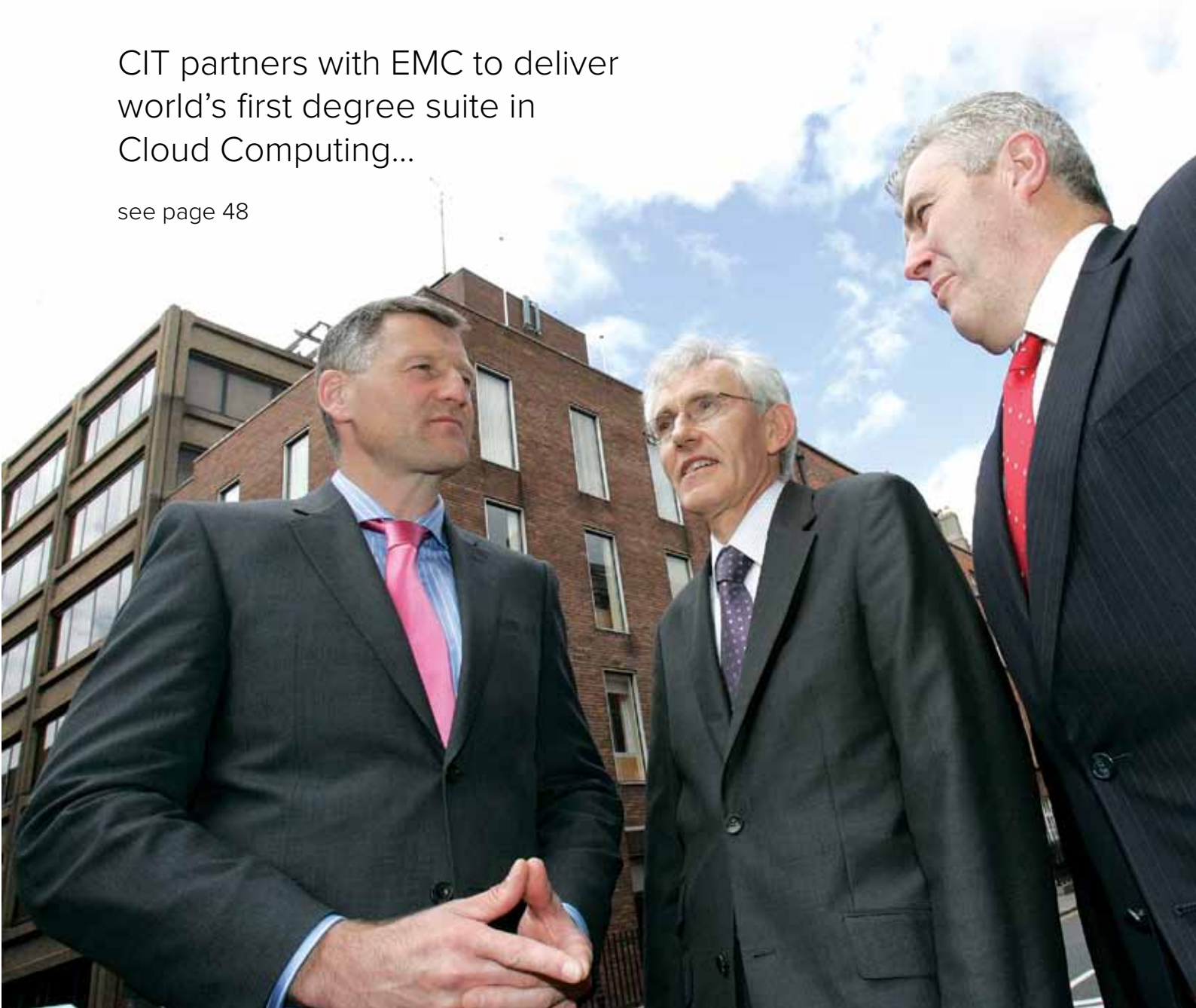
C THE LEARNING CITY



MAGAZINE OF CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
DECEMBER 2011 • VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1

CIT partners with EMC to deliver world's first degree suite in Cloud Computing...

see page 48



Ireland's EU Structural Fu
Programmes 2007 - 201
Co-funded by the Irish G
and the European Union

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Royal Cork Institution

Pioneer of Education Book Launch



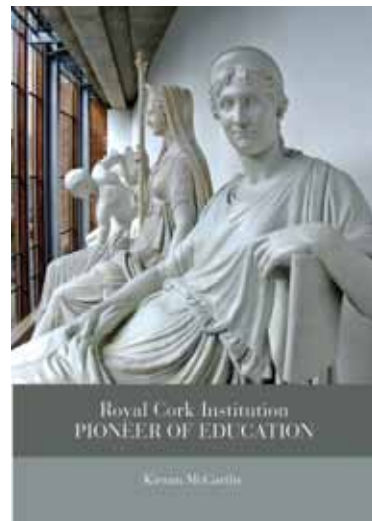
Brendan Goggin, former Registrar, CIT; Kieran McCarthy, author; Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT; and Canon G. A. Salter at the RCI book launch.

Canon G A Salter, President of Cork Literary and Historical Society and member of CIT's Governing Body, formally launched the book **'Royal Cork Institution – Pioneer of Education'** written by Kieran McCarthy, on the 12th April in the Unitarian Church, Princes Street, Cork. CIT's Faculty of Science and constituent schools CIT Crawford College of Art & Design, and CIT Cork School of Music, can trace their origins back to the influences of the Royal Cork Institution.

Kieran McCarthy is a local heritage columnist and is the author of 8 books on the history of Cork City and its region. In this book, Kieran sheds light on an important aspect of the educational heritage of the city which, in the nineteenth century, laid important foundation

stones for our 21st Century education. Although little remembered or spoken of in current day Cork, the Royal Cork Institution was remarkable in its time and the city owes a great debt to those who founded, developed, and maintained that institution.

Royal Cork Institution – Pioneer of Education is published by CIT Press and is available in Cork bookstores, Waterstones and Easons, or by emailing citrci@cit.ie.



Launch of the CIT Extended Campus

The CIT Extended Campus was launched by Bob Savage, Chairman, Governing Body, CIT, on 18 November 2011. This is the first dedicated centre to support the full range of engagement within the Irish Higher Education Sector.



Dr Brendan Murphy and Bob Savage, with Irene Sheridan, Head, CIT Extended Campus.

Since its foundation CIT has prioritised and valued its relationships with external organisations and its support for local, regional and national development. This has been evidenced through the broad career-focused curriculum and through its myriad of research, development, commercialisation and technology transfer activities. In more recent years CIT's contribution to enterprise development and incubation has been at the forefront of such activity nationally and the success of the Genesis Enterprise programme and the Rubicon incubation and support record speak for themselves. The development of the CIT Extended Campus bears testimony to the high level of commitment which CIT has always shown to developing learning and research engagement with enterprise and to enhancing the Institute's relevance to the wider community of which it is part.

The importance to CIT of the interface between the academic world and that of the regional community and society has been further endorsed and strengthened by its leadership of two Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) projects in this space for the Higher Education Authority (HEA). Through the work of the Education in Employment project and the REAP project CIT has furthered practice in the engagement space at a national and an international level.

For its part the Higher Education Authority (HEA) has been proactive in recognising and supporting this work and the 'The 'National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030' links higher education institutional missions more broadly with the economic, cultural and social wellbeing of their regions and communities while recognising the appropriate range of institutional missions. It also calls for strong engagement between education and enterprise to drive enhanced economic competitiveness. In these challenging times our higher education institutions have an opportunity to play a central role in equipping graduates with the generic skills—such as critical thinking, adaptability, and creativity—that the labour market demands, and in upskilling our workforce to meet emerging skill needs and to maintain employability in difficult times.

The CIT Extended Campus provides an opportunity for CIT to build on its historical role and to provide a blueprint for the further development of engagement excellence and leadership nationally and internationally.

- it will build on the good practice that exists and identify new and emerging opportunities
- it will simplify the engagement process for the external partner and provide key information for the development of policy and practice locally, nationally and internationally

From an external enterprise perspective it will help organisations to see the potential of greater involvement and partnership. For those of us who already engage with CIT it will provide the possibility of a broader and deeper level of engagement and for those who have yet to establish a partnership with CIT it will help to provide a view of potential partnerships and open the door to the significant benefits that can be achieved.

At the launch of the CIT Extended Campus, representatives of higher education, enterprise, communities and policy makers were provided with a sample set of completed case studies covering a range of learning and research engagements and were invited to actively contribute to the development of the Extended Campus mission and effectiveness.

E: extendedcampus@cit.ie
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TEAGASC WALSH FELLOWSHIP
RESEARCH, DEPARTMENT
OF CHEMISTRY, CIT; AND
TEAGASC ASHTOWN

LEADING THE WAY IN ENSURING **FOOD SAFETY**

Dr Michelle Whelan completed her PhD studies in Teagasc Food Research Centre (TFRC), Ashtown, Dublin, as part of the Teagasc Walsh Fellowship Programme (WFP) in conjunction with CIT. She successfully defended her PhD thesis titled "Development, Validation, and Application of UHPLC-MS/MS Methods for the detection of Veterinary Drug Residues in Food of Animal Origin" in September 2011 under the supervision of Dr Ambrose Furey (Team Elucidate research group, Department of Chemistry, CIT) and Dr Martin Danaher (Food Safety Department, TFRC). The external examiner was Dr Alida (Linda) A. M. Stolker from the Netherlands, Head of the Department of Veterinary Drug Research at RIKILT- Institute of Food Safety and an expert in food contaminants with 20 years experience in the development of analytical methods for the extraction and determination of residues of veterinary drugs and contaminants from food, feed and environmental samples.



Dr Michelle Whelan who graduated with a PhD in Analytical Chemistry at the annual conferrals at CIT; with Dr Ambrose Furey, Department of Chemistry; and Dr Martin Danaher, Senior Researcher, Food Research Centre, Teagasc.

The WFP was set-up to commemorate the late Dr Tom Walsh, the first Director of both the Agricultural Research Institute and the National Advisory and Training Service, which were merged to form Teagasc. The WFP is a major employer of postgraduate students with some 140 pursuing PhD programmes at any one time over a range of agricultural related disciplines. The WFP is an excellent example of how industry and Irish third level institutes can work together to produce top class researchers and develop new technologies that are implemented in both regulatory laboratories and in industry.

The research carried out in this PhD was performed using state of the art equipment called ultra high pressure liquid chromatography in tandem with mass spectrometry (UHPLC-MS/MS). This equipment costs €350,000 and is capable of detecting drugs if present in food samples at extremely low levels. For example, if an animal is dosed for the treatment of fluke infections with an anti-parasitic drug such as Closantel and the animal is slaughtered before the appropriate withdrawal period has passed, the drug will enter the food chain. The methods developed by Dr Whelan are capable of detecting Closantel at levels down to one billionth of a gram of the drug per one kg of meat. These new methods are a huge step forward in the prevention of veterinary drugs entering the human food chain and are crucial in safeguarding the Irish beef and dairy industries. These methods also certify the outstanding quality of Irish beef to indigenous consumers and to foreign export markets once good farm management practices are followed.

Dr Whelan's PhD was funded by the Teagasc WFP and by the EU 6th Framework Programme 'ProSafeBeef' (PSB). PSB is a €10.9m project involving 41 leading research and industrial

organisations from 18 countries. Dr Whelan participated in the chemical contaminants section of this project, to develop new methods to detect veterinary drug residues in beef. A new UHPLC-MS/MS method with rapid polarity switching was developed to test for 38 anti-parasitic drug residues in beef. The method was then applied to a retail study of beef samples purchased in supermarkets across Europe. The results of which were used to produce a risk assessment to determine the risk, if any, to the consumer if they eat beef containing anti-parasitic drug residues. This survey found that there was no risk to the consumer with respect to anti-parasitic drugs. It also highlights the requirement of farmers to continue complying with dosage protocols printed on labels on veterinary medicinal products in order to ensure consumer safety.

Dr Whelan also carried out additional research in the area of veterinary drug residues. She developed and validated a UHPLC-MS/MS method for the confirmation and quantification of Triclabendazole and its metabolites in liver, muscle and milk. In addition a method was developed to detect anti-parasitic drug residues in milk including the previously untested flukicide residues. This method was applied to milk samples incurred with veterinary drugs to determine the persistence of the drugs in milk and the drug stability in cheese. These studies generated new knowledge which can be used by risk assessors, decision makers and animal health companies to set suitable withdrawal times for veterinary medicines to ensure the safety of milk. The results from this research on the persistence of drugs in dairy animals can also support the development of new veterinary medicinal products for the treatment of infections in dairy cows. This will lead to improved labels on veterinary medicines, which inform farmers to adopt best practice.

The methods developed for the detection of anti-parasitic drugs were accredited by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB), certified to International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 17025 standard requirements and transferred to the National Reference Laboratory in Ashtown in 2008 as well as to reference laboratories in the 27 member states across Europe. These methods are now used as part of official food inspection to support the quality assurance in the export of food of animal origin assuring compliance with EU legislation 2002/178/EC and 96/23/EC. This work led to the identification of low-level non-compliant flukicide residues in milk which are not permitted, and resulted in the Irish Medicines Board (IMB) recalling all flukicide medicinal products to be relabelled. The product label now states that these products are not permitted in dairy animals including pregnant dairy cows. This new sensitive test method used to monitor the purity of milk has improved the safety of Irish milk, and supports the export of Irish produce. This research will underpin the green image of Irish dairy products to ensure consumer confidence and safeguard international investment in the sector. One of the major outcomes of this work was the setting of provisional Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for triclabendazole and closantel in milk following requests by the Irish Medicines Board (IMB) under Article 9 of EC regulation 2009/470/EC. This is the first time a government agency has proactively sought for an MRL to be established. This is one of the most important developments from this work.

In November 2009, Dr Whelan received 1st prize for Best Technology Transfer at the AFRC student seminar. The following April she received a 'PhD and early stage researchers exchange' grant from the Framework 6 EU funded project *ProSafeBeef* and travelled to PSB project partner's laboratory in Campinas, Brazil. She spent 1 month in their laboratory, training staff in the new technology and setting up the method she developed in their laboratory. This method is used for Official Food Inspection for Beef exported to the EU to help improve the safety of food in Europe. In November 2010, Dr Whelan presented the findings from her research at the annual Teagasc RDS Walsh Fellowship seminar, she won the RDS gold medal for best presentation and the IFSTI president's medal for Best Food Science and Technology presentation for her presentation titled 'Determination of anthelmintic residues in milk using UPLC-MS/MS with rapid polarity switching'. This work has been published in a high impact peer-reviewed journal, namely *Journal of Chromatography A*. Dr Whelan has to date published 6 papers in peer-review journals from the body of work carried out during her PhD.

Dr Whelan worked as a Research Officer in TFRC, Ashtown as project administrator for the FHRI funded Safe and Healthy Foods project and currently works as Assistant Agricultural Inspector in Pesticide Control Services.



An artist's rendering of the VERITAS array detecting gamma-ray pulses from the Crab Nebula

MAJOR PULSAR DISCOVERY

Astronomers at four Irish third level institutions including Dr Josh Reynolds from the Department of Applied Physics and Instrumentation have participated in the detection of pulsed gamma-ray emission from the Crab Pulsar at energies far beyond what current theoretical models of pulsars can explain.

With energies exceeding 100 billion electron volts the surprising gamma-ray pulses were detected by the international VERITAS (<http://veritas.sao.arizona.edu/>) collaboration using an array of telescopes at the Whipple Observatory in Arizona. Their results are published in a paper in the October 7th issue of the prestigious journal *Science* (<http://www.sciencemag.org/>).

The Irish scientists have been involved in the search for this pulsed emission for over two decades. The Irish team members include Dr Josh Reynolds, CIT; Dr John Quinn, UCD; Dr Gary Gillanders and Dr Mark Lang, NUIG; and Dr Pat Moriarty, GMIT.

The Crab pulsar is a rapidly spinning neutron star, the collapsed core of a massive star that exploded in a spectacular supernova in the year 1054, leaving behind the brilliant Crab Nebula with the pulsar at its heart. Spinning at 30 times a second the pulsar emits a rotating beam of radiation like a lighthouse beacon. Current theoretical models of the pulsar predict that the maximum energy of pulsed gamma-rays should be about 10 billion electron volts so it was very significant to find emission with energies ten times higher. Further observations to characterise the very high energy gamma-ray emission and new theoretical models will be required to explain the physical mechanism behind it.

"The Irish involvement in VERITAS is part funded by Science Foundation Ireland"

BIOINFORMATICS' GROUP CELEBRATES ITS FIRST GRADUATE JOHN CARROLL

John Carroll of CIT's Bioinformatics' group graduated with an MSc by research at the recent CIT conferring ceremony. John's project, supervised jointly by Dr Paul Walsh and Paul Rothwell of the Department of Computing and Dr Roy Sleator of the Department of Biological Sciences, focused on the development of BioMapper – an integrated bioinformatics based software tool for rapid and efficient genomics analysis.

John's research has already generated significant international interest and demonstrates substantial commercial potential.

Indeed, Walsh and Sleator have recently been granted Enterprise Ireland funding in excess of €90,000 to fully explore the commercial potential of BioMapper, and related software packages, as part of a new campus spinout called nSilico – John will continue the research initiated in his MSc project as nSilico's first employee.

This adds to significant recent achievements, including:

- An agreement with Microsoft to provide state-of-the-art cloud hosting and storage to enable BioMapper to be even more responsive.
- An evaluation agreement from University of Chicago.

- An agreement with Notre Dame's Comparative Bioinformatics Group to provide T-Coffee services for multiple sequence alignment.

The development of BioMapper; and nSilico; along with the recruitment of lecturer and researcher Aisling O'Driscoll; as well as the launch of a taught MSc in Computational Biology, which had its first intake this semester; is a true CIT success story and an exemplar of the benefits of strong interdepartmental collaborations made possible by the vision and foresight of Dr Hugh McGlynn, Head of the School of Science and Informatics, and Mr Michael Loftus, Head of the Faculty of Engineering and Science.



Dr Roy Sleator pictured with John Carroll who graduated with an MSc by research.

ANNUAL CIT POSTGRADUATE FAIR 2012

THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL CIT POSTGRADUATE FAIR WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 2012 IN THE NEXUS CENTRE, CIT'S BISHOPSTOWN CAMPUS, FROM 10.30AM - 2.00PM.

The Fair is directed in the main at final-year undergraduates who are looking into postgraduate options. The Fair offers CIT academic departments and research centres with an opportunity to promote their postgraduate opportunities to prospective applicants, both within CIT and in the Munster region generally. Invitations are also being issued to all Irish universities and other higher education and research organisations to participate in this event.

As there is a high level of interest in postgraduate study options amongst final-year undergraduates and others, there is a need to provide these students with the opportunity to meet course providers and collect accurate information on entry requirements, course content, research options and other details on postgraduate opportunities. The Fair aims to provide relevant, up-to-date information and give access to postgraduate study that may not have been considered before.

The Fair will be promoted extensively to the student population in CIT, as well as to other third level colleges, and the general public in the Munster Region.

We believe that the Annual CIT Postgraduate Fair 2012 offers the most effective way of promoting a wide range of postgraduate programmes and training opportunities to interested parties. For further information please contact Andrea O'Driscoll by E: andrea.odriscoll@cit.ie

Reach your full potential

Taught & Research-based Postgraduate Opportunities

Every year a growing number of graduates choose Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) as their preferred destination for postgraduate education.

CIT boasts state of the art buildings and laboratories with world class facilities that enable postgraduate students to reach their full potential.

Whether pursuing a research or taught Masters or PhD you can expect to work on solving complex problems in cutting edge research and innovation across any of the following disciplines:

For more information on any of these disciplines or to discuss further postgraduate opportunities in CIT, please don't hesitate in contacting us. We would be happy to hear from you.

Tel: 021 433 5099 Email: graduate@corkit.ie
Web: www.cit.ie/graduate/school

- Art & Media
- Business
- Computing
- Informatics
- Engineering
- Humanities
- Law
- Music
- Science

Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Chorcaí
Cork Institute of Technology

CERC 2011

DR PAUL WALSH

CERC 2011, the inaugural Collaborative European Research Conference, which was initiated to foster research across all disciplines within European third-level research and educational institutes, was held in CIT's Blackrock Castle Observatory on the 14th January, 2011. This CIT hosted event was attended by over 50 delegates from Ireland, Germany and the UK. Twenty two internationally peer reviewed papers were presented over the course of the event. These papers were presented on diverse topics that ranged from structural engineering to microbiology. The ability of researchers in CIT, the University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt and allied institutions, to focus on real problems was highlighted throughout the day.

A selection from the many papers presented include an analysis of the biomethane energy extracted from crops in Ireland by Eoin Deasy and Dr Niamh Power; the development of an oral vaccine against mycobacterium infection by Christopher Johnston, Dr Aidan Coffey, Dr Jim O'Mahony and Dr Roy

Sleator; and a new method for the identification of transmission cable faults by Caroline Healy and Dr Richard Guinee. The overall quality of the papers presented is a testament to the innovation and hard work of the researchers and supervisors involved. The best paper judging panel had difficulty in making a final decision, and the award went to Christian Schalles from the University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt for his paper "Experiences on Using Partial Least Squares (PLS) in Usability Research".

This paper gives new insight on how researchers can best use statistical methods to ensure that software is designed to meet users' needs effectively. The work demonstrates the benefit of collaboration as the research was supervised by a multi-disciplinary international partnership between Dr John Creagh, Computing Department, CIT, and Prof. Michael Rebstock, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt.

The venue at Blackrock Castle Observatory also proved to be popular with the delegates as it provided an excellent atmosphere for networking between researchers and should be recognised as one of Cork's prime locations for such events.

ENGINEERS IRELAND PUBLIC LECTURE ON THE INTERNET OF THINGS



Dr John Barrett with Brendan Brice, Chairman, Engineers Ireland-Cork Region.

On the 15th March, 2011, at CIT's Nimbus Centre for Embedded Systems Research, Dr John Barrett gave an invited lecture for Engineers Ireland on the theme of the Internet of Things. The lecture began with a discussion of the current Internet which, while it has transformed our lives beyond recognition, is relatively primitive in that it is primarily only a means of accessing and sharing immense amounts of information using computers. On the other hand, the emerging Internet of Things – where embedded systems will allow not just computers but also people, objects, structures, vehicles and machines to autonomously communicate on the Internet – will lead to transformations far beyond those brought about by the current Internet. The lecture then went on to examine the Internet of Things, the technologies that are being put in place to build it, the impact it will have on its users and the opportunities it offers for innovation. Through multimodal interfaces such as vision, voice, touch and gesture, interaction with the Internet of Things will be a far richer and more natural experience than the restrictive keyboards and screens we use to access today's Internet. Large-scale networks of embedded sensors will transform our use of energy, our cities, travel, work and leisure. For scientists and engineers, the Internet of Things will be a valuable tool for fine-grain observation and control and will provide unprecedented opportunities for discovery and

innovation. The lecture then showed how the EU, US, China and Japan have all identified the Internet of Things as a key driver for future economic development and how it is also a major target on the roadmaps of the major global IT corporations. The lecture concluded with the reflection that those involved in developing the Internet of Things need to consider not just the technologies and the economics but also the social and human aspects of an IT revolution whose potential impacts we are only just beginning to visualise.

A lengthy discussion followed and both Michael Loftus, Head, Faculty of Engineering and Science; and Brendan Brice, Chairman, Engineers Ireland, Cork Region; expressed their gratitude for a very interesting lecture.

Dr John Barrett is Group Director of the Smart Systems Integration Research Group and Head of Studies at the Nimbus Centre for Embedded Systems Research at CIT. His research is focused on miniaturisation and embedding of smart systems in materials, objects and structures with particular emphasis on challenging and harsh application environments. He has been a lecturer and researcher in CIT since 1999 and was previously Assistant Director of the Irish National Micro-electronics Research Centre, now Tyndall National Institute. John has been active in Irish and European R&D projects in the areas of packaging and systems integration for almost 30 years and has made over 100 publications and presentations in topics related to his field.

Dr Guillaume Huyet
of Tyndall/CIT and Dr
Annett Klemm of the
University of St Andrews

pictured at the launch meeting of the
EU PROPHET in the CIT's Blackrock
Castle Observatory.



TYNDALL NATIONAL INSTITUTE AND CIT CHOSEN TO TRAIN THE NEXT GENERATION OF **EUROPEAN HIGH-TECH RESEARCHERS**

The Tyndall National Institute, CIT and UCC, have been awarded the joint coordination of a high-tech EU postgraduate training programme. The €4.8M programme, *Postgraduate Research on Photonics as an Enabling Technology (PROPHET)*, was launched today at CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory, with the 15 European academic and industry partners.

Dr Guillaume Huyet, the project coordinator, is a researcher and senior lecturer at CIT and Tyndall. "Photonics is the science of generating and manipulating light, and has applications in a diverse range of areas. The *PROPHET* research training programme focuses on photonics as an enabling technology, and will cover applications such as telecommunications, gas sensing for environmental monitoring, solar energy, and medical imaging.

"The network will train 14 PhD students and 5 postdoctoral researchers over four years, in the wide spectrum of skills required for a multi-disciplinary, industry-focused career in photonics. Photonics has been identified at the European strategic level as a key 'lead market' industry, accounting for revenues of €49 billion in Europe in 2006."

The project manager, Dr David Williams, remarked "We are delighted to have been awarded the coordination of this project in a highly competitive EU funding application process. Of the €4.8M total funding, just over €1M is coming to Ireland, which will support PhD students and researchers at Tyndall, CIT, and Superlum Ireland, <http://www.superlumdiodes.com/> an Irish-based company manufacturing superluminescent diodes."

The young researchers funded within the *PROPHET* network have an exceptional opportunity to obtain a comprehensive training in photonics, with generous Marie Curie funding which includes a competitive salary and mobility and career exploration allowances. Not only do they benefit from the excellent facilities and expertise at their host institute, but will also experience

secondment visits to other network partners, all of whom have worldwide reputations as leaders in their field. Each researcher will also gain valuable experience of working in industry, thanks to the strong industry involvement in the network. The young researchers will form the core of a vibrant, European-wide network of photonics researchers, with annual training workshops, a summer school, and a final network conference.

PROPHET is funded by the EU's Marie Curie funding mechanism, as an Initial Training Network (ITN). The ITN calls for funding are highly competitive; in the 2010 call in which *PROPHET* was funded, only 63 proposals were successful out of 863 submitted, a success rate of just 7%. *PROPHET* is one of only two ITNs in the 2010 call to be coordinated by an Irish partner.

The Marie Curie Actions are the EU's funding mechanism for supporting the mobility and career development of researchers across Europe. Since 1996, they have helped thousands of researchers of all ages, nationalities and disciplines develop their careers and realise their research dreams – no other scheme in the world offers such a wide variety of opportunities to such a broad range researchers. The Initial Training Networks (ITNs) are one particular Marie Curie Action that supports early stage researchers – those in the first 5 years of their career after undergraduate level. To date, some 240 ITNs have been funded, in the three funding calls since 2007.

Anyone interested in becoming a researcher in the *PROPHET* network is encouraged to visit the vacancies page on the project website, www.prophet-itn.eu.

USEFUL LINKS

<http://ec.europa.eu/mariecurieactions>
www.tyndall.ie
www.physics.cit.ie/photonics



THE RESEARCH QUESTION...

DR ROY SLEATOR

The concept of web-based teaching and online learning has existed for as long as the web itself, and is steeped in the tradition of the distance learning movement.

Indeed, web-based distance learning appears to offer all things to all men; while distance educators hail web-based instruction as a means of reaching underserved populations, administrators favour online course delivery as a method of conserving valuable resources. For students (the end user) there are numerous benefits; from convenience and compatibility with a busy lifestyle, to the pedagogical potential associated with this alternative virtual learning environment.

However, recent studies report that the integration of online learning environments in academia faces some serious challenges, and that the true effect of online technologies on an Institutions' teaching and learning culture may in fact be limited. It is against this backdrop that the blended learning approach has emerged as an effective alternative. Combining the best of both worlds – blended learning provides the freedom and flexibility afforded by the online environment, together with the interpersonal communication and social interaction which is largely lacking in the completely online environment.

Despite inherent problems associated with the implementation of any new technology, specifically the need to master a range of digital cognitive skills, the blended learning approach is generally regarded to be the most effective model for online learning currently available. However, despite the growing popularity of online learning, questions still surround its appropriate use and true academic benefit. While several studies have shown no significant differences between traditional face-to-face and online learning, the majority of such reports were based on online only as opposed to the blended approach. Furthermore, most observations arising from such studies are based solely on quantitative analysis – statistical comparisons of objective examinations. Fewer studies have focused on qualitative analyses (addressing, for example, student satisfaction with the learning environment). While fewer still have attempted to triangulate quantitative and qualitative data to gain a more complete view of the effect of online, and more specifically, blended learning on the overall student performance and satisfaction.

Acknowledging these deficiencies, the primary research questions posed by Sleator were:

- Does a blend learning approach improve student performance relative to traditional face-to-face instruction in Bioinformatics?
- Are students more comfortable/satisfied learning Bioinformatics in the traditional face-to-face or blended learning environment?

THE FINDINGS

Quantitative analysis revealed that the mean exam score per student taught using blended elearning was reproducibly higher than those taught using the traditional face-to-face approach. Thus proving that, at least in the current study, a

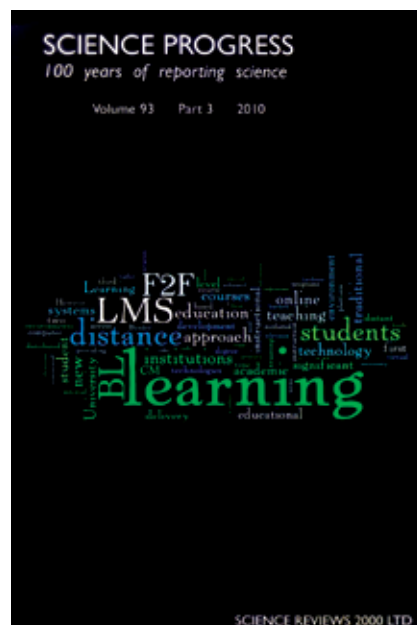
blended elearning approach does indeed improve student grade point average in Bioinformatics instruction.

As with the quantitative analysis, which was primarily focused on student performance, the qualitative analysis (focused mainly on student perception), favoured blended elearning over the traditional face-to-face approach.

THE FUTURE OF ELEARNING

The evolution of distance or distributed education is inextricably linked to the prevailing technologies of the day. The first distance courses were made possible by the development of an effective postal service during the industrial revolution of the late 18th and early 19th Centuries. The electronics revolution of the late 20th Century further changed the nature of education (leading to the emergence of eLearning). This new medium, facilitated by powerful computer mediated technology platforms, made it possible for the first time to teach face-to-face at a distance, to restore eye-to-eye contact electronically, and to teach groups as well as individuals at a distance.

So what does the 21st Century hold? It appears that the challenge for distance systems at the dawn of the third Millennium is to develop mLearning - didactic environments for mobile devices, as the air interface (WiFi) replaces the wire interface. The mobile phone (of which there are over one billion users) is a trusted, personal device with internet access, smart card usage, and a range of possibilities for allowing the distant learner to remain constantly in touch with the institution, learning materials and fellow students, while at home, at work, or travelling. The classroom now fits neatly in every student's pocket...





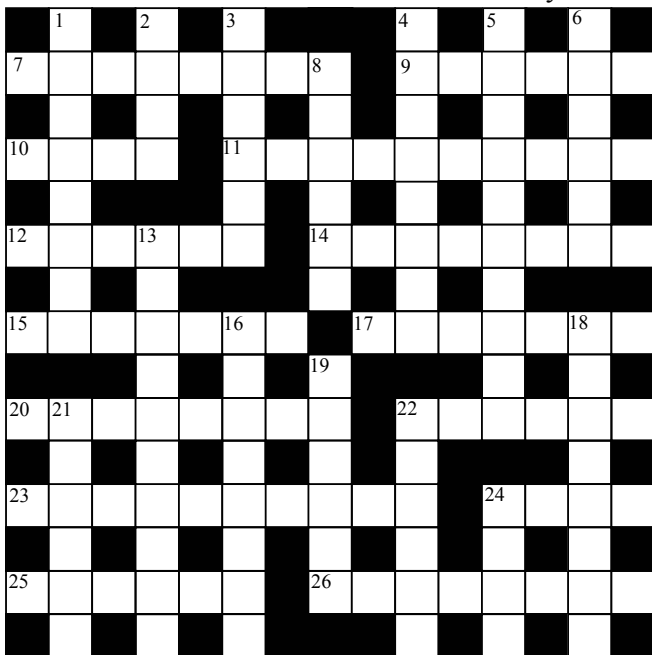
GIOVANNI IDILI NAMED AS CIT'S BEST STUDENT

On the 2nd March 2011, Giovanni Idili from the Department of Computing was named as Overall Best Student at CIT's Annual Prizegiving Ceremony. He was presented with his prize by CIT President, Dr Brendan Murphy, at a ceremony in the Council Room on the Bishopstown Campus. Giovanni, from Italy completed his Master of Science in Software Development.

Crossword

No. 15

Set by Cassa



All down clues begin with a two-letter 9 for a 7 15. This is disregarded in the subsidiary part of the clue. Definitions are normal.

ACROSS

- 7 Revolutionary claim about base, perhaps (8)
- 9 Emblem of sex or status? (6)
- 10 It may be tied after romance (4)
- 11 He may be especially nosy about religion (10)
- 12 Pay heed to table with directions (6)
- 14 Pray anti-revolutionary isn't standing alone (2,1,5)
- 15 The proper habitat for a first principle (7)
- 17 Setback regarding lines (7)
- 20 Outside broadcasts grapple with sound barrier (8)
- 22 Protector of regular customer (6)
- 23 Establishes test unit is malfunctioning (11)
- 24 Oddly, all abuse priestly robes (4)
- 25 Fame no Wren can achieve (6)
- 26 Stimulate eco-system initially – Green is excited (8)

DOWN

- 1 Hold a low opinion of fashionable slaughter (8)
- 2 State of black spot on cereals (4)
- 3 Battle sees setter engulfed by heavy weight (6)
- 4 Figure 999 in the gallery (8)
- 5 Two outer electrons? It's uncertain (10)
- 6 Refuse to participate in sulk (6)
- 8 Readily convertible into old money (6)
- 13 Enticement for representative to get tawdry clothes on charge (10)
- 16 Drug that's nice to get off (8)
- 18 Looking down on old boy's mistake (8)
- 19 Condition that I drop title? Quite the reverse! (6)
- 21 Render inoperable, dropping hesitation about joiner (6)
- 22 Regurgitated milk in p-place (6)
- 24 Leave ancient ship (4)

Solutions on Page 79

CIT launches first iApp **CIT Cosmos**

On the 2nd December, CIT President Dr Brendan Murphy officially launched the first CIT iApp CIT Cosmos, which is free to download for the iPhone and iPad.

The free app CIT Cosmos, designed by John Kennedy of CraicDesign and supported by CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory (BCO), will put a virtual observatory in your pocket with a real-time view of the sky from any location in Ireland, displaying the night sky, including stars, constellations, the sun, moon, and planets. Kennedy is known for developing Pocket Universe, one of the biggest selling software applications for the iPhone that allows users to lift up their iPhone to the sky and see the names of the stars and planets that they are looking at.

Kennedy said "It was a pleasure to be able to work with the Observatory to help bring a little Astronomy to everyone with an iPhone or iPad. Today's mobile devices are becoming invaluable learning tools, and this App is a great way to answer the question 'What's that in the sky?' Also, given Ireland's notoriously fickle weather, this might be the only way to see stars for weeks at a time!"

According to Dr Brendan Murphy "The launch of the CIT Cosmos iApp is another great example of innovation in CIT's educational delivery reaching out into the community – in this instance both the local and global community. Through exciting developments such as this, CIT is clearly playing an increasingly important role in the formation of the next generations of scientists, engineers, and business entrepreneurs. And the CIT Cosmos iApp has the added advantage of being a free, fun and educational iApp in time for Christmas."

The app, which is free to download, also provides information on visiting Cork's unique science centre CIT BCO, its integrated award-winning public exhibitions, current events and monthly newsletters. Through innovative workshops and partnership, this centre of excellence in research, education, and outreach brings education alive for students of all ages and is a crucial provider of on-going science education for teachers.

The app is available to download for FREE from the iTunes store at <http://tinyurl.com/CITCosmos>



CIT Cosmos: The CIT Blackrock Castle Virtual Observatory



Joining Dr Murphy for the launch of CIT Cosmos was 12 year old Cork whizzkid Harry Moran who is officially the world's youngest Mac app developer with his game PizzaBot.

BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition



CIT's Dr Niall Smith and Dr Paul Walsh with students who partook in the 'Send a Message to Space' at the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition January 2011.

BCO made the trip to Dublin again this January to set-up its fun and interactive exhibition space at The Institutes of Technology Ireland stands where you can send a live Message to Space!

Visitors at the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition sent a 75 character bit map encoded message to a distant world via the radio telescope at the Cork science centre. The message travelled at the speed of light (300,000 kilometres per second), to the visitor's chosen destination from the BCO's library of exoplanets. Over 500 exoplanets or planets outside our solar system have been discovered since 1995 when the first main sequence exoplanet was charted by researchers at Observatoire de Haute-Provence.

Listen to Signals from Space

Big Dish CORY, the largest radio dish in Europe for educational purposes is now detecting signals from space at the National Space Centre, Cork, allowing you to listen to the sounds of the Universe! BCO also showcased some of the best projects from Irish students who are currently designing unique data visualizations which represent the raw data transmitted from CORY.

CIT Cosmos App

BCO also displayed its newly launched Virtual Observatory app, CIT Cosmos, for all to see at the BTYSE.

For more information on the CIT BCO involvement with the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition in January 2012 log on to www.bco.ie

Astronomy and Science & the Education Sectors

CIT BCO aims to affect positive change in attitudes toward science, engineering and technology in Ireland and be recognised and respected as a centre of excellence in scientific research, education and outreach.

The science centre under the moniker, the Place for Space, has become an education specialist with expertise at both national and international level and has engaged with over 180,000 people since opening in 2007.

Continuous Professional Development

In support of upcoming changes to the Junior Certificate science and Leaving Certificate physics curriculum CIT BCO programmed a range of innovative projects, resources and workshops to inspire use of Space in the classroom. In 2010, CIT BCO developed Web of Stars a CPD course for second level teachers, and in 2011, partnered with ESERO, the European Space Education and Resource Office, Discover Primary Science & Maths, and Armagh Planetarium to develop a space and astronomy themed CPD course for primary teachers. These courses were very well attended and received, developing a fresh approach to mathematics and science by teaching through the theme of Space. Courses for 2012 will be advertised in Education Centres nationally and have placed CIT BCO clearly on the map as an astronomy and space science content provider and delivery agent.

National Expertise

The unique partnership between a third level institute and local government has enabled the growth of the award winning Cosmos at the Castle public exhibit. Visitors of all ages are informed about the development of life on Earth and astronomical and space research and can avail of a dynamic education and public access programme of events. CIT BCO is a certified Discover Science and Engineering (DSE) Discover Science Centre and offers accredited workshops to bring the wonders of space as a key STEM inspirer to an ever wider school going audience.

The education outreach programme includes the portable “StarDome” planetarium, sponsored by ESERO, which travels extensively throughout the country. A StarDome visit counts towards the DSE Awards of Excellence as a Part 2 “Bring a Scientist to the School” visit programme.

CIT BCO is in partnership with DSE for two exciting space education online programmes for 2011/12; Signals from Space and Message to Space. Working with the National Space Centre at the Elfordstown Earth Station, CIT BCO has acquired a 32m dish for use as a Deep Space Radio Telescope (see facing page). Students from CIT BA (Honours) Multimedia degree and the CIT Cork School of Music are working with the electrical signals from CORY (Computer Operated Radio Yoke - the name is the result of a recent national schools

competition), and turning the data into real-time audio and visual representations. The purpose of designing, developing, and implementing the data visualisation is to encourage interest and intrigue from transition and pre-transition students in Space, engineering, maths and technology. Message to Space, is the online activity whereby students are encouraged to transmit their message via the local radio dish at BCO to an extra solar planet from a library of targets.

International Expertise

BCO is home to BCO*labs*, CIT’s astronomy research laboratory headed by Dr Niall Smith, Head of Research at CIT. The unique partnership of the laboratory and outreach centre has enabled partnerships to be made internationally. BCO is the public outreach representative for the European Southern Observatory (ESO) in Ireland and it has built strong working relationships with NASA, ESA, ESERO, the University of Pune, India and, since 2009, the Chabot Space & Science Centre as part of a Cork twinning project with San Francisco. These links have all fostered the development of ways to think about STEM through space.



Rebecca Cantwell, Regina Mundi College, winner of the 'Name the Dish' competition, with NASA astronaut Greg Johnson.

Back To The Future - 32metre Satellite Dish is Reborn as Deep Space Radio Telescope

On the 9th May, 2011, at Elfordstown Earthstation, Midleton, Co Cork, Minister for Research and Innovation, Sean Sherlock TD, announced a partnership between National Space Centre and CIT which will see a huge 32metre satellite dish start a new life as a Deep Space Radio Telescope. The dish was originally constructed in 1984 to take transatlantic telephone calls from Europe to the USA, and was retired from use in the mid 1990's when the underground transatlantic cables were laid. The Deep Space Radio Telescope project will be coordinated and operated by CIT under Dr Niall Smith, Head of Research, in conjunction with CIT Department of Applied Physics and Instrumentation and the BCO in the first instance, and will spin into several other departments as plans advance.

The project will be carried out in two phases:

Phase I saw the Deep Space Radio Telescope operational by the end of summer 2011, with feeds available in September via internet to primary and post primary schools.

Phase II will be carried out during 2012, and will involve the refurbishment of the dish to turn and slew as it originally did and the installation of sensors and new receivers.

The Deep Space Radio Telescope will be capable of detecting a host of cosmic phenomena including:

- the emission of giant slow moving hydrogen clouds
- the violent explosions of stars
- eruptions of the solar surface
- storms on Jupiter
- enormous galaxy-scale jets of quasars

The project will benefit education and skills training, and research and development and provide incomparable hands-on training and research opportunities for students from primary through to PhD Level. It will be the only 32m radio telescope available to primary students for educational purposes in Europe.

Welcoming the plans Minister Sherlock said "National Space Centre is already active in European Space Agency (ESA) programmes including the Galileo Satellite Navigation Programmes and is actively pursuing additional research and development opportunities both with the ESA and the EU Framework programme. Ireland's ESA membership has contributed to the development of a highly knowledge-

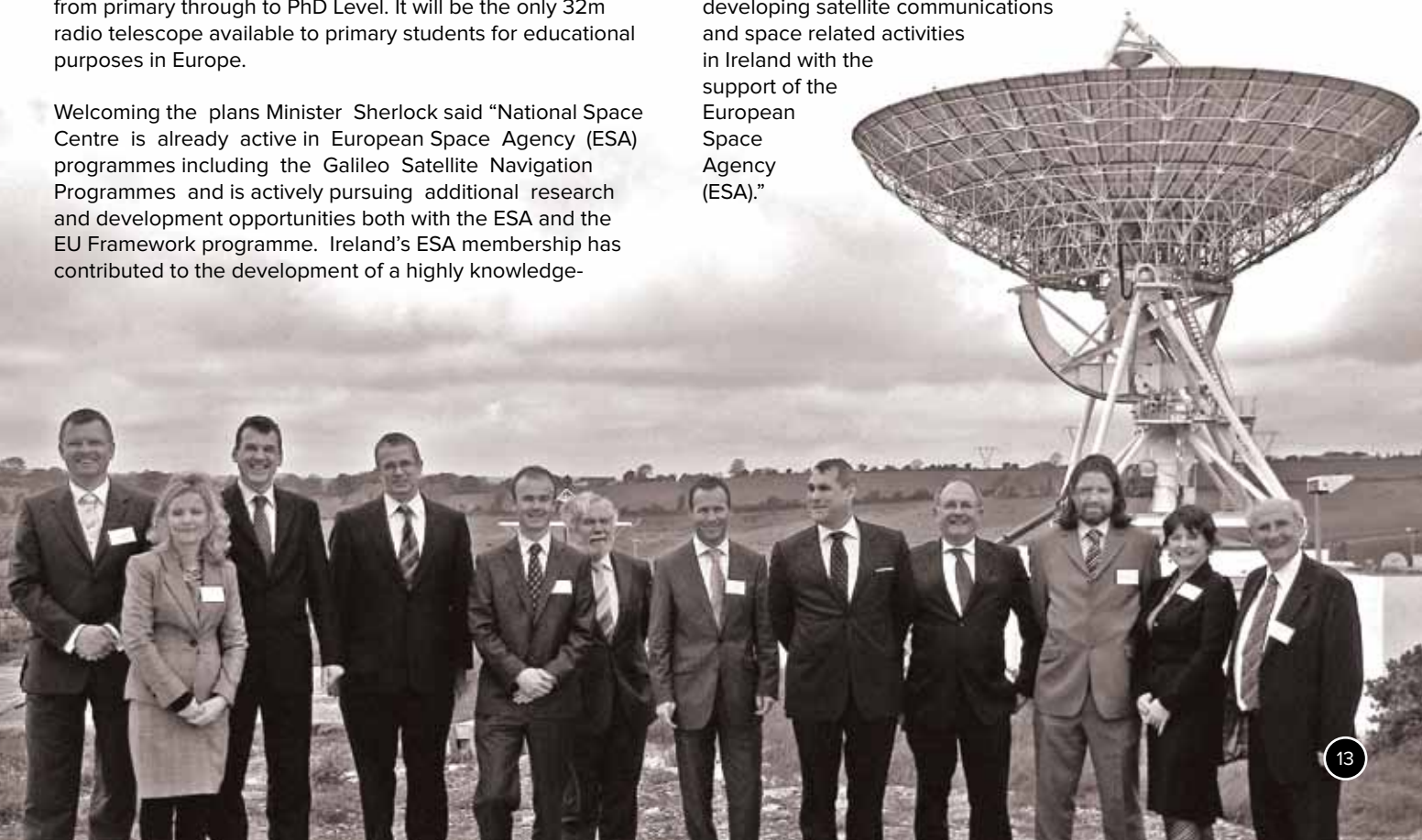
intensive industry sector with over 60 Irish technology companies having secured ESA contracts worth over €60m since 2000. We expect this number to grow significantly in 2011."

Dr Niall Smith, Head of Research at CIT, who outlined Phase I and Phase II of the project said "This project will see a €10m radio telescope brought back to life for less than €10,000 thanks to the partnership between National Space Centre and CIT. It's a great example of using world-class infrastructure in the most cost-effective way to reach out into the community and to embed our growing scientific heritage alongside our world-renowned culture.

It will excite students in schools who will get to listen in on the radio signals from outer space; it will be a testbed for engineering and science projects from primary through to PhD; it will be available to researchers from across Ireland and beyond; it will be an iconic structure only minutes from the famous Jameson Distillery, which we hope in the future to open to tourists and public alike."

Rory Fitzpatrick, CEO National Space Centre "We are delighted to get involved with CIT in this project and look forward to developing this prime scientific asset. We look forward to working with the entire science and astronomy, research and education communities on further projects as we develop."

Tony McDonald, Programme Manager, Space Technologies, Enterprise Ireland welcomed the project saying that "National Space Centre is an excellent example of the growing number of highly innovative indigenous start up companies developing satellite communications and space related activities in Ireland with the support of the European Space Agency (ESA)."



EMC² M.D. **Bob Savage** appointed Chairman of CIT's Governing Body

CIT is pleased to announce that the Minister for Education and Skills, Mr Ruairí Quinn T.D., has appointed Mr Bob Savage, Vice President and Managing Director of EMC², as Chairman of the Institute's Governing Body.

Dr Brendan Murphy, President of CIT, warmly welcomed Mr Savage's appointment stating that his experience and track record as a senior executive in one of Ireland's leading multinational corporations will bring considerable benefits to the Institute. He also noted that Bob Savage, as a distinguished CIT graduate in Electronic Engineering already has a very good knowledge of the Institute's various activities, which is also informed by his company's close working relationship with CIT.

Mr Savage is currently a board member of Enterprise Ireland, is a chartered member of the Institute of Engineers in Ireland, and a member of the board of the CIT Alumni Association.



Dr Alan O'Riordan is appointed as Adjunct Lecturer in Nanotechnology

Dr Alan O'Riordan will contribute to nanotechnology teaching and research at CIT. A graduate of CIT, Dr Alan O'Riordan is a leading researcher in nanotechnology and is based in the Tyndall National Institute.

Dr Liam McDonnell, Head, Department of Applied Physics & Instrumentation; Dr Alan O'Riordan, CIT Adjunct Lecturer in Nanotechnology; Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT; Bob Savage, Chairperson, CIT Governing Body; and Julie Dorel, Marketing Communications Manager, Tyndall National Institute congratulate on his appointment.

Institution of Structural Engineers 2011 Student Project Award

In October 2011, Gerard Murphy, 2011 BEng (Honours) in Structural Engineering graduate, won the Institution of Structural Engineers 2011 Student Project Award.

The award was presented for the best research project in a structural engineering related topic at undergraduate level. The competition was open to final year Level 8 Civil and Structural Engineering students at each of the third level colleges across the island of Ireland, both in the university and institute of technology sectors.

Gerard's project was titled "Experimental Investigation of Foundation Solutions for Offshore Wind Turbines" and comprised of both laboratory and field testing and analysis, whereby it is expected that the outcome of this work may have significant implications for future foundation design practice for offshore wind turbine structures.

The project supervisor was David Cadogan, Chartered Engineer, lecturer in the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering.

This competition is a pinnacle award for final year undergraduate projects in accredited civil and structural engineering degree programmes in Ireland, with CIT competing alongside the traditional university sector for these prizes. For a DSE4 graduate to win this award is a fantastic feat and is recognition of the quality of the project work being done within the Department.



Gerard Murphy

CIT Alumni Association

The CIT Alumni Association (CITAA) can help you to stay in touch with each other and keep you informed about activities at CIT. Please enjoy the read and register with us to become part of the vibrant, growing CIT Alumni Community.

Of course getting, and keeping in touch with past classmates is something many graduates do all the time, but there is so much more we can offer.

We are proud of and grateful to all our alumni. You are living proof of an outstanding, modern, innovative Institute and without your generosity in talking to prospective and current students, promoting the benefits of a CIT education and contributing financially we would not be the successful Institute that we are today.

We like to hear your stories and celebrate your achievements, so help us keep in touch with you by updating your contact details whenever you move house or job. In a conscious drive to become more green, our communications are becoming more web based, so please keep us up to date with your email address so that you are assured of receiving all CIT's news.

Please contact us if you have any comments, suggestions, or queries. Our Alumni is a continuously growing community, so register now and get involved.

To find out about all the latest news and developments at CIT we encourage you to join these groups by logging onto LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter and search for:



"CIT Alumni Association Facebook"
or <http://www.facebook.com/CITAlumni>



"CIT Alumni LinkedIn"
or <http://ie.linkedin.com/in/citaa>



"CIT Alumni Twitter"
or <https://twitter.com/CITAlumni>

To stay in touch with CIT, please update your contact details at <http://www.cit.ie/alumni/register/>

Entrepreneurship Support

The CITAA has joined forces with the on campus Incubation Centre the Rubicon Centre and CIT's Entrepreneur in Residence, Kieran Moynihan to offer the CIT alumni community various entrepreneurial support services. There are a number of possibilities and ways to go about setting up a business if you have an idea. As your opinion matters we would like to know what type of entrepreneurial support you would like to receive and how (remotely, on-campus workshops, mentoring, specific training, etc.). Complete the short survey at www.cit.ie/alumni to help us to coordinate a schedule of supports that are relevant to you.

The CITAA Golf Classic will take place on Friday 27th April 2012 in the magnificent setting of the Lee Valley Golf and Country Club. The event is an informal networking event for graduates and friends.

Events

Date

Friday, 27th April 2012

Venue

Lee Valley Golf & Country Club

Format

3 person team event

Starts

14:04 (first tee off)

Contact Phone Number

(021) 432 6589

Contact Email

alumni@cit.ie

Hosted By

CIT Alumni Association

Price

€60.00 per person (includes golf & BBQ)

Great Discounts and Opportunities for CIT Alumni

The CITAA in association with Group Buying Organisation (GBO) is offering great discounts for CIT graduates. GBO which is owned by two CIT graduates who were participants of the Genesis Enterprise Programme (GEP) based in the CIT Rubicon Centre. They are providing a unique website containing a wide selection of exclusive discounts for CIT Alumni. GBO currently have over 100 Cork Businesses providing discounts and a network reach of over 10,000 employees which is growing rapidly. In addition, we are providing at least three Foffit Daily Deals per week (50% offit deals).

For further details contact
 GBO/Foffit
 Rubicon Centre
 CIT Bishopstown Campus
 Cork
www.foffit.com

David Buckley T: 021 492 8987
 Bryan Jackson T: 021492 8988

CIT ALUMNI INDIVIDUALS	BUSINESS OWNERS	EMPLOYEES & EMPLOYERS
Register for FREE Access to 100+ Discounts Never Miss a Daily Deal	Grow your Business Promote it on GBO (corporates) High Volume Sales on Foffit	Highlight benefits to HR Your employer could join GBO Discounts/Deals for colleagues

Register at <http://citalumni.gbo.ie/> (it just takes 20 seconds)

citalumni.gbo.ie



Alumni Library Card

The CITAA launched the new CIT Alumni Library Card which offers graduates access to the CIT library, self-service photocopying facilities via a top-up and PCs in the library at CIT.



The card is now available to all registered CIT graduates. The CIT Alumni Library card entitles you to borrow four items from the main lending category in the library.

Fee

The fee for access and borrowing is €20 for full academic year. If you are currently unemployed you can avail of a reduced fee of €10. Proof that you are in receipt of unemployment benefit is required.

Application Procedure

Application forms are available from the CITAA on the ground floor of the Administration Building, Bishopstown Campus, by T: 021 432 6589, by E: alumni@cit.ie or at <http://www.cit.ie/alumni/alumnibenefitsandservices/>

For further information on the CIT library please see <http://library.cit.ie/>

Collecting your CIT Alumni Library Card

CIT Alumni library card holders can collect cards from the CIT Alumni Association on the CIT Bishopstown campus or can request the card to be posted.

Please note:

Due to licensing agreement regulations, access is only available to the library catalogue, which can be accessed remotely. Membership does not include access to the online databases.

Reunion: Mechanical Engineering Class of 1996

Graduates from the Mechanical Engineering Class of 1996 relived their student experiences when they met for a Reunion on Saturday 12th March 2011. Old photographs and stories evoked fond memories and a great night was had by all. Ger McSweeney who organised the reunion said: "It was great to meet up with the guys I spent some of the best times of my life with in college". Whilst absent friends were missed, the reunion turned out to be a wonderful occasion for all who attended.



Jeremy Murphy, John Murray and Kevin O'Brien



Len Leahy, Martin O'Sullivan and A.J.

What can we offer graduates?

The CIT Alumni Association offers members the following benefits and services:

Affinity Card with Bank of Ireland

T: 021 4326285 for further information on the CIT Bank of Ireland Affinity Credit Card.

Discounts for services <http://citalumni.gbo.ie/>

CITAA E-News, which is sent to all registered alumni whom we have a valid email address. The electronic e- bulletin keeps members up to date with news and events from CIT.

Learning City Magazine, which is sent annually to all registered alumni whom we have a valid postal address.

CIT Alumni Association LinkedIn Group. This group, which is administered by the CIT Alumni Association, is open to all CIT graduates, students, and staff. It is a useful online networking resource for staying in touch with others who have shared the CIT experience. To join the group, go to <http://ie.linkedin.com/in/citaa>

Careers and Counselling Support Service for recent Graduates

The Careers and Counselling Service is available to help recent graduates (one year out) build career management skills, research employment opportunities and make informed career decisions. For further information on the Careers and Counselling Service, and the services they offer, please visit www.careersandcounselling.com

Academic Assistance - to obtain CIT Transcript of Results please complete the 'Request for Transcripts of Results Form' which is available at www.cit.ie/alumni (popular alumni links) and email to transcripts@cit.ie

CIT Alumni Library Card

Please visit www.cit.ie/alumni for a CIT Alumni Library Application Membership form.

Find a Friend Service

The Alumni Office offers a free service for CIT Alumni who are seeking to contact old friends. If you would like to contact a class-mate or another College friend, all you have to do is contact us to post a request.

Class Notes

Let your classmates know what you have been doing. If you have news promotions, marriages, births, awards, publications etc. please contact us. If possible, please include a colour photograph with your name and address printed on the reverse. Whatever your news, send it to: alumni@cit.ie

A Global Network

We wish to expand our global network so if you are aware of any CIT Alumni living abroad who would have an interest in becoming involved or setting up a CIT Alumni Chapter, please contact alumni@cit.ie for details.

Graduate Exhibition of Illustrations, Photography, Video and Animation

The Department of Media Communications based in the Bishopstown Campus, the CIT Crawford College of Art and Design, and the Institute of Designers of Ireland in association with Design Week, hosted a series of discussions with graduates, followed by an exhibition of their work at CIT on 1st November 2011.

The work on display was a variety of illustration; photography; video; and animated pieces from a selection of talented graduates from the years 2003 to 2011.

Paul Delaney (2006 graduate BA (Honours) in Visual Communications) presented his work during the exhibition. Paul is an Irish artist who mixes collage and drawing with digital manipulation to create his graphic art prints. To date, he has exhibited his work in Ireland, England, and America in both group and solo shows. His work has appeared in magazines, newspapers and art books, and he is continuing to gain exposure with his bold art prints.

Joleen Cronin (2004 graduate BA (Honours) in Multimedia) presented her work which included her two published photography books 'Coast of Cork' and 'Coast of Kerry' one of which was presented to the Queen on her visit to Cork this year.

Will Slaney (2005 graduate BA (Honours) in Multimedia) is an established comic book designer who has worked on the illustration for Star Wars and recently profiled on RTE's Nationwide presented some of his latest work on the story of Cú Chulainn.

Brendan Cauty and Conal Thomson (2011 graduates BA (Honours) in Multimedia) produced and directed The Kid, (screened at the Corona Cork Film Festival in November), also presented. The Kid is a narrative short film based upon the story of a US Paratrooper, Jack (19), which on D-DAY gets lost in a forest in Normandy following the ambush of his squad.

Rose McGrath, Head, Department of Media Communications said "The exhibition and talks were a great benefit to the visual communications and multimedia students as the graduate speakers gave a good idea of how they were able to springboard from their studies in Media Communications in CIT into many areas of design."

The students in attendance got to see a great selection of static and motion graphics from a selection of talented and experienced CIT graduates who spoke very positively about their areas of expertise and gave valuable advice to the current Media Communications students at CIT.

Update your Details with CIT Alumni Association (CITAA)

Upon graduation you automatically become a member of the CIT Alumni Association (CITAA). All graduate details are maintained by the CITAA and all data is private and confidential, will not be passed on to third parties and will be treated with sensitivity. The data is used for Institute purposes only.

If you graduated prior to 2006 please register with the CIT Alumni Association at www.cit.ie/alumni. Automatic membership of the CITAA commenced upon graduation in 2006.

Opinions Count

We want to know how you would like to be treated as members of the CIT Alumni Association.

Regular research and opinions are important so that your ongoing experience as a graduate of CIT is a worthwhile beneficial one.

Please let us know what benefits, services, and events you would like to see offered and hosted by CIT Alumni Association.

Contact Us

CIT Alumni Association (CITAA)
Development Office
Cork Institute of Technology
Bishopstown, Cork, Ireland
T: + 353 21 423 6589
E: alumni@cit.ie

CIT teams with it@cork to Launch e3 Initiative for Students

CIT has teamed with it@cork to launch its e3 initiative, designed to excite, engage and educate primary and second level school students in information technology (IT). Through the efforts of Michael Loftus, CIT, Head of it@cork's Education Subcommittee and Head, Faculty of Engineering & Science; Gerard Culley, IT Manager, CIT; Dan Kelleher; Liam Good; and the Institute's IT support staff; a significant number of used computers have been reconfigured and distributed to local schools.

The e3 initiative will take full advantage of the increasingly popular cloud computing options now available. Schools, classes and individual students will be encouraged, with support from local it@cork members, to complete software development projects using the cloud-based MIT Scratch programming language, an on-line resource available free-of-charge. Scratch makes it easy to create interactive stories, animations, games, music and art, and to share creations on the web. As young people create and share Scratch projects, they learn important mathematical and computational concepts, while also learning to think creatively, reason systematically and work collaboratively. In excess of 1.6 million projects have already been completed around the world using this system and all are available on-line.

Schools and those with an interest in participating in this initiative may contact it@cork by email at education@itcork.ie. Support from organisations and individuals is also most welcome, through donation of time, equipment or other resources. Full details of it@cork may be found at www.itcork.ie.



Mella Weber and Norah O'Brien (Rang 6) work at reconfigured computers donated by CIT to Scoil Chlochair Mhuire's technology hub at Carrigwohill with Gerard Culley, CIT, and Michael Loftus, CIT and it@cork, Nora Moran, Principal, and Denis Collins, IBM and Chairman of it@cork.

Gaming Spaces/Learning Places?



How does past learning affect new learning challenges? When it comes to solving a novel problem or completing an unfamiliar task are we helped or hindered by our past experiences? Is it always a bit of both?

Such questions are generally addressed in the field of educational research under the heading of 'learning transfer' classically defined as the use or reuse of past learning in new contexts. Transfer of learning

however has long been a fraught issue. Despite the fact, for example, that our education and training systems are, in a sense, predicated on our ability to facilitate and support learning transfer, there is little empirical evidence to support even the occurrence of significant transfer (i.e. not merely transfer between highly similar learning and target contexts), never mind evidence for ability to facilitate or control it.

Lecturers Gearóid Ó Súilleabháin (DEIS Department of Education Development) and Joey Campbell (Department of Media Communications) however argue that the way in which recreational computer and video games are played appears to offer plenty instances of significant spontaneous learning transfer in action, and that games as highly dynamic, interactive and moreover highly manipulatable spaces are ideal research environments in which to study the phenomenon of learning transfer. To this end, Gearóid and Joey have, as part of larger

study, developed a shooter style game environment where negative transfer (the transfer of learning with a dominantly interference effect on new learning challenges) is deliberately primed in participants. The game appears to be a traditional first person shooter (FPS), similar to popular games like Halo, Half Life or any of the Call of Duty or Medal of Honor games but in point of fact gives players control of a distant onscreen character/avatar more in keeping with a more traditional third person shooter style game. Novice and expert players are being invited at time of writing to play the game and their responses captured to see, among other things, for which sub-group the interference effect is greatest and why.

The game itself was created by Joey Campbell, with some design ideas from Gearóid Ó Súilleabháin, using the Unreal Development Kit - a customisable gaming application based around the game engine used in the well-known first person shooter game series Unreal Tournament. As in-built scripts in the game were setup for FPS gaming these had to be customised both to enable the player character to face towards the camera and to adjust the way in which user control of the character worked. Further adjustments needed to be made to the artificial intelligence of the enemy characters to ensure that the users testing the game weren't eliminated too quickly and the FPS illusion of control was maintained as long as possible. At time of writing this manipulated FPS environment has passed an initial beta testing stage and is now being used as part of a full study of learning transfer in and from game environments.

For further information or to get involved please contact Gearóid Ó Súilleabháin (gearoid.osuilleabhain@cit.ie) or Joey Campbell (joey.campbell@cit.ie).



1,000 CANADIAN STUDENTS COMING TO IRISH INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY

Unique agreement signed will create student mobility between Ireland and Ontario

Ireland will benefit from a new agreement between Institutes of Technology Ireland (IOTI) and Colleges Ontario which will see up to 1,000 Canadian students coming to Ireland from September 2012 to study in Irish Institutes. In addition, Irish students will be able to travel to the Ontario colleges for undergraduate and post-graduate studies. CIT President, Dr Brendan Murphy, signed the agreement in Toronto on behalf of CIT.

Fee income to the Institutes will average approximately €7,000 per student per annum, generating a potential €7 million in income for the sector. Students will also generate local economic benefits of about the same amount through accommodation and living expenses.

Ontario is the largest province in Canada with a population of over 13 million. Colleges Ontario represents 24 third level colleges which educate undergraduate students up to the equivalent of Level 7 on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications. The agreement with the Irish Institutes will allow these students to progress to honours degrees at Level 8 and beyond in Ireland. Graduates of two-year college programmes in Ontario can secure an honours degree with two further years of study in Ireland. In some academic disciplines, graduates

of three-year programmes will be able to secure an honours degree with one further year of study.

The first wave of Canadian students coming to Ireland will study in the areas of electronics engineering, business, internet applications and web development, and hospitality. Further programme areas will be added over the coming months. In the opposite direction, Irish students will be able to travel to the Ontario colleges for undergraduate and post-graduate studies.

Gerry Murray, Chief Executive of IOTI said: "This agreement is unique because it is 'system to system', not just an agreement between individual institutions. It is a brilliant opportunity for Irish and Canadian students to substantially broaden their education experience. As well as covering undergraduate education, it also makes provision for partnerships in innovation and applied research, including potential for joint research. There is considerable interest in Canada in the Irish approach to applied research and business incubation in the Institutes of Technology".

Linda Franklin of Colleges Ontario said "The agreement offers tremendous mobility and flexibility to our students.

Under the agreement, students will receive financial support to study abroad. For example, Ontario students going to Ireland would see their tuition fees reduced by more than 15 per cent."

CIT has played a central role in the development of the agreement. President, Dr Brendan Murphy, currently fills the role of Chairman of Institutes of Technology Ireland and was instrumental in ensuring that the agreement was established on a sector-to-sector basis rather than on the basis of individual links between Institutes and Colleges. Michael Loftus, Head of Faculty of Engineering & Science, coordinated the efforts of academic teams across the Institute of Technology sector to ensure that the alignment between academic programmes in Ireland and Ontario was comprehensively analysed and articulation recommendations developed accordingly. Gerard O'Donovan (Head of School of Business), Jim O'Dwyer (Head of Dept. of Computing) and Dr Joe Connell (Head of Dept. of Electronics) worked with their counterparts in the Colleges Ontario system to ensure that detailed analyses of the programmes in their own specialist areas were completed and relevant pathway options for students identified.



The signing of the agreement.

On the 28th November, the agreement was signed during the 2011 Higher Education Summit organised by Colleges Ontario, an event which featured such high profile speakers as environmental activist, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr; mental health advocate, Margaret Trudeau; and former Prime Minister of Canada, Paul Martin.

(L – R) Mr Gerry Murray, CEO of Institutes of Technology Ireland; Dr Tony Tilly, Chairman of Colleges Ontario Committee of Presidents; Ms Linda Franklin, CEO of Colleges Ontario; Dr Brendan Murphy, President of CIT and of Institutes of Technology Ireland.

the DEIS

Department of Education Development

DEIS (the Gaelic word for “opportunity”) was established in 1993 to carry out a project in the area of open and distance learning.

In 1996 it became an official Department of CIT with a mission to “innovate in education for quality and access”. The range of innovations being pursued by members of the department is varied but broadly relates to key areas of E-learning/Technology-Enhanced Learning; Recognition of Prior Learning and Work-based Learning and Community Development.

Of these key areas E-learning/Technology-Enhanced Learning is currently to the fore with significant research and development activity ongoing in this area at both a research and development level. There are currently 6 major EU research projects in which the department is involved either as project lead or research partner. Projects are funded in the main under the EUs Lifelong Learning Programme and address topics such as the use of web2.0 technology for learning, the online Recognition of Prior Learning and the development of reusable learning objects. Work is also ongoing with regard to a range of commercial projects typically involving the development of e-learning resources for the corporate world: in the past corporate clients have included the well-known companies such as Vodafone, Citi (formerly Citibank), Baxter Health Care and Postbank.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Work-based Learning (WBL) have been key areas of activity for the department since its inception. The main RPL services in the Institute resides in the department and originally emerged from a series of EU and nationally-funded research pilot projects; current mainstream services incorporate the support of work-based learning in practice with local workplaces and the mentoring of staff and students in RPL practice across all levels and disciplines. Throughput of prior learning cases in recent years has been in excess of 500 per annum.

In further support of its mission the department has also engaged in the design and delivery of courses in partnership with a range of client groups in response to an identified need. One such programme is the BA (Honours) in Community Development, a programme which arose from partnership with a number of ‘grassroots’ community organisations across Cork City. The programme aims to provide a route to professional community work training. The BA (Honours) in Community Development has recently received conditional professional endorsement from the Interim Endorsement Board, an all-Ireland community work accreditation initiative. Research also continues in this field revolving particularly around the promotion of emancipatory approaches and “knowledge in action” for local communities. Course staff are actively engaged in grassroots initiatives in relation to, for example, overseas development and domestic violence intervention work.

Further queries about any of the above activities can be directed to the department at...



DEIS and the National Digital Learning Repository (NDLR) Project



On March 23rd, DEIS staff members Gearóid Ó Suilleabháin and Shane Cronin presented at the annual conference of a nationwide learning initiative, the National Digital Learning Repository (NDLR) at Trinity College Dublin.

Funded directly by the HEA, the NDRL project joins together all the country's institutes of technology and universities in the development and sharing of a constantly expanding repository of digital learning resources.

Part of DEIS's contribution to this initiative over this past year has been the development of a range of resources in the exercise and anatomy/physiology areas, work which was supported by Jean O'Shea and Joan Dinneen from the Department of Social and General Studies, who generously contributed time and subject matter expertise in these areas. These resources and their ultimate part in a model of peer production of learning resources formed the basis of Gearóid and Shane's invited talk.

The first part of the DEIS NDLR project, simply entitled "Exercise to Music", is comprised of 20 high definition instructor-led videos developed to highlight the practice and fundamental principles of teaching Exercise to Music to students. A class of second year Recreation and Leisure students from CIT demonstrated the choreography, guided by their Exercise to Music tutor, Jane Townsend. One of the key arguments for the development of this module is to provide an in-class tool for lecturers that would aid in the demonstration of complex choreographies and teaching methodologies. The Exercise to Music resource and related video interviews is now available at goo.gl/Qyb3c

The second part of this project is comprised of an interactive, reusable assessment tool in the area of Anatomy and Physiology. The kernel of the idea behind this project was to provide a method of streamlining formative in-class exams with large numbers of students in this particular subject area. The assessment includes interactive diagrams, drag and drop activities etc., which are automatically corrected and randomly generated by the Blackboard Learning Management System.

The DEIS Department is also actively involved in Local Innovation Projects (so-called NDLR "LIPs" project) in CIT in the areas of Tourism, Hospitality and Culinary sectors; Mathematics; Multimedia; and Educational Psychology.

To find out more about these and other CIT run projects, visit CIT's NDLR Local Projects page at goo.gl/W2wJj

For further information on the NDLR project, please contact Gearóid Ó Suilleabháin (gearoid.osuilleabain@cit.ie), Shane Cronin (shane.cronin@cit.ie), or Roisín Garvey (roisin.garvey@cit.ie).



Roisín Garvey, Gearóid Ó Suilleabháin, and Shane Cronin.



Shane Cronin presenting at the NDLR conference, Gearóid Ó Suilleabháin to the right.

Learning with Social Networks

Since January 2010 the DEIS Department has been the lead technical partner in an innovative educational project called “My Elvin”. This EU-funded research project hopes to leverage open source social networking technology to support language learning, matching up online learners based on their existing language competence and a range of other criteria. There are 10 partner groups in the project as a whole from Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Bulgaria, Latvia, and Hungary.



My Elvin Home Page

DEIS’s work on the project includes customising the open source software “Elgg” to support tools specific to the project, such as the “friend suggestion” tool, which suggests friends to users who match their language acquisition needs, and the “content suggestion” tool, which suggests user-generated content specific to each users profile information.

Piloting of a beta version of the platform began in October 2010 which involved partner trials of the system with over 200 language learners across the participating countries. Results have given the technical team in DEIS some clear pointers in terms of how to proceed in both the conceptual and technical design and development of the platform.

There was another round of pilots in May 2011 to further test the platform and the learning model. These pilots were conducted with language students across Europe. DEIS extended an invitation to language learning groups within, and associated with the institute to participate in the process and welcomes any enquiries about the project in general.

For more information please contact Maria Murray (maria.murray@cit.ie) or Shane Cronin (shane.cronin@cit.ie)



ed4life

Structured PhD training in Life Sciences a new era in Postgraduate Research

Under the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutes (PRTL) Cycle V, CIT received funding to establish and develop structured PhD Education for Life Sciences called ED4LIFE and to recruit a Curriculum Development Manager.

ED4LIFE aims to strengthen existing PhD education in the area of life sciences and will develop further industrial interaction and collaboration which is particularly relevant for the biomedical device and biopharmaceutical industries.

ED4LIFE is a collaborative project in the provision of research postgraduate education between three institutes, CIT partnered with the Alimentary Probiotic Centre in UCC and Moorepark Dairy Product Research centre. ED4LIFE aims to support PhD students to achieve the best possible experience of graduate research and training. It includes a number of innovative approaches to ensure the student achieves his or her academic, professional and personal objectives. In addition to their research, which is the fundamental part of PhD training, students will take modules on transferable skills such as academic writing, career planning, teambuilding and networking, communication, in addition to subject specific modules such as entrepreneurship, patenting, biotechniques, and instrumentation. Engagement with industry is fundamental in the design of the programme to ensure graduates are produced with the research training and skill set for the industry where they may end up working. To facilitate this, industrial representatives are a key part of the Joint Management Board and will have an influence on the design and development of the programme. Students who decide to go down the teaching and academic route will have the option of taking modules to complement this career path. The programme is student-centred through the development of a personal development plan for each student with mentoring throughout so that they choose the correct modules to suit the career path they decide on.



Charlie Dolan, Eli Lilly; Dr Niall Smith, Head of Research, CIT; Ita Gubbins, GE Healthcare; Alf Smiddy, Business Consultant; Dr Siobhán O'Sullivan, Curriculum Development Manager, Ed4Life, CIT; Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT; Dr Sally Cudmore, Alimentary Probiotic Centre, UCC; Dr Hugh McGlynn, Head of School of Science and Informatics, CIT; and Dr Colman Casey, UCC.



Back row (L-R) Aidan Casey; Peter Skuse; and Vaishali Bane.
Front row (L-R) Charlotte Paillette; Siti Nurtahirah Jaafar; and Cristina Hurtado-Uria
Missing from photo: Karen McCarthy



Ed4Life students with Dr Eamonn Cashell, Dean of Graduate Studies, CIT.

The ED4LIFE programme aims to adopt a 360° approach to curriculum design through:

- Enhancing the environment in which both early stage and experienced researchers undertake research;
- Supporting PhD researchers to develop a professional approach to documenting their competence in research skills through an electronic personal development system;
- Contributing to the professionalising of the research career within the Institute and the University;
- Assisting researchers to demonstrate employment skills;
- Empowering early stage researchers to gain the best possible research experience;
- Developing best practice in postgraduate supervisory skills.

ED4LIFE aligns with the Lisbon/Barcelona Agendas and specifically the Salzburg's principles by (i) equipping students with a range of the highest-quality research and innovation skills relevant to their discipline area, (ii) training them with the skills needed for the wider employment market and (iii) providing them with multiple career options.

It is anticipated that this programme will impact significantly on education, training and employability. The ED4LIFE programme was launched on the 26th September. The first module of the programme 'Personal Effectiveness; The PhD, let's get started' commenced the week of the 26th September. Details of ED4LIFE including the modules can be found on www.cit.ie/ed4life



web screen shot

41ST WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION

(LONDON 2011)

SHOWCASING SKILLS THAT **SHAPE OUR WORLD**

Ireland won 3 Gold medals and 5 Medallions for Excellence and finished overall 6th in the world. Ireland won Gold in Aircraft Maintenance, Electrical Installation & Plastering and Medallions for Excellence in Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, Plumbing, Automobile Technology, Restaurant Service, and Beauty Therapy.

The WorldSkills Competition is a biennial event that benchmarks craft/skill training and education among the 55 participating countries. The competitions are held over 4 days with approx. 1,000 competitors and a similar number of experts (industrial trainers and teachers) acting as judges in each of the 45 skill areas. Ireland has participated in all of the 35 competitions held since 1957.

WorldSkills London 2011 took place from 5th - 8th October 2011 in the ExCel Centre and provided a unique opportunity to demonstrate the real value of skills and the difference they can make to people's lives. The competition was a wonderful showcase of the skills which are needed to drive enterprise and build strong economies, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Eleven Irish crafts persons participated in WorldSkills in the following skills: Aircraft Maintenance, Electrical Installations, Industrial Control, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, Metal Fabrication, Plumbing, Plastering, Automobile Technology, Restaurant Service, Cooking, and Beauty Therapy. Competitors are young people – generally aged 22 or under – who excel at a particular skill. Participating countries, including Ireland, hold extensive regional and national competitions before selecting their national team, so representatives at the global level truly are the best of countries/regions. The Irish team was selected from the winners of the National Skills Competition Finals, which was held in CIT and DIT in April 2011.

The WorldSkills London 2011 Closing Ceremony was held at the O2, and was a blaze of noise, colour and energy. It was the night of nights for the global WorldSkills family, as medals were awarded to the best young skilled workers in the world. WorldSkills London 2011 was well supported with over 200,000 visitors over the 4 days of competition including the UK Prime Minister David Cameron and London Lord Mayor Boris Jonson. The 2011 was the best ever WorldSkills competition setting new standards for hosting skills competitions.



The competitions are a very good promotional event for apprenticeships/traineeships in Ireland and it encourages school leavers to consider a trade/skill as a career. They showcase the existing crafts and skills in the country and encourage industrialists and others to consider Ireland as a location for investment.

The HEA, Institutes of Technology, FÁS, Colleges of Further Education and Fáilte Ireland, support the participation in the WorldSkills Competition and have consistently promoted the competitions and provided the necessary facilities, staff and other resources for the training of the competitors.

The Irish team was selected from the winners of the National Skills Competition Finals which were held in CIT and DIT in April, 2011 and members of the team were trained at CIT.



(L - R) Expert/Trainer Michael Hourihan, lecturer in Electrical Engineering, CIT, Kieran Doherty who won a Gold Medal for Ireland in Electrical Installations, and John Twohig, Head of Centre for Craft Studies, CIT. Kieran did his apprentice training at CIT.



Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT, observing Gold medal winner Colin O'Callaghan, Aircraft Maintenance.



Vinnie Sullivan, competed in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Skill competition, accompanied by Expert/Trainer Michael Hourihan, lecturer in Electrical Engineering, CIT.



Michael Duggan competed in the Construction Metal Work Skill competition and was accompanied by Expert/Trainer Tim O'Halloran, lecturer in the Department of Manufacturing, Biomedical and Facilities, CIT.



Daniel Dzeberza competed in the Industrial Control Skill competition and was accompanied by Expert/Trainer Colm Agnew, from the Department Electrical Services Engineering, DIT.



Kieran Doherty, Gold Medal winner, competed in the Electrical Installations Skill competition and he was accompanied by Expert/Trainer Michael Hourihan, lecturer in Electrical Engineering, CIT.



Gold medal winner, Gary Condon putting the final touches to Big Ben. Gary won the Plastering and Drywall Systems category.

The 42nd Worldskills Competition 2013 will be held in Leipzig, Germany.

Graphic Design Industry Advisory Award

The Graphic Design Industry Advisory Award

undertaken as part of the BA Design Communications (3rd year) Professional Practice module was coordinated and supervised by industry representatives, Frank Dowling and Jim Horgan, along with module lecturers, Valerie Renehan and Steven Young. The award, running for the past 5 years, asked students to devise, plan and storyboard a concept for an interactive online magazine in the first instance. And, in addition, student groups were required to produce a working prototype and partake in a formal presentation of their concept to members of the advisory panel. The Department would like to extend their appreciation to Frank and Jim for their invaluable contribution to this initiative and the student experience on the course.

The brief challenged the students to devise an innovative solution through research, investigation, conceptualization, branding, content, interface design, and interaction with specific focus on their chosen target market. Projects included:

- **Zipcode** – a men’s online magazine introduces custom content and crowdsourcing to bring the site alive for its audience of 18 – 30 year old males, designed by Marius Stepsys, Brian McAvoy and Katie O’Sullivan.
- **WasteLand** – an online magazine offering an informative and social environment that engages those interested in the skateboard culture, designed by Jeff Furlong, Leyla Bulmer, and Edel Lougheed.
- **Carbon** – aims to crystalize talent in their online magazine through showcasing and sharing the work produced by students – the site’s mantra being; ‘for students, by the students’ encapsulated in an interactive experience which focuses primarily on the work and their creators, designed by Lidija Vasiljeva, Aoife O’Connell, and Damien Rice.



BA Design Communications Exhibition: ‘**Impressions**’



The Final Year BA Design Communications Exhibition was organised by the students to mark the successful completion of their degree. The exhibition demonstrates project work undertaken with lecturers Valerie Renehan, Steven Young, Gwen Lettis, and Aoife Dorney. The exhibition, titled ‘Impressions’, took place from 26th May – 1st June 2011 in the Nexus Student Centre Gallery. The work included Experimental Typography, Advertising, Branding, Promotion, Illustration and Web Design. Congratulations to all students.

Exhibition work by students Damien Rice and Christina Curtin.

Packaging of the World Design

<http://www.packagingoftheworld.com>

Three students of the BA in Visual Communications were chosen to present their 2nd year packaging design work on the Packaging of the World Blog which is one of the most prominent packaging design website showcasing the most interesting and creative packaging work worldwide



Designed by Barbara Kozlik



Designed by Denis Carroll



Designed by David O'Sullivan

Multimedia Degree Students Partner with COPE Foundation

This past semester saw an interesting new partnership between third year students of the Honours Multimedia degree and COPE, a well-known Cork-based foundation which provides a range of support and training services for children and adults with intellectual disability.

Graduation



Leanne McDonagh graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Fine Art is pictured here with Dr Barry O'Connor, Registrar & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Early discussions between lecturers Gearóid Ó Súilleabháin and Phil Curtin about a possible link between the services and supports of COPE Foundation and the coursework requirements of CIT Multimedia degree students developed into a series of formal problem statements based around difficulties COPE clients sometimes experience in navigating everyday situations such as time management, making change in shops and restaurants etc. These problem statements subsequently became the basis for project work undertaken by the third year students as part of a group-based project module designed, inter alia, to provide student with the experience of developing multimedia solutions for real clients. A number of groups with the added assistance of lecturer Gary Couse worked specifically on developing apps for smart phone devices as a way to provide clients with a carry around solution to which they can cognitively offload. A number of desktop and web-based solutions have also been completed again leveraging off the affordances of interactive digital media to support and scaffold the learning of COPE clients.

The project throughout followed a user-centered design philosophy whereby the needs and input of the end user were put centre stage and the assumptions and hypotheses of the student designers were constantly tested with the user group at each stage of the design process.

Feedback from both staff and clients of the COPE foundation as well as the students themselves has been extremely positive and a number of the solutions appear set to find their way into mainstream use by the client group.

Representatives from each of the participating students groups travelled to the Czech Republic in November 2011 to showcase their work at a transnational meeting of an EU-funded project aimed at supporting people with disabilities in the workplace.



Day Display: One of the student projects, "DayDisplay", a smartphone-based app intended to help the client group with their time management skills.



Representatives from each the students' groups in Prague, Czech Republic.

CCAD Textiles

participating in Lithuanian Exhibition



Designed by Maeve Lynch

The 8th International Textiles Biennial took place in Kaunas, Lithuania from 22nd September 4th December 2011. The Biennial is a prestigious platform for interrelations between textiles cultures in the visual and performing arts, as well as between art, science, and industry. This year the Biennial was jointly organised by the European Textiles Network (ETN), which held its Conference and AGM during the opening weeks of the Biennial in September. Pamela Hardesty, Lecturer from CCAD, participated in the Conference, representing CIT in a special Focus that allowed speakers to highlight the networking and exchange activities and opportunities of their respective institutions. The Conference theme in general was *REWIND INTO THE FUTURE*: exploring ways

to empower textile culture for the future, why it is important and what is left to be done for the upcoming generation. The Biennial programme focussed on a major exhibition with juried and invitational fine art textiles works in the National Museum of M. K. Čiurlionis Museum in central Kaunas, and also included many satellite exhibitions within Kaunas and in Vilnius, as well as on-going performance works, community projects, and workshops (www.bienale.lt/2011).

Pamela also brought to Kaunas the work of 6 CCAD Textiles Subsidiary students to take part in a special Educational Exhibition in the M. Žmuidzinavičius Museum, Kaunas, organised through TEXERE (Textiles Education and Research in Europe) of which Pamela has been a long-standing active member, and within which was recently elected as Exhibitions Officer. The TEXERE exhibition features work from 8 different groups, featuring many levels of textiles education, including design work from digital textile students from AFOL MODA Milano Italy; conceptual body-related work from Y Collective students at the School of Technology at Eastern Michigan University, USA; MA graduates in The Seamless Textile group from Norwich University, UK; as well as work from second-level and adult education courses in Austria, UK, and the Netherlands. This showcase was an important opportunity for the work of these students to be seen and judged by the Biennial audience composed of a spectrum of textile artists, educators, museum officials, and curators at the forefront of the international field. The TEXERE exhibition was recently reviewed in *FIBREQUARTERLY*, the online Canadian journal, by Alice Kettle, world-renowned UK textile artist, who stated that it “exemplified the philosophy at the heart of the group itself. This is the education, research and good practice of textiles and the bringing together of textiles process, concept and discussion across continents. . . .” and who commended the richness of “the range and diversity of contributions in this exhibition both geographically and in terms of textile practice.”

The six CCAD students exhibiting completed their Textiles Subsidiary course in May, 2011. Most are now in their Honours Degree year in the CCAD. They are: **Lorraine Barry**, exhibiting digital prints of her own drawings onto cotton with over-felting and stitch that dealt with the dark side of fairy tales; **Renee Carroll**, delicate wire house forms on a Perspex shelf with a cast silk form of a baby floating underneath from an umbilical-like cord that traced a story of loss and the fragility of memory; **Fiona Creagh**, patterning cotton with a very complex painterly textured dye resist in layers that pictured fantasy civilisations within an ice field; **Gwenda Forde**, deconstruction and darning, and machine stitch on cotton muslin in a work presenting ageing in a positive way, using her cloth as a metaphor for the body; **Sinead Gibbons**, who looked at boats, journeying and history using old maps that she sanded, pigmented, pleated, and smocked in relief surfaces; and **Maeve Lynch**, who created a book-like suspended construction of 7 sheets, each composed of fine text fragments screen-printed onto chiffon silk layered with water-drop marked handmade paper to reference a kind of personal prayer through creative contemplation and making.



Designed by Renee Carroll

Wave Break Media Collaboration

In February 2011, BA Multimedia students teamed up with Cork based company Wavebreak Media LTD. to develop dynamic video commercials as part of their project 04 module.

The students collaborated with Wavebreak CEO Sean Prior in order to create generic 'After Effects' project files in which the end user can personalise the video content by replacing specific stock footage elements. The students focused on design and animation issues while Wavebreak Media supported the project by engaging with the students and supplying professional video footage for them to use.

Following on from this collaboration, third year student Brodie Thornton went on to work with WaveBreak as an intern over the summer, and 2011 graduate John Hayes was recruited to work with them as a 3D animator.

Samples of the work created by the students can be viewed online at: www.youtube.com/mm2communications

Media Project 4 Module was delivered this semester by Joey Campbell, Aoife Dorney, Brian Doyle, and Paul Green

Designing Crafting Making in Ireland Now and for the Future



Stool by Claire Anne O'Brien

The Crafts Council of Ireland's 'Future Makers Awards and Grants' provide support for the next generation of makers to learn, experience, investigate, develop, create and shape the future of Irish craft.

Future Makers fund: research, training, residencies, materials, exhibitions and more.

The Exhibition was opened by Karen Hennessy, CEO, Crafts Council of Ireland.

The exhibition ran from the 14th October - 4th November, 2011.

www.craftinireland.com

www.futuremakers.ie

Roseanne Lynch wins 1st Alliance Francaise Photography Award

Cork artist, Roseanne Lynch won the 1st Alliance Francaise Photography Award last Thursday in Dublin. The announcement of this prestigious prize was made at the opening of an exhibition of the four finalists work at the Alliance Francaise gallery by the Director Claire Bourgeois. The judges included the photographer Anthony Haughey and the Director of the Gallery of Photography, Tanya Kiang.

Roseanne will receive flights to Paris for a 2 week residency at the Centre Culturel Irlandais, a €600 grant from the Ireland Fund of France, a course at the Alliance Francaise to brush up on her French before she goes and a one-to-one tutorial with Vermillion Design. A residency at the Centre

Culturel Irlandais in Paris is a very valuable part of many famous Irish artists' resumes and will allow the artist dedicated time to immerse herself in her work.

Rosanne Lynch is an exhibiting artist, a member of the Backwater Artists Group and photography lecturer at the Crawford College of Art & Design in Cork. Her art practice looks at qualities of photography and how the photographic practice affects the looking. She is concerned with creating an understanding of the experience of the physical space we inhabit using photography. The photographs exhibited in Dublin are two large abstract black & white images of light defining architectural



planes and a smaller photograph printed directly on aluminum. The photographs were made on a large format film camera before being scanned for printing.

The other finalists in the exhibition were Joby Hickey, Doreen Kennedy, and Jean Luc Morales. You can see Roseanne Lynch's work at www.roseannelynch.com.

CCAD Conferences Sept 2011

In September 2011, CCAD hosted two very successful conferences.

The Irish Human Computer Interaction (iHCI) conference was held in an institute of technology for the first time, CIT Bishopstown Campus, chaired by Paul Green, and supported by staff from a range of disciplines across the Institute (<http://ihci2011.org/>). The keynote speaker was Paul Adams, Product Manager at Facebook.

The PARADOX Fine Art conference which brought 120 delegates (and 33 students) to Cork from 14 European countries, was held at CIT CSM, CIT CCAD, and CIT Wandersford Quay Gallery, chaired by Christine Pybus, and supported by staff from CCAD (http://paradoxfineart.net/paradox/?page_id=224). Paradox is an autonomous co-dependent of ELIA (The European League of the Institute of Arts), it is a forum for artists and tutors directly involved in the delivery of Fine Art Higher Education programmes throughout Europe. The theme of the conference was 'Outside In- The Permeable Art School. Keynote Speaker was Lewis Biggs, Director of the Liverpool Biennial.

Chinese *Engagements*



Zhang Yunyao - Glass, Aluminum Case, Woodboard, Tinfoil.

CIT celebrated its engagement with contemporary Chinese Art in January 2011 when two exhibitions opened at the CIT Wandesford Quay Gallery and CIT CSM. Both exhibitions opened on the 19th January and ran until the Chinese New Year on the 6th February.

The Wandesford Quay exhibition is a collaboration with the Don Gallery in Shanghai, and curated by its Director, Xixing Cheng. This exhibition featured the work of a number of Shanghai-based Chinese artists, including Yunyao Zheng, Han Feng, Huang Ling, Liu Ren, Lu Tianyang, Ni Youyu, Xiao Jiang, Zhang Xiangxi, as well as Beijing-based artist Xuewu Zheng. This exhibition was facilitated by Ciarán Walsh and Fion Gunn.

The CIT CSM Exhibition, titled "From Here to There", was curated by Fion Gunn, and featured Irish artists who have already exhibited in China, including Harry Moore, Mary Mackey, Audrey Mullins, Dara McGrath, Fion Gunn, and Chinese artist Maleonn Ma, who has also exhibited at the Sirius in Cobh.

Both exhibitions received support from Cork City Council and University College Cork.

During March 2011 at the National Centre for Performing Arts, in Beijing (also known as "The Egg") – an exhibition opened as part of the Irish Wave Festival 2011, and featured the work of CIT CCAD staff and graduates. Staff included: Dr Ailbhe Ní Bhriain, Catherina Hearne, Debbie Dawson, and Mike Murphy. A number of final year Fine Art students also exhibited their work alongside the work of students from the Tsinghua Academy at the Yi Gallery, also located in Beijing.



Mike Murphy



Debbie Dawson



Jessica Knibb

Solo show by Xiao Wei Zhuang



A prestigious glass exhibition opened at the CIT Wandesford Quay Gallery, Cork on Friday May 6th. 'Poetics of the Handmade' is a show featuring handmade Contemporary Glass from China.

CIT CCAD was honoured to host this solo show by Xiao Wei Zhuang, Professor of Glass at the College of Fine Art at Shanghai University. Professor Zhuang was appointed Director of the Glass Museum of Shanghai in 2008. He is also a member of the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Glass of the International Council of Museums.

Rooted in the natural world around him, Xiao Wei draws inspiration from animal shapes and abstract forms. The work is solid and weighty yet this weightiness belies the lyrical quality of the work and imbues it with a playfulness that is unexpected.

Since their twinning, Cork has built up a significant relationship with Shanghai. This exhibition further enhanced that relationship and with an Irish Glass exhibition taking place in Shanghai in 2012 it is hopeful further links will be made between CIT CCAD and Shanghai University through student and staff exchange.

Gemma Tipton, art critic and writer opened the exhibition which was curated by Debbie Dawson, artist and lecturer in glass at CIT CCAD.



Simon English

In April 2011, CCAD staff member and highly-regarded artist Simon English held an exhibition at the Cross Gallery, Francis St. Dublin entitled 'Nothing Lasts Forever'.

CCAD staff member Maureen O'Connor also exhibited at the Gallery's project space (nag).



Interloper by Maureen O'Connor

Iconic French Film Maker unveiled Fine Art Photography and Video Installation



In March 2011, an exhibition by iconic French filmmaker and artist Agnès Varda was officially launched in her presence at the CIT Wandesford Gallery. 'Open Windows' an exhibition specially curated for the Cork French Film Festival was sponsored by Bord Gáis Energy.

Agnès Varda is a key figure in modern film history and one of the world's leading filmmakers. From anticipating the French New Wave to inventively embracing and re-defining digital video, Agnès Varda has always bounded forward with a restless, inspiring joy for filmmaking. Trained in art and photography Varda used the skills she honed early in her career as a photographer to create some of the most nuanced, thought-provoking films of the past fifty years. Varda has traced a path through cinema as invigorating, whimsical, painterly, and searching as it has been personal. Always ready to experiment and to explore, Agnès Varda remains one of the essential cinematic poets of our time and a true visionary.

Varda made her debut as an installation artist at Venice Biennale in 2003. Her groundbreaking exhibition filled the entire Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Paris in 2006 and her work has been bought by MoMA and other major galleries.

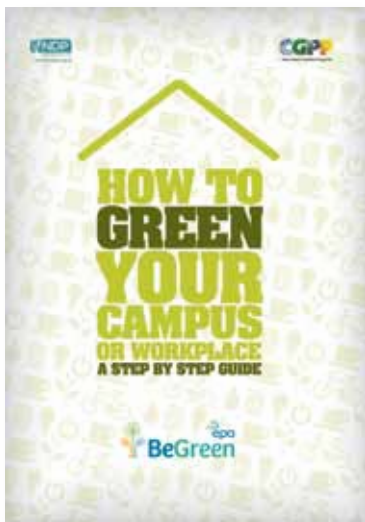
Green Campus

SETTING THE STANDARD FOR A SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS PROGRAMME

www.greencampuscit.ie

Green Campus has seen huge improvements since 2009 at CIT. CIT has set the standard for a sustainable campus programme with your support to push it forward.

HOW TO GREEN YOUR CAMPUS OR WORKPLACE – A STEP BY STEP GUIDE



The CIT Sustainable Campus Programme published a book titled 'How to green your campus or workplace - a step by step guide' to help other third-level campus implement their own sustainable campus programme. It is hoped that this publication will help many other third-level institutions implement a sustainable campus programme or improve individual elements such as waste generation,

water consumption and energy usage. The publication is also useful for many other sectors including hospitals, prisons, local authorities etc. This book was produced with funding provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Cleaner Greener Production Programme (CGPP) with the aid of the Clean Technology Centre and the CIT Buildings and Estates. More information is available on www.greencampuscit.ie

WASTE

The CCAD has implemented a new recycling system on campus and is making great strides in improving its waste system and will surely reap the benefits in the coming months. CCAD introduced the recycling system which has been rolled out at the Bishopstown campus. Please use the correct bins for your waste at CCAD.

Liquid side pods have been added to a number of bin locations at CIT. These liquid side pods will help keep liquid contamination out of the dry recyclables. The liquid side pods are clearly marked and are located mainly around the canteen area and the Student Centre. This is another step in the right direction for waste management at CIT. Please make every effort to use the recycling bins correctly and separate your waste.

TOURISM & HOSPITALITY STUDIES GO GOLD

On behalf of the Department of Tourism & Hospitality Studies, Patricia Madden accepted the Gold level Green Hospitality Award from Maurice Bergin, Green Hospitality Programme, and Matt Crowe, Director, EPA. The newly designed plaque, made from recycled glass, was presented to Patricia at the prestigious awards reception held in the Westin Hotel on the 11th October, 2011.



TOURISM & HOSPITALITY FOOD SALES

The Department of Tourism & Hospitality Studies Green Team has reintroduced the food sales project, selling food made in the training kitchens to staff and students. This project which is a student led initiative uses 100% compostable packaging materials (including the carrier bags). Food cooked in the kitchens is chilled, packaged and labelled for sale in the Tourism Building. All staff at the Department deserve great credit for all the work put into this initiative, particularly Patricia Madden and Séamus Forde. Many classes conduct a 'zero waste' operation where vegetables left over from the cookery class are made into a delicious soup. The students have presented fantastic food over the past couple of months which shows a very high standard and excellent skill levels from the department. This initiative results in less waste being sent for disposal and offers an opportunity for staff and students to showcase their work. An optimised ordering system in the Department also helps to ensure that a waste prevention policy is adhered to. Any profits that may be made from the initiative will be used for other 'green' projects on site. Food sales are conducted from the Department on a first come first served basis at 4pm Monday to Thursday and at lunch time on Friday. An email is sent out to inform people what will be on sale that day.

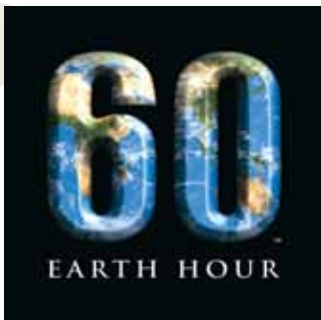
ENERGY

An intelligent load compensating and sequence control for the boiler (M2G system) was installed in February 2011. We hope to see savings in the system along with a reduction in CO2 emissions in the coming months. The first month gas bill following installation of the M2G system was 20% lower than the same period last year. A project for voltage stabilisation in the canteen area and Library/IT building is currently being investigated. The voltage stabilisation controllers will help reduce the energy consumption on campus.

CO2 emissions from electricity consumption decreased in 2010 to 122 kg CO2 per student from 314 kg CO2 per student in 2009. This was mainly due to the use of a greener supplier of electricity at CIT but also to a reduction of 7kWh in consumption of electricity per full-time student on campus in 2010 despite the increase in facilities and activity. The Campus BER improved from a D1 in 2009 to a C1 in 2010.

The new premises in Tyco, Bishopstown Campus, for the Clean Technology Centre have raised the bar in sustainability at CIT and across the country by installing a top of the range energy efficient lighting system. The system uses a number of natural light fittings with 50 energy efficient panels which saves 54 kWh per day compared to the proposed fittings for the building. This lighting work, along with the extensive work carried out on lighting by the Buildings & Estates office, will greatly add to the long term sustainability of CIT.

EARTH HOUR AT CIT



Co-ordinated by the Buildings & Estates Office, the Institute joined organisations around the world by participating in Earth Hour 8.30pm – 9.30pm 26th March 2011. Earth Hour, run by the conservation organisation WWF, is a climate change initiative, calling on individuals and businesses

to turn off their lights for one hour on Saturday 26th March. 970 to 990 kWh of electricity is typically consumed between 8:30pm and 9:30pm at CIT during the week, resulting in 529 kg of GHG emissions, and equivalent to leaving 9,700 100W bulbs switched on, or 28,218 PCs left on standby. In joining Earth Hour, CIT not only supported the worldwide campaign, but also set a benchmark for 'good practice' at CIT, showing what savings can be achieved through good housekeeping. Staff and students were asked to power off computers and monitors, non-essential office and laboratory equipment and non-essential lights. The Buildings & Estates Office also scheduled off as many automatically controlled items as possible. Thanks to everyone for making Earth Hour a success at CIT. During Earth Hour, CIT reduced its typical kWh consumption by 436 kWh (88 kg CO2 emissions, €43.60). This reduction represents a 45% reduction in consumption during Earth Hour as compared to a typical week day consumption between 8.30pm and 9.30pm at CIT. This saving is equivalent to switching off 4,360 100W bulbs. Congratulations to all staff and students who made the effort to Switch Off – Plug Out. Please keep up the good work at CIT and help reduce needless energy consumption outside of office hours.

WATER CONSUMPTION ON CAMPUS

Urinal sensors have been installed at various locations on campus to help reduce the water consumption from constant urinal flushing. 2010 water consumption was 43,621m³, which is enough water to fill more than 17 Olympic sized swimming pools! In 2010 the consumption of water per student on campus reduced by 4%. Please help to reduce this consumption rate further in 2011 by conserving water where possible and reporting any leaks or dripping taps.

PAPER

Paper usage on campus has improved slightly in 2010 from 1808 sheets per student to 1734 sheets per student (4% reduction). CIT's paper usage is still quite high. Let's reduce paper consumption further in 2011 by only printing what you really (really really) need and always use double sided printing and photocopying. The Clean Technology Centre and the Department of Media Communications undertook a trail in using digital expense claims to help reduce the paper use from the paper system currently in place. This system will complement the new system for electronic payslips to help with the reduction of paper usage (and waste) on campus. Electronic pay slips have been introduced to both Bishopstown Campus and the CCAD.

OUTSIDE

CIT recently planted a number of trees and hedging around the campus to enhance the grounds. These trees and hedging add to the ambience at CIT but are also important elements of increasing the biodiversity value of the campus. The Herb garden outside the Tourism & Hospitality Studies Building is also doing very well providing cookery classes with many of herbs. Practical classes are currently separating their green waste for use in the composter for use in the herb garden.



The new arrivals of 2 hens have been a great hit with staff and students. The hens are being used as an education tool at the department and complement the great work being carried out under Adrian Gegan at the Department of Tourism & Hospitality Studies at CIT.

For more information contact the Green Campus Facilitator at Mary.Purcell@cit.ie.

NEWS FROM THE NMCI

→ NMCI JOINT VENTURE GTSS LAUNCHES NEW COURSE

GAC Training and Service Solutions (GTSS), a partnership between the NMCI and GAC, the world leader in shipping, logistics and marine services, launched a cutting edge new Bunkering course in November 2011.

GTSS is now regarded as one of the world's leading training providers for seafarers and shore-based shipping personnel.

The course which is a "Complete Guide to Bunkering" is run on a scheduled and bespoke basis. The scheduled courses will take place in Europe and Asia in 2012 whereas the bespoke courses are currently available and can be tailored made to the needs and requirements of clients.

The course will be led by leading bunker market experts Robin Meech and Chris Fisher, the new course reflects the latest trends facing the bunker suppliers, traders and brokers, as well as bunker fuel purchasers, class societies, surveyors and other bunkering stakeholders. The course covers the importance of bunker fuel as a major cost for the shipping industry – with fuel costs having risen 600% over the past 10 years and representing over 70% of most shipping companies' costs.

The new course has been designed by bunker industry expert Meech, managing director of Marine and Energy Consulting and co-author of "Outlook for Bunker Fuel Oil and Heavy Fuel Oil to 2030" published in July 2011. Focusing heavily on delivering value for money, the course content encompasses the full breadth of the bunker industry, including: history and background, the latest regulations (SOx, NOx and Greenhouse Gases), abatement and energy efficiency, demand and pricing, LNG and other alternative fuels, the latest fuels standards (ISO 8217:2010), sampling and surveys, metering, price risk management and an introduction to the legal framework and contracts.

Robin Meech explained "The modern bunker market is a constantly changing operating environment – increasing prices, environmental regulation, record prices, poor credit, growing demand for metering, the potential of LNG powered vessels; all of which directly influences the decisions taken by those operating across the full spectrum of the bunker supply chain. This course reflects the bunker market as it is today and GTSS should be commended for looking at the bunker industry and allowing it to use its state-of-the-art training facilities.

Given the sheer scale of relative cost for bunker fuel in the modern shipping market, it is not only the buyer and seller of bunkers that play a crucial role in maximising profitability. Expanding the depth of people's knowledge right across the value chain, including board members, can help provide them with a better understanding of the bigger picture, as well as the consequences of their actions, enabling them to make more informed decisions with confidence. Ultimately this improves the overall efficiency of end-to-end operations and allows organisations to benefit from the associated commercial savings."

The course has been created paying close attention to the current trends and likely future of the bunker market. It combines elements of strategic long-term thinking with technical and regulatory requirements, as well as the day-to-day realities of bunker sales, procurement and delivery.

Conor Mowlds, Director, GTSS said "With bunker prices at an all-time high the bunker purchaser has a more influential role than ever before. The viability of many a company is resting on the successful purchase of bunkers at the right price, and when done effectively this can give an organisation a competitive edge. In today's operating environment, increased understanding can indeed provide competitive advantage, which is why GTSS has designed the best value for money course in the industry."

For more information please visit

www.nmci.ie/gtssbunkercourse





WORLD LEADER IN OFFSHORE SIMULATION PARTNERS WITH NMCI

SEFtec NMCI Offshore Ltd (SNO), a public/private joint venture between SEFtec Global Training Ltd., and NMCI, was launched in December 2010 at the NMCI by the Minister of Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Batt O’Keeffe.

This venture is a shining example of how to bring together state of the art public infrastructure in the form of one of the world’s most advanced maritime colleges, with private enterprise’s expertise in not only offshore training, but in the design, manufacture, installation, commissioning, and service of training simulators for the global maritime industry.

Minister Batt O’Keeffe said it would support jobs and the growth of the Irish offshore exploration and wind energy sectors and added “The future is bright for the partnership we are announcing here this afternoon. The maritime sector is a diverse and developing global industry that requires huge levels of skill and technical capability.”

Focused on supporting the successful and sustainable growth of the Irish offshore exploration sector, SNO has successfully secured the approval of the Offshore Petroleum Industry Training Organisation (OPITO) for its programme of courses. In a sector that is completely focused on safety, OPITO has become the global industries focal point for skills, training and workforce development.

“SNO is very proud to have achieved its OPITO approval this year, the approval came about in a phenomenal time frame and this wouldn’t have been possible without

the combined efforts of both public and private joint venture partners. This will mean that we can service not only the growing needs of Ireland’s offshore sector, but train for the global industry as well,” said Conor Mowlds, Managing Director, SNO Ltd.

SEFtec, an Irish SME with a global focus, commenced trading in 2004 and has quickly become one of the world’s leaders in the provision of offshore simulation equipment. Based in a state-of-the-art facility in Cork it has diversified its activities from the design and fabrication of offshore training simulation equipment to training and already operates an OPITO centre in Kazakhstan.

The future aim of SNO is to break into the offshore renewable energy sector, with the development of their Offshore Wind Energy Safety Training course (OWEST) ear marked for further development. The OWEST course currently involves Helicopter Winching Techniques, Life Saving Appliances and Vessel Abandonment which is key training for anyone working on or near Offshore Wind Energy Sites.

For further information visit

www.seftec.ie or www.nmci.ie



Jim Cameron, OPITO Director of Approvals; Conor Mowlds, Managing Director, SNO; and Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT; with the NMCI’s OPITO certification at the SEFtec NMCI Offshore (SNO) joint venture launch.



Michael Delaney, Vice President of Development, CIT; and Joe Kelleher, WMJ Kelleher and Associates; at the SEFtec NMCI Offshore joint venture launch.

FIRST CIT LABOUR MARKET ACTIVATION AWARDS CEREMONY

The first cohort of recipients of Awards from Labour Market Activation (LMA) Courses delivered by CIT received their parchments at a ceremony, which took place on the 17th February at the NMCI.

LMA Courses were designed to provide an opportunity for unemployed people to get back to education. Certificates were presented to those who successfully completed Level 6 to Level 9 courses in areas associated with Environment, Software Development, Manufacturing Engineering and Business & Humanities.

Michael Loftus, Head of Engineering & Science at CIT said “CIT was ideally positioned to deliver these courses, our established links with industry helped to connect the needs of the participants with the needs of industry.”

CIT’s Recognition of Prior Learning, which evaluates existing learning and experience, from appropriate relevant fields of endeavour, informed by relationships with employer groups, ensured that they were ideally placed to help participants re-enter the workforce.

“The success of these programmes lies in the fact that they were specifically geared towards areas where CIT saw employment possibilities for participants” said Dr Barry O’Connor, Registrar and Vice President for Academic Affairs, “CIT has long championed the cause of equality of opportunity (and funding) for part-time students. The recent National Strategy Report on Higher Education comes out strongly in favour of such equality which should signal a good future for those who wish to return to education on a part-time basis.”

Due to phenomenal demand, similar courses continue to be offered by CIT, “we will continue to work with the HEA on their Springboard Initiative on generating flexible responses for the unemployed” said Michael Loftus.



Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT; with Stephen Boyle and Terry O'Brien at the LMA Course Awards Ceremony.



Dr Brendan Murphy with Phil Coulter, Geraldine Coulter and son Daragh and daughter Georgina at the NMCI Conferings.



Kyle Halliday and Seán Doohan at the NMCI Conferings



NMCI is participating in an EU project called 'MARLEANET'. The aim of the project is to co-ordinate maritime courses in a number of EU countries, facilitate lecturer exchanges and develop e-learning courses for seafarers. The project is being co-ordinated by CEFCM - Centre Européen de Formation Continue Maritime in Brest, France. Pictured at a workshop in Paris to discuss e-learning for mariners are: Léna Le Marc, Project Co-ordinator, France; Lt. Cdr. Philippe Bocquier, Director of the Naval College in Brest; and Gráinne Lynch, CIT/NMCI Research



In April 2011, Bill Kavanagh (NMCI) presented an NMCI services tie to NMCI/CIT student Texas McGivern, Senior Second Officer of the €300 million Cunard liner m.v. Queen Victoria. Also pictured is staff Capt. Simon Love. Texas organised a tour of the ship for 50 staff and students from the NMCI. Also on board was former CIT student Senior Safety Officer Nigel Smyth who is due for command soon.



In March 2011, 1st Year Nautical Science students visited the Irish Naval Vessel LE Roisin. Pictured above is a group of students being lowered to the water on a RIB for their trip back to the Navy Base.



NMCI staff attended a seminar in the University of Turku, Rauma, Finland to launch a new eLearning programme in Maritime English. A DVD has also been developed to assist global seafarers improve their maritime technical English. (L - R) Jody Power, Chief Engineer, NMCI; Sari Nyroos, Project Co-ordinator, Turku; Anne Suominen, Project Leader, MARENG PLUS, Turku; and Capt. Bill Kavanagh, NMCI. The project was funded by the EU Lifelong Learning Programme.



The final Seminar and Partner Meeting of the Maritime Education Platform (MEP) took place in Rotterdam in November 2010. Chief Engineer Jody Power gave a presentation on the use of liquefied natural gas as an alternative fuel for ships and Capt. Badiul Alam presented a paper on the International Safety Management Code. Over 60 stakeholders from the Netherlands, Portugal, Estonia, Norway, Romania, and Finland attended the seminar. The NMCI participated in the project over the previous two years and provided several inputs to new online learning courses for maritime lecturers throughout the EU. (L - R) Jody Power, NMCI; Michael Delaney, Vice President for Development, CIT; and Badiul Alam, NMCI.



The Irish Institute of Master Mariners presented a cheque for €600 to the NMCI to help sponsor a recent training voyage on the mv Julia from Cork to Swansea for 1st Year Nautical Science students. (L - R) Capt. Rory Warner, IIMM Treasurer; Capt. Roddy Cooke, NMCI Co-ordinator; and Capt. Bill Kavanagh, IIMM President.

School of Business hosts ACCA CPD Event



In April 2011, the School of Business in partnership with ACCA hosted a seminar entitled: “Doing Business in a Recession – An Accounting Perspective”. The main speakers were Michael G. O’Sullivan, Chief Financial Officer, Bord Gáis; and Maria McNamara, Partner, Patrick McNamara & Associates Accountancy firm. Michael spoke from the industry perspective and the type of decisions the company is taking to maintain its competitiveness and financial stability. Maria spoke from the professional practice perspective and gave an insight into the changing environment in practice and the importance of client relationship and appropriate financial advice in the current climate. This event was attended by over fifty ACCA members who gained credit towards their annual continuing professional development points. A reception was held after the event which gave members an opportunity to network and for CIT staff to catch up with past graduates now qualified accountants working in the Munster region.

Steven Flint, EIRDATA; Aisling Carr, ACCA; Michael O’Sullivan, Chief Financial Officer, Bord Gáis; Maire Hartnett, ACCA; Gerard O’Donovan Head, School of Business, CIT; and Don Crowley Head, Department of Continuing Education, CIT.

School of Business honours Retirees

In April 2011, a retirement function was held in Oriel House Hotel to honour ten retirees who between them gave over 281 years of service to CIT and were responsible for the development of many programmes which are core in Business for the Institute today.

The retirees were Kieran Crilly, Eamonn Walsh, Donal Lehane, Pat Quigley, Tony O’Mahony, Tom Rigney, Paul Mahony, Pat Moynihan, Ted Rearden and Christine Guiney and their loved ones also attended.

Damien Courtney, Head, Faculty of Business & Humanities, gave a wonderful insight into each retiree’s significant contribution to CIT with some amusing stories along the way. Gerard O’Donovan, Head of School of Business, wished all the retirees a long, happy, and healthy retirement and commented on how many past graduates speak so fondly of the retirees and hold them in high regard which they should be very proud of.

Each of the retirees responded and recalled their own career path in CIT. It was a great social occasion, and a great night was had by all.

Back row (L - R): Don Crowley, Damien Courtney, Kieran Crilly, Paul Mahony, Eamonn Walsh, Ted Rearden, Gerard O’Donovan, and Brian McGrath. Front Row (L - R): Pat Moynihan, Pat Quigley, Christine Guiney, Tony O’Mahony, and Donal Lehane.



Towards Creative Entrepreneurship Programme

The School of Business hosted 42 students and 12 staff from Estonia, Finland, Norway, UK, and Ireland who participated in an Erasmus Intensive Programme “Towards Creative Entrepreneurship” (TCE).

The programme took place from 22nd January - 3rd February 2011 in CIT CSM and the Rubicon Centre. The students were from a range of academic disciplines including music, fine art, design, multimedia, photography, ceramics, public relations, business, and business information systems. The students received tuition by lecturers from all participating third level colleges with the stated aim of promoting business acumen and entrepreneurial know-how among students intending to pursue careers in the creative industries.

From the outset the students worked in small multi-discipline teams and generated a business idea and developed a new product or service. Students learnt by a series of interactive lectures, group discussions, and workshops. From CIT, Gerard O'Donovan, School of Business; Emmet Coffey, Media Communications; Frank O' Donovan, Media Communications; Colette Murphy, Management & Marketing; and Colm Barry Murphy, Accounting & Information Systems; lectured on the programme. During the programme students also had access to local entrepreneurs who offered advice, suggestions and general guidance. At the end of the programme they sold their product/service which ranged from classical and jazz musical performances, to alternative Valentine's Day Cards and quirky instruction manuals for new mothers, to the people of Cork.

Gerard O'Donovan, Head, School of Business, said about the programme “It was great to see students working in teams relying on their own skillsets to bring their idea to market with such limited resources and time.”



Dr Barry O'Connor presents a Certificate of Participation in the Towards Creative Entrepreneurship Programme to Miila Heinonen.

Diane Lilley, a CIT student says about the programme “It was a great way to learn the kind of skills that we really need and an opportunity to meet lots of interesting people as well.”

For most of the students it was their first time in Cork and Ireland. They experienced all the best that Cork has to offer in terms of entertainment by attending a Ceilí and an open mic night in Cork where many participants performed. They also availed of the Walking Tour of Cork City, and visited Blarney and Kinsale, which were organised by Margaret Mulderrig, Nicola Walsh and John Sheehy from the Development Office.

The Creative Industries is one of the fastest growing sectors in the European Economy and it is important to promote self-employment as an option to students graduating from the creative arts. The programme will be hosted in Southampton in 2012.

www.tce.ie



(L - R) Atro Linnavirta (Finland), Jette Graaner (UK), Natalia Priporov (Finland), Silje Kleiven (Norway), Jo Burchell (UK), and Lewis Quinn (Ireland)

CIMA Training **Quality** Partner Status

CIT has achieved CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants) Training Quality Partner status in accordance with CIMA's quality standards for a new Trainee Accountant Scheme. CIT is currently one of only 15 organisations in Cork and 154 in Ireland that has achieved Quality Partner status. Other CIMA Training Quality Partners include Apple, EMC, Diageo, Musgrave Group Ltd, Pfizer and Kerry Group plc.

The Institute developed the Trainee Accountant Scheme earlier in 2011 and the first trainee, Nicola Maunsell, commenced her 3½ year training contract with the Institute recently. CIT also offers CIMA's 'blended learning tuition' which facilitates study through a combination of lectures, e-study and revision seminars. One of CIT's students, Martin Aherne, came first in Ireland in his CIMA's E1 Enterprise Operations Exam in May under the guidance of CIT Lecturer Catherine Murphy.

"We are delighted to have partnered with CIMA to have achieved the CIMA Training Quality Partner Status and our recent results in CIMA exams shows the strength of CIT's Professional Accountancy Programmes and the quality of delivery by lecturers," said Gerard O'Donovan, Head of School of Business, CIT.

For further information on CIMA courses at CIT contact Ruth Vance, T: 021 433 5512 or E: ruth.vance@cit.ie.



Caroline O'Reilly, Head, Department of Accounting & Information Systems, CIT; Colm Barry Murphy, Senior Lecturer in Accounting, CIT; Niall Cremin, Management Accountant, CIT; Nicola Maunsell, CIT Trainee CIMA Accountant; Gerard O'Donovan, Head, School of Business, CIT; Denis McCarthy, Director-Ireland, CIMA; Paul Gallagher, Vice President for Finance & Administration, CIT; Ruth Vance, Lecturer and CIMA Co-ordinator, CIT; and Don Crowley, Head, Department of Continuing Education, CIT.

MBus Students **Chart the Road** to Success



(L - R) Colette Murphy, Lecturer; Don Crowley, Head, Department of Continuing Education; Deirdre Donovan, MBus student; Gerard O'Donovan, Head, School of Business; Colette O'Connor, MBus student; Catherine Murphy, MBus student; Mary Keohane, Bantry Driving Academy; Brian McGrath, Head, Department of Management & Marketing; and Ian Dempsey, CEO, West Cork Development Partnership.

Students of the new Masters of Business in Enterprise have had some real-life business planning practice. The students were from the first cohort to undertake the new Enterprise stream on the part-time taught Masters programme run by the Department of Continuing Education. They were required to provide proposals for business development to Mary Keohane who has set up her own company, Bantry Driving Academy.

Students are taught to develop innovative and creative approaches to new venture creation and growth with modules challenging students to blend theoretical business subjects with real case analysis. The emphasis now is on the importance of the development of indigenous small and medium enterprises and it is timely that the students link with business to develop strategies for growth. Colette Murphy, Lecturer in the School of Business says, "Students were really engaged with the process of developing proposals for Mary's business".

With the support of the West Cork Development Partnership, Mary Keohane developed Bantry Driving Academy (BDA). This start-up business allows clients to test out their driving skills on state-of-the-art simulators and learn to drive on BDA's private road in a dual-control car.

MBus Students find Market Opportunities for Quinn Healthcare



(L - R) D.O. O'Connor, Deputy General Manager and Head of Business Development, QUINN-healthcare; Dr Angela Wright, Lecturer and Research Supervisor, CIT; Lorraine Walsh, Marketing Manager, QUINN-healthcare; and Shane Kearney, Individual Sales Manager, QUINN-healthcare,

QUINN-healthcare was delighted to participate with the Department of Continuing Education and the students on their part-time Master of Business programme, in research that was undertaken to examine the service delivery of QUINN-healthcare in the current market place.

“The presentations and projects delivered were to an exceptionally high standard and the insights and learnings obtained were invaluable,” according to Lorraine Walsh, Marketing Manager.

She continued that “it was clear from the research conducted by the student groups that customers feel that there is a lack of differentiation between all of the healthcare providers in the market place. Comparing schemes and benefits between the different health insurers is very difficult for customers and acts as a deterrent to switching to an alternative provider. There is a real opportunity now for QUINN-healthcare to simplify the offering for the customer and make it clearer for them.”

Many of the student groups cited the TV programme ‘Operation Transformation’ as a programme that QUINN-healthcare could potentially sponsor, with the opportunity to build on it by proactively promoting good health through healthy eating days, and evidence-based medical

research. Other groups cited very practical improvements on QUINN-healthcare’s service delivery by phone, email and online as well as conducting a critical analysis of their website versus their competitors. Social Media was also highly recommended by most groups as a key opportunity to engage with their target audience. A more innovative proposal was to introduce Pet Insurance as an additional service.

QUINN-healthcare is in the process of reviewing all the research and recommendations and putting an implementation plan together which will ultimately lead to providing a better service to all of their customers. Lorraine Walsh stated “We appreciate the work that was completed for us by the Master of Business class, and we would highly recommend other companies to participate in the programme. We would like to especially thank Dr Angela Wright, and we wish all of her students the very best of luck in their future careers.”

Don Crowley, Head, Department of Continuing Education says “the use of live case studies for teaching is of enormous benefit to our students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. We are delighted to have had this opportunity to work with QUINN-healthcare on such a worthwhile project.”

New Book on Consolidated Financial Statements



The School of Business hosted a function to launch a new book “Consolidated Financial Statements – a step by step approach” written by Paul Mahony, former Head of Department of Continuing Education.

The book was published in association with Chartered Accountants Ireland and was launched by Pat Costello, Chief Executive of Chartered Accountants Ireland; and attended also by Michael Diviney, Director of Publications, Chartered Accountants Ireland. Paul was joined by his wife Ruth, children David and Suzanne, his brother Brian, sisters Mary and Anne, colleagues from Chartered Accountants Ireland, representatives from accounting offices in Cork, and colleagues from CIT.

“Paul, you have made a significant contribution to Chartered programmes over many years and this book contains all your expertise which will benefit students in the future,” said Pat Costello, Chief Executive of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Paul spent 31 years in CIT as a lecturer, senior lecturer and Head of Department of Continuing Education. He has extensive experience of lecturing on financial accounting to final level of four accountancy bodies as well as undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses. He was an examiner at professional level for over 10 years and has written several technical publications on accounting standards.

“It is evident from so many former students of Paul Mahony that they hold him in such high regard and acknowledge and appreciate his transfer of knowledge, skill and competency in accounting to them which has resulted in their own success in professional exams and ultimately their career path in accountancy” said Gerard O’Donovan, Head of School of Business.

Paul Mahony spoke of his interest in consolidation, he always found that students had difficulties with this area of accounting and he hoped his book would make the topic more understandable.

Master of Business (Taught, part-time) Guest Speakers

SEMESTER ONE, 2011-12

The School of Business offers Master of Business programmes on a full-time and part-time basis. The programmes are aimed at professionals who want to develop their key core competencies in business.

The programmes will enhance your strategic thinking, leadership skills, ability to carry out effective research, decision-making and add value to you individually, and your organisation. The Masters programmes content focuses on real life case studies and work-based problems providing valuable solutions to organisations.

Participants are required to adopt innovative and creative approaches to business related issues and to critically analyse and evaluate management problems and solutions in a national, international, and global context.

As the availability of honours primary degree holders becomes more widespread in the job market, employers are becoming more selective and the MBus enhances the employment and career prospects of postgraduate degree holders. These programmes provide students with the expertise to excel and progress in an increasingly competitive job market.

Who should apply?

The MBus is aimed at graduates who wish to build on their existing learning and want to develop their skills for career advancement. It is open to applications from business graduates and also non-business graduates who have relevant experience. The programmes may also appeal to entrepreneurs, educators, and those interested in consultancy and training. Applicants who have a minimum of an Honours Bachelor of Business or cognate degree (Level 8) or cognate discipline (H2.2) or better or an approved equivalent qualification are eligible to apply for entry to the Master of Business programmes.

Guest Speakers

An integral part of the MBus programme is the use of live case studies and presentations from guest lecturers. So far this academic year, the following speakers have presented to the part-time Masters students on a range of topics:

Frank Hayes

Director of Corporate Affairs, Kerry Group
Frank spoke on Kerry Group plc's Corporate strategy of growing the company by profit and the successful acquisition strategy it pursues. He also spoke on the new Kerry Group structure, 1Kerry.

Daragh King

EMEA Supply Director, EMC
Daragh spoke on the supply partner relationship model and how EMC is using this Corporate Strategy model to grow its business to \$19 Billion this year. He also spoke about the challenges EMC faces with the Euro crisis.

Donal O'Sullivan

Chief Executive, Nutribio. This company was used as the "live case study" for the purpose of the student assignment on the Corporate Strategy module. Donal spoke about Nutribio's Global Strategy and their wish to expand Nutribio into foreign markets such as mid-west and north-west USA.

Richard Lynch

Sales & Marketing Director, Nutribio. Richard spoke about Nutribio's sales & marketing services and potential channel partners in their new global strategy.

Theo Cullinane

Managing Director, BAM International. Theo gave a presentation on BAM formerly Ascon Rohcon. Today BAM is one of the main players in Construction, PPP, Property and Civil Engineering in Europe and is part of the Royal BAM Group.

Manus O'Callaghan

Previous Managing Director of Southern Advertising Agency in Cork & Limerick, is now Programme Manager for Brian Crowley MEP. Manus also runs his own P.R. agency - O'Callaghan Communications. On a voluntary basis, he organises 'The Cork Person of the Month' & 'Cork Person of the Year' award scheme which this year celebrates its 20th year. Manus presented on communications, specifically, on political communications.

Lorraine Walsh

Marketing Manager with QUINN-healthcare and is responsible for advertising, sponsorships, consumer research, direct mail and ebusiness for QUINN-healthcare and has been with the company since 1999. Their new advertising campaign, entitled "Take Care", features bubble wrap as a metaphor for providing protection for your family and was launched in July 2011.

D.O. O'Connor

Deputy General Manager and Head of Business Development for QUINN-healthcare. He has responsibility for Marketing, Individual and Corporate sales along with new product development and the company's Health at Work business. D.O. has been with QUINN-healthcare, formerly BUPA Ireland, since it entered the health insurance market back in 1997. Based in Little Island in Cork, the company has nearly half a million members and employs over 300 people.

Kate O'Neill

Former Marketing Manager, Dubliner Cheese, Carbery Group, currently Business Development Manager at Lough Erne Resort, Co. Fermanagh. Kate spoke to the MBS class on neuromarketing. She had previously presented this paper at the Irish Academy of Management in September 2011. Neuromarketing is a relatively new marketing research technique that has emerged in the past 10 years. Kate's study identifies that Neuromarketing has a significant contribution to make to marketing research, including new ways to understand the customer, secrets of selling to the subconscious mind, and alternative ways to position a brand.

Pat Lucey

Pat is Managing Director of AspiraCon Ltd., a Software Development/Project Management specialist company. Prior to founding AspiraCon, Pat worked with Motorola where he filled a variety of Senior Management positions. Pat holds a BEng and MEng from U.L., is PMP Certified, and was awarded National Project Manager of the year by IPMI in 2005. Pat presented on IT Project management issues as well as the challenges in preparing an IT Strategy.

Conor Crowley

Conor is an engineer and economist with a wealth of experience in the IT & Financial Services industry. His early career was spent in the UK where he was director of Telford Management Services Limited (TMS), a software house and consultancy specialising in the provision of systems and services for productivity improvement and process reengineering. On returning to Ireland his role involved the deployment of client server underwriting systems. Conor holds a BSc Dip Eng C Eng MA (Econ) MIEI and he is a Six Sigma Black Belt and has carried out many DMAIC projects in the Financial Services industry. He is experienced in Agile Project Management. Conor presented on Business Process Reengineering including a workshop for the students. He also discussed his experience of Pan European Software rollouts and Agile project development.

Des Farren and Sean Condon

Founders of ServusNet. Both were senior managers/engineers who came from the telecoms network management arm of Motorola. ServusNet's initial product is a wind farm management software solution which provides reporting, monitoring, and forecasting applications, as well as the ability to perform in depth diagnostics and issue specific data mining. ServusNet have been an innovation partner of Nokia Siemens since their inception and Nokia Siemens have invited ServusNet to collaborate in their smart grids initiative. Des & Sean presented on Product conceptualisation and road-mapping, Deployment, Cloud computing & SaaS, IT meets Energy – emergence of "smart grid" Funding & partnership strategy

The MBus part-time programme is structured to enable participants to develop advanced key core competencies in business. The research dissertations of graduates have given

rise to many research papers being accepted for publication and presentation at conferences. In some cases, students have completed their dissertation on work-based problems and provided feedback to their employer. Many graduates of the part-time MBus programme have gained promotion to senior positions in their organisations. Graduates have also had their research profiled in the national press and have presented at conferences for the Irish Academy of Management amongst others.

Master of Business Programme Coordinator is John Meyler and Research is supervised by Dr Angela Wright. For further information, please contact the Department of Continuing Education, T: 021 433 5900.

<http://www.cit.ie/prospectivestudents.postgraduates>



Pictured at the October Conferring Ceremony, Deirdre Donovan Masters Graduate, Dr Angela Wright Lecturer & Research Supervisor; Collette O'Connor Masters Graduate; and Don Crowley, Head, Department of Continuing Education, CIT. Deirdre achieved highest overall marks in the Masters programme 2011 and works with CITCO, Cork. Collette spent 11 years working for Merrill Lynch in New York before undertaking



ACCA Continuing Professional Development event

Don Crowley, Head, Department of Continuing Education; Gerard O'Donovan, Head, School of Business; Ann Marie Twomey, Lecturer, CIT; Liz Hughes, Head of ACCA Ireland; Senator Fergal Quinn; and Brian McGrath, Head of Department of Management & Marketing, CIT at the Clarion Hotel, Cork, in November 2011.

Entertaining for Charity raised €8,345

Department of Tourism & Hospitality Studies organised a series of six cookery demonstrations for charity raising a total of €8,345 which was divided between the following charities: Irish Cancer Society; Douglas Lions Club; Marymount Hospice; Crumlin Children's Hospital; Suicide Aware; Irish Guide Dogs. The cookery demonstrations were open to the public and were sold out every night. The gourmet chefs demonstrating were Edward Hayden; Frederic Desermeaux; Lisa O'Brien, Jane Healy; Brendan Cashman; Keith O'Flynn; Ann O'Connor; and Ciaran Scully. Thank you to the Department staff and students who worked so hard in making this event highly successful.

Perfect Pastry is 'Easy Peasy'

Tourism & Hospitality Studies Department Culinary Arts student, Maureen O'Regan, has developed a successful new product "Easy Peasy Pastry" which has won the Dunhill Cuisine Award for Best Commercial Food Product at the National Third Level Student Food Innovation Awards in Galway.

Maureen from Kinsale, Co. Cork, developed a dry-mix wholemeal shortcrust pastry which, when water is added, forms a pastry dough. The development of "Easy Peasy Pastry" is part of the third year programme in Culinary Arts at CIT where students are required to develop new food products, and put them through a vigorous process of shelf-life testing, develop branding, packaging, and labelling. Dr Margaret Linehan, Head, School of Humanities, paid tribute to Maureen and her mentors at CIT "I would like to congratulate all the lecturers on the Culinary Arts programme, and in particular Mary McCarthy who has responsibility for the new product development module."

As part of her prize Maureen, accompanied by Mary McCarthy, travelled to Dusseldorf to visit ANUGA, the world's leading international food trade show and also to Arnhem/ Wageningen in the Netherlands to visit Food Valley, the world class agri-food innovation centre and business park.



(L – R) Mary McCarthy, Lecturer; Adrian Gregan, Head, Department of Tourism & Hospitality Studies; Anna Murphy, Lecturer; Dr Aisling Ward, Lecturer; and Dr Margaret Linehan, Head, School of Humanities; with CIT Culinary Arts student, Maureen O'Regan.



Tourism and Hospitality Student is TV3 Head Chef

Harry Marquart, a second year culinary student in the Department of Tourism and Hospitality won the prestigious title of Head Chef 2011.

The TV3 series fronted by international Michelin star chef, Conrad Gallagher, saw competitors taking master classes from Chef Gallagher to cooking in Conrad's own restaurant in Dublin to preparing a banquet for 60 people in the final last week. Conrad Gallagher set out at the beginning of the competition to find a chef who was consistent, talented, professional and capable of working under the pressure of a top kitchen.

Harry fought off serious competitors during the series, but, at all times remained calm and composed. Harry has just completed two years of formal culinary study in CIT where he learned the overall classical culinary techniques in his first year, while in his second year he was introduced to worldwide food and innovative culinary development.

To celebrate Harry's achievement a special function was organised by staff in the Tourism and Hospitality Department for Harry's family, friends, classmates, and CIT staff. Liam Noonan, Senior Lecturer acted as MC for the event and welcomed the invited guests. Speaking at the celebratory event, Dr Margaret Linehan, Head, School of Humanities said "We are very proud of Harry's achievements, and we are delighted to welcome Harry and his family to CIT today to join in the celebrations. Here in CIT, the student is central to all our activities and our mission is to provide a student-centred education with a career focus for the benefit of the student and for the benefit of society. Harry is an excellent example for us of achieving this mission. Harry has a great career ahead of him and he is an inspiration to all our students. We are delighted to extend an invitation to Harry to return to CIT in the autumn as a celebrity chef and to give a demonstration of his culinary skills in our demonstration kitchen and this event will be open to the public. On behalf of CIT, I wish Harry further career successes."

Adrian Gregan, Head of Department of Tourism and Hospitality also congratulated Harry and all the lecturers in the department on this achievement. On behalf of the Department, Adrian made a presentation to Harry and wished him well in his future career.

Finally, Head Chef Harry said "I really liked the student-led opportunities we were given here in CIT. We were given the responsibility to create our own menu and order in the materials for the menu and manage the restaurant. It was stressful at times, but, it was a really great learning experience. I have been in many kitchens since I began my interest in cooking, but, the kitchens in CIT are really state of the art. CIT has the best of equipment and the lay out is also very good. I would be delighted to accept the invitation to return to perform a cookery demonstration here in CIT and I would also be very happy to promote CIT in any way I can."



Awards Ceremony

Aideen Fitzgerald, BA in Human Resource Management, recipient of School of Business Special Merit Award; and Rosannagh Donelan, BA in Early Childhood Care & Education, recipient of a School of Humanities Special Merit Award pictured at the Faculty of Business & Humanities Awards on the 20th October 2011.

CIT PARTNERS WITH EMC TO DELIVER WORLD'S FIRST DEGREE SUITE IN

CLOUD COMPUTING

On the 31st May 2011, EMC Corporation, the world leader in information infrastructure solutions, announced that it has partnered with CIT to develop the world's first suite of Masters and Undergraduate Degree programmes in Cloud Computing.

Designed to be delivered remotely or on campus, the one year courses address future industry skills requirements and strengthen Ireland's advancement as an international Cloud Computing Centre of Excellence. Initially 20 Masters Degree places were on offer with the expectation that enrolment will grow to meet demand in future years. Graduates can get details of the courses and information on how to apply via the website: <http://cloud.cit.ie/> or by contacting the CIT Department of Computing.

The MSc Degree and BSc (Hons) Degree in Cloud Computing are one year add-on courses for Computer Science graduates which commenced in September 2011. They will provide graduates with the advanced conceptual understanding, detailed factual knowledge, and specialist technical skills required for successfully delivering Cloud Computing. It will also equip them to meet the challenges associated with the rapidly changing IT industry.

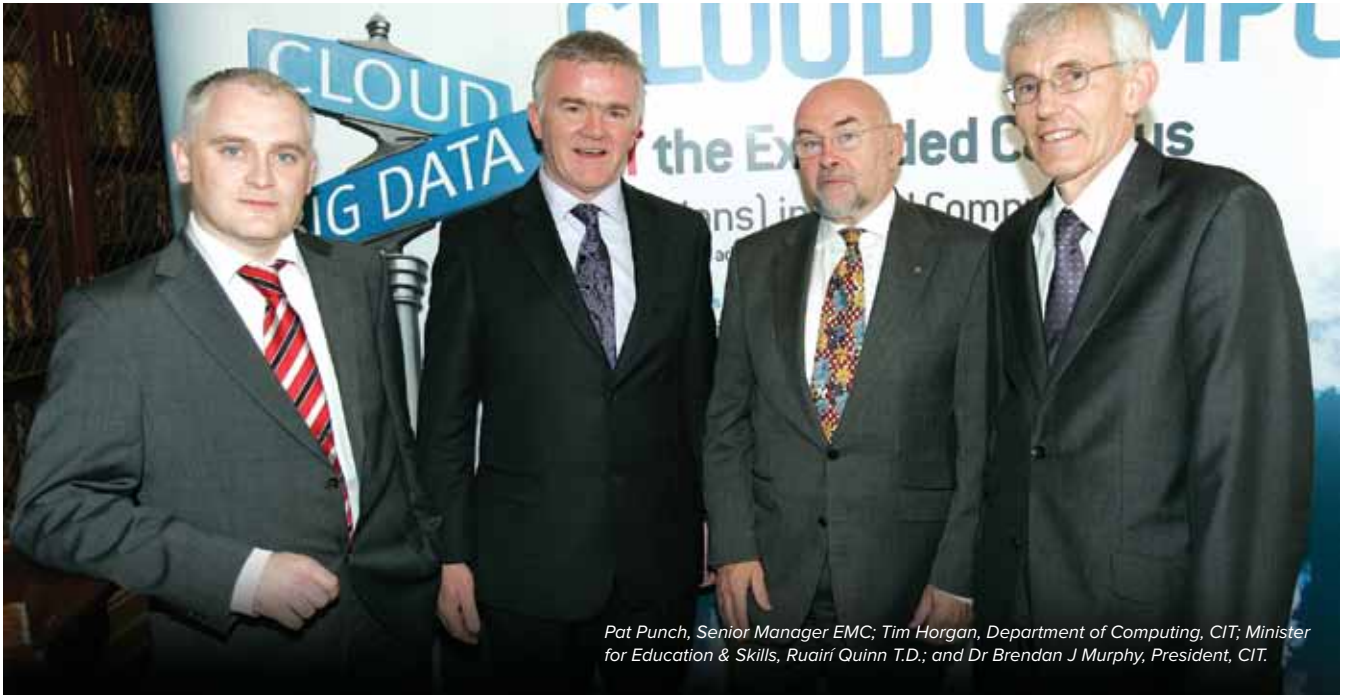
Graduates can study either full or part-time and the programmes are delivered using a combination of blended and face-to-face sessions. Online synchronous and asynchronous learning environments will be used throughout the course to enable learning to take place anywhere at any

time. These systems enable each student to achieve the measurable learning outcomes of each module in the most flexible way possible. Welcoming the announcement, Minister for Education & Skills, Ruairí Quinn T.D., said, "This government has already identified Cloud Computing as a key driver for growth and jobs. Cloud computing is the future of technology and is likely to revolutionise the operation of businesses in Ireland if we grasp its potential. This announcement by EMC and Cork Institute of Technology is very timely as the students who sign up for these degrees will be in a position to lead Ireland's development as an international Cloud Computing Centre of Excellence. The programmes being launched today are a model of best practice of the kind of engagement and innovative delivery that the new National Strategy for Higher Education demands."

Dr Brendan Murphy comments: "CIT is delighted to be involved with this groundbreaking initiative. We have a longstanding relationship with EMC and we have collaborated with them on many projects in education, training and research over the past twenty years. This new



Jason Ward, EMC Ireland Country Manager; Dr Brendan J Murphy, President, CIT; and Bob Savage, Vice President, EMC Ireland.



Pat Punch, Senior Manager EMC; Tim Horgan, Department of Computing, CIT; Minister for Education & Skills, Ruairí Quinn T.D.; and Dr Brendan J Murphy, President, CIT.

initiative builds on those relationships but takes things to a new and exciting level where the subject of the courses are at the cutting edge of current IT developments and where the engagement with EMC and others can be extended internationally. I believe that this cloud computing initiative is an example of the real benefits that can be gained at the intersection of higher education and private enterprise. I wish all involved every success with the programme and I am certain that it will deliver significant benefits to the IT sector in Ireland and to the broader economy over the coming years.”

Bob Savage, Vice President, EMC Centre of Excellence Ireland said: “We are proud that the innovation for the world’s first approved suite of degree programmes evolved from our long-term relationship with CIT and our industry partners. A dedicated team has worked tirelessly to create content that addresses the broad range of topics involved in cloud computing resulting in the education standard accreditation.” Savage continues, “The degrees aim to develop students both technically and personally to produce broad based graduates of high academic and practical standards to match the needs of the IT industry.”

Welcoming the launch of the Masters and Undergraduate Degree programmes, Barry O’Leary, CEO of IDA Ireland said, “This collaboration between industry and academia in response to a growing technology trend will assist Ireland in becoming a global leader in Cloud Computing. IDA Ireland’s strategy, Horizon 2020, identifies Cloud Computing as a major business and economic opportunity for Ireland, which can create high-value jobs and drive competitiveness in Ireland. Already, a growing number of global businesses in the IT industry are involved in this strategically important activity in Ireland”

The MSc and Honours Bachelor of Science in Cloud Computing degrees combine theoretical background and practical design considerations, seeking to reflect current and likely future practice across private and public cloud environments incorporating the following:

- Cloud architecture planning and management
- Design and management of virtual environments,
- Consolidation of data centres and enterprise storage systems
- Cloud application development
- Converged networks
- Data mining
- Security techniques in multi-tenant virtualised environments and related areas that contribute to the building of both private and public cloud environments.
- Elective modules
- Multi-disciplinary projects

As an education partner CIT offers a quality educational experience and has forged strong links with EMC, VMware and Cisco including:

- A track record of delivering programmes for EMC
- A Cisco Networking Regional Academy with state of the art labs
- A virtualisation offering with VMware Academy
- Staff expertise in the area of cryptography and security

For further information on the Degree courses please visit:

<http://cloud.cit.ie>



CHEMICAL ENGINEERING LECTURERS GRADUATE

Cillian Ó Súilleabháin and Pat Kennedy are lecturers in the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering. Pat was awarded the MSc in Occupational Safety and Health from the University of Greenwich, whilst Cillian received an MA in Management in Education from Waterford Institute of Technology.

NEW ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE FOR **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The new Assistive Technology Service was opened in December 2010 as part of the expanding services offered to students registered with the CIT Disability Support Service.

Assistive technology is software or equipment that can help students with disabilities or learning difficulties to read, write or study. It can be an important tool for students to study independently and it allows them to access material in a way that suits them. In the service there are 17 computers with a wide range of software available such as Read Write Gold, Mindmanager Pro 9 and Dragon Naturally Speaking. There is also a scanner to scan in notes and handouts, a screen magnifier, and a sound proof booth.

Mark Burleigh, the new Assistive Technology Officer, recently completed his first set of training workshops for CIT students in Read Write Gold - a

spelling and grammar checker and study tool, which can read out text and convert text to audio files. Read Write Gold is particularly useful for students with dyslexia and is also available on computers in Open Access labs, the Library and most departments in the Bishopstown campus.

The Assistive Technology Service is also a place where students can study and is complemented by the work of the Access Learning Support Tutors who also run workshops on study and research skills, exam techniques, and presentation skills for eligible students. The service is located on the ground floor of the Nexus Student Centre.

For further details please contact Mark Burleigh, T: 021 433 5125 E: mark.burleigh@cit.ie, or contact the Disability Support Officer, Access Service: T: 021 433 5107 E: disability@cit.ie



6 WEEK SPORTS JOURNALISM COURSE HELD IN **NORTH MONASTERY SECONDARY SCHOOL**

A group of 4th, 5th and 6th year students from North Monastery Secondary school attended a series of Sports Journalism workshops, organised by the Access Office.

The course was facilitated by the sports team at the Evening Echo and featured speakers John McHale; Sports Editor, Brian Lougheed, Pictures Editor; Mary White; Journalist; and CIT Recreation & Leisure graduate, Eoin Cadogan. The 6 week course covered content such as how to write a sports article, report on matches, take a sports photograph, and interview at a live press conference. The students had the opportunity to interview Cork hurling and football star Eoin Cadogan in a live press conference in the school. Their articles featured in an issue of the Evening Echo in a special feature on the Cork sports star.



Pathways Sports Journalism Eoin Cadogan; Elaine Dennehy, CIT; with the students from the North Monastery Secondary School.

CORK LIFELONG LEARNING FESTIVAL

Cork's Lifelong Learning Festival promotes and celebrates learning of all kinds across all age groups, abilities, and interests, from preschool to post retirement.

The ninth festival will take place from Monday March 26 to Sunday April 1, 2012. The festival's motto is Investigate – Participate – Celebrate! Among its aims are raising awareness of the huge range of learning opportunities of all kinds available in Cork and celebrating those already involved in learning. All events during the week are free, and there is no fee charged to be involved. Since the first festival, CIT has been involved, with a number of departments organising events, but there's always room for others to participate.

The festival is organised by a committee of volunteers drawn from the Cork City Learning Forum, set up by the Cork City Development Board, which brings together all the learning stakeholders in the city. Deirdre Creedon of CIT's Access Office and former Registrar Brendan Goggin are members of its Organising Committee.

Deirdre Creedon, Access Officer believes that 'by opening CIT's door to the public we are fostering interest in learning.' Lifelong learning is not only about adult and continuing education, and is more than acquiring skills and qualifications – it's a process which lasts throughout our lives, and includes all kinds of learning – from crafts, Information Technology, languages, to the arts, sports and a whole lot more. Learning can broaden an individual's social circle and can also contribute to the development of a sense of community. The festival promotes and celebrates learning in all its many forms, and encourages take-up amongst people from all ages and backgrounds. It particularly targets those not usually attracted to education and training of any kind.

In 2011 the festival was opened by the President of Ireland, Mary McAleese. During the week there were more than 395 different events right across the city and suburbs. Among them were tours, demonstrations, performances, displays, taster sessions, exhibitions, talks, workshops. In 2012 we expect the festival to be even bigger. Some of CIT's events included a coffee morning for parents of Leaving Certificate students, an Information Session for Mature Students, photographic exhibitions, 'Dyslexia and Studying' workshop, DNA workshop, and tour of the post-graduate studies laboratories.

The festival main sponsors are Cork City Council and the City of Cork Vocational Education Committee (VEC), and CIT is among those who also make a contribution towards its running costs. Festival Patron is the Lord Mayor of Cork. The Cork festival is twinned with Féile an Phobail – 'the festival of the people' – in Belfast, and jointly organise cross-community projects and exchange guests.

For more information contact Tina Neylon, Festival Co-ordinator, on M: 086 603 5552 or T: 021 492 4527 or E: learningfestival@corkcity.ie or Deirdre Creedon, Access Officer T: 433 5140 or E: deirdre.creedon@cit.ie See www.corkcity.ie/learningfestival.ie



Lifelong Learning Festival Committee 2011

MATHS WEEK 2011

The Access Service together with the Maths Department organised a Maths event as part of Maths Week 2011. Now an annual event, CIT brought in almost 140 second level students from linked schools in the city. This year the invited guest was Dr. Steve Humble (aka Dr Maths)

Steve Humble (aka Dr Maths) believes that the fundamentals of mathematics can be taught via practical experiments. Having worked as a maths subject leader

in various educational establishments for over 20 years, he has spent the last five years as a Senior Regional Coordinator for the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM). Now working as a Freelance Mathematics Consultant, he supports schools in raising their student achievement through creating a positive attitude to maths. Steve also works with the Further Mathematics Support Programme and teaches

mathematics on the Primary PGCE Course at Newcastle University. In his role as a maths publicist he writes a fortnightly column for the Evening Chronicle newspaper to help create greater public understanding of mathematics. Carol Vorderman's recent UK government report on mathematics education described Steve as 'an inspiring individual, providing opportunities for children to do mathematics that they find exciting and interesting'. He holds the Guinness World Record for the most children learning maths outside the

classroom. In the CIT Maths Session, Dr Maths gave a very interesting presentation on the magic of maths and how it applies to card games.

Following the lecture, Dr Michael Brennan, Department of Mathematics, delivered a session called 'Mathematics All Around'. The application and presence of Mathematics is never that far away from us as we go about our daily lives. This talk looked at some obvious and not so obvious examples of this. The feedback from students was very positive from both sessions.

PRIMARY SCHOOL **SUMMER PROGRAMME**

The Access Service hosted a Primary School Summer Programme for schools in the city. Over 300 5th and 6th class children and up to 100 parents visited the Bishopstown Campus.

Twelve schools from across the city have booked into this year's programme.

The focus this year was to encourage young children to explore their individuality and realise the importance education has to play in fulfilling their dreams. CIT staff worked with pupils and their parents to discover the world of science, computers and art.

Pupils in the art session explored their dreams for the future, their individuality and how their difference creates the world's character. In the Science session, the participants carried out a 'Crime Scene Investigation' where they took their fingerprints and identified what shape fingerprint they have, each one being unique. The final workshop was a computer workshop where pupils created a smart phone app. The parents partook in an 'Introduction to Third Level' session, a Science session, and an introduction to 'Assistive Technologies for students with disabilities and learning difficulties'.

Deirdre Creedon, Access Officer, explains that 'this programme is designed to give young people an opportunity to explore a third level campus while learning new things and having fun in the process. Having the parents involved is a unique element to the programme. It allows us (CIT staff) to engage with parents and give them information on the various programmes of study, how the application process works and the various support services that are in place.'



Pupils from Holy Cross School proudly displaying their projects.

SCIENCE **FOR LIFE**

CIT 'Science for Life' ran two online science competitions recently. These competitions were aimed at junior cycle and senior cycle students in Access linked schools. There were a high number of entries into both competitions. The successful senior cycle student won an iPod, while the successful junior cycle student won a Nokia Touchscreen phone.

CIT 'Science for Life' and CIT School of Science, also ran a competition at the Institute's stand during the Discovery Science Festival in the Cork City Hall, there were five winners and many runners up, as there were an unprecedented number of entries into the competition. The prize was a CIT Science for Life hoodie.



Denis Thompson, winner, CIT Science for Life Junior Cycle competition, pictured with his teacher Audrey O'Connor and Principal Tony Walsh, Mayfield Community School.



Bernadette O'Regan, runner up, CIT Science for Life Senior Cycle competition; Dr Sharon Lawton, CIT Science for Life Officer; Natalie O'Connell, winner, CIT Science for Life Senior Cycle competition; and Courtney Redmond, runner up, CIT Science for Life Junior Cycle competition.



CIT Discovery Science Festival winner Bláthnaid Kelly from Gurranes N.S. pictured with her mum and sister on the left and members of the Gurranes N.S. Science Club Noreen and Audrey.

CIT CURSA – IRISH REVISION COURSE PREPARES LEAVING CERT STUDENTS FOR IRISH ORALS

An Irish revision course was held in CIT during midterm for Leaving Cert students of North Monastery Secondary School, Terence MacSwiney Community College, and North Presentation Secondary School. This two day revision course was organised as part of the **Pathways to Education** project (a joint access initiative of CIT and UCC). The Pathways project seeks to enhance access to third level education among students who do not traditionally avail of it.

The Irish revision course reviewed the oral Irish curriculum as delivered in the schools and gave the students a chance to brush up on their conversational Irish skills in advance of the orals in April. They each received one to one support and completed a 'mock' oral exam. The course was facilitated by two teachers from the Irish college in Ballyvourney. Feedback from the students was very positive and they each felt they acquired additional confidence in their spoken Irish.

"I've walked away with a better understanding of the Irish language and have really improved my conversational Irish"

(Luke, North Mon).

PROGRESSION SCHEME FOR LINKED SCHOOLS

The Access Service manages a Progression Scheme for its linked schools, which is a supplementary admissions scheme to CIT for school leavers from 9 Cork City Schools. The Institute has had links with these schools through the Access Service for over 15 years. Although our pre-entry programmes have emphasised progression opportunities and the benefits of studying at third level, the numbers of students progressing from these schools into programmes in CIT was still low. There is widespread evidence which shows that socio-economic disadvantage can have a negative impact on educational achievement at school and on progression to higher education.

The scheme is for school leavers from the linked Cork City schools who have the ability to benefit from and succeed in higher education and who do not have the economic means or the necessary social support and encouragement. The Access Service has made up to 30 places available for Progression Scheme participants. Successful applicants are given the opportunity to apply for programmes of study in CIT on reduced points. Louise Bermingham, the Post Entry Support Officer, provides support for the participants in the form of induction and orientation, academic supports, educational guidance and, where possible, financial assistance.

In September 2011, 32 students from our linked schools were admitted through the scheme, 23 of these students gained entry on merit.

To encourage students to consider third level education and to support students through their second level education, the Access Service provides a range of pre entry initiatives for these schools. Last semester as part of our expanding pre-entry schools programme, students in our 9 linked schools were offered the opportunity to come on Campus visits and take part in Study Skills and Saturday Revision workshops.

Study Skills Workshops

The workshops were facilitated by Super Generation and took place in CIT in November 2011. At the end of the workshops students were introduced to learning strategies to support their learning style with a view to maximising their performance in examinations. Saturday Revision Days for Access Linked Schools are organised annually in CIT in Maths, English, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. In the last academic year over 120 students took part on these workshops from our 9 linked schools.

Assisting Parents with Study Skills

As a follow up to our student study skills workshops, Louise Bermingham, Projects Officer, arranged for Super Generation to give evening workshops to parents on the best way to support their child with study.

Even the best student can find second level education difficult from time to time. Often parents are at a loss as to how they can provide the right kind of support. This workshop gave an overview of the different learning styles and approaches to learning. Over 100 parents took part in these workshops which proved to be very successful.

In November, the Access Service hosted two Parents Information Sessions. These sessions, delivered by Deirdre Creedon, Access Manager, introduced parents to the opportunities that exist for their children and provide them with information on the student supports. They were also given a tour of the campus by Student Leaders.

ACCESS AWARD **PROGRAMME**

The Access Award is a special volunteer initiative for CIT Students. The Access Service enlisted 24 high calibre volunteer students to work on Access initiatives.

Each student was given one day training prior to commencing on the programme. The training was facilitated by Louise Bermingham, Projects Officer and Deirdre Creedon, Access Manager. The Training involved an overview of Access services, child protection issues, working in teams, public speaking, etc. The Access Award Programme requires each student to commit to 10 hours of project work over the course of one Semester. This work may include school visits, role model sessions, student shadowing sessions, homework clubs, etc. At the end of the academic year and on completion of the 10 hours, the Access Award student will be presented with an Access Award Parchment by CIT Registrar and Head of Academic Affairs Dr Barry O'Connor.



Homework Club

During October, 20 student volunteers were placed in a linked secondary school one afternoon per week for a period of 8 weeks. The purpose of the homework club is to provide academic help to the students, assist them to complete their homework and enhance the educational aspirations of the students.



MATURE STUDENT **INFORMATION EVENING 2011**

CIT strongly encourages applications from mature candidates and is continually working towards wider entry routes in order to increase participation of adult learners.

Returning to education after a break or entering it for the first time as a mature student can be very exciting but also quite daunting. In order to ensure that prospective Mature Students are provided with all the necessary information about applying to the Institute as a Mature Student an annual Mature Student Open Evening is held. This year it took place in January and November 2011 in the Bishopstown Campus. At the event prospective students were given the opportunity to browse through Departmental Stands and to personally speak to Department representatives about courses on offer. There were a broad range of presentations delivering information on admission routes, preparing a mature student application, mature student support services in CIT, student fees, the student grant and the Back to Education Allowance. The total number of Mature Student CAO applications to CIT for entry September 2011 was 993.

Maths for Matures Programme 2011

As part of the support programme being developed for Mature Students, a pilot programme was launched in January 2011 in conjunction with the Department of Mathematics for prospective Mature Students called the Maths for Matures Programme. The aim of this programme was to allow prospective Mature Students to demonstrate their ability in Maths when applying for science/engineering courses. The Programme consisted of a 14 hour elementary maths course followed by a brief test on the work covered and a feedback session.

The purpose of the programme was to;

- (1) acquaint prospective Mature Students who are applying for entry into Year 1 of a full time programme of study in CIT, with some of the elementary mathematics that they will encounter in the first year of an engineering/science programme;
- (2) provide an opportunity to prospective mature students to demonstrate their ability and aptitude in Maths;
- (3) provide the Head of Department with a test result which would demonstrate if the prospective student has a suitable aptitude for Maths in relation to the course(s) being applied for.

Radisens announces €1M Contract with European Space Agency

Radisens Diagnostics Ltd is located in the Rubicon Centre (www.rubiconcentre.ie), which is a business incubation centre funded by CIT and Enterprise Ireland. It is funded by private investors, Kernel Capital, Enterprise Ireland, France's Sophia Business Angels and the Cork City Enterprise Board and will shortly be launching its 2011 Employment and Investment Incentive Scheme (which replaces previous Business Expansion Schemes) to allow Irish private investors to share in the company's growing success.

On 1st November 2011, Radisens Diagnostics was awarded a €1m contract by the European Space Agency to develop an innovative blood testing device for use by astronauts on board the International Space Station and on various human spaceflight missions.

Congratulating the company, Minister Sherlock, said "Radisens Diagnostics' success is the most recent example of an Irish company reaping significant benefits from Ireland's membership of the European Space Agency (ESA) through Enterprise Ireland. It is encouraging to see that Irish SMEs are developing a high profile as providers of innovative solutions for use in the European Space Programme". The European Space Agency has contracted Radisens Diagnostics to add a thyroid test to their point-of-care device which is currently in development at their facility in Cork. ESA wants to use the device on board the International Space Station and on various human spaceflight missions where it is essential to get instant, laboratory grade results for myriad health conditions.

Back on Earth, the technology developed for the space programme by Radisens Diagnostics will enable a general physician (GP) to take a finger-prick of blood and test patients for diabetes, heart disease, liver and kidney damage and thyroid conditions in their surgery with instant results. Future developments



Minister Seán Sherlock T.D. holds the innovative point-of-care assay panel, pictured here with Dr Ian Hayes, Business Development Director at Radisens Diagnostics (back left) and Tony McDonald, Manager Space Technologies Programmes, Enterprise Ireland.

will enable the diagnosis of heart attacks, early stage cancers such as prostate and ovarian, infectious diseases such as HIV, and viruses. With over one billion blood tests ordered at point-of-care annually worldwide, this test menu offering is a potential game-changer.

Currently, if a person needs a blood test they have to be referred to a hospital where a qualified phlebotomist takes a vial(s) of blood which has to be sent to a central laboratory for testing. The whole process introduces significant delays, patient anxiety and huge inefficiencies within healthcare systems, for what are routine tests.

Radisens Diagnostics recently announced a strategic partnership with the UK's NHS, to integrate a kidney test to their point-of-care device, thus decentralising up to 15 million blood

tests from UK hospitals annually into the GP surgery, providing for a more comfortable and convenient experience for patients suffering from chronic kidney disease, and significant cost savings for the NHS.

Announcing the contract, Jerry O'Brien, CEO Radisens Diagnostics said, "Winning this contract from the European Space Agency is a significant endorsement of our 'sample-to-answer' device and the breadth of blood tests it can offer. We are delighted to formalise our strategic partnership with ESA with the support of Enterprise Ireland and look forward to working on the application of our technology to terrestrial and space healthcare diagnostic needs".

www.radisens.com

IBM SmartCamp

Radisens Diagnostics has been short-listed to compete at IBM SmartCamp London, an event that challenges the potential of the brightest start-up companies in Europe. Five start-up companies - selected from more than 80 original applications - will compete to win an intensive three month mentorship programme with IBM, and the chance to shine on the world stage.

€50,000 Golden Opportunity for Genesis Entrepreneurs

Participants on the award winning Genesis Enterprise Programme, based at CIT's Rubicon Centre, were delighted as plans by AIB Seed Capital Fund to make available Seed Capital Funding to the value of €50,000 were unveiled in early December 2011, at a major event held in the Rubicon Centre.

"We are delighted to have AIB Seed Capital Fund provide us with the investment prize for the Genesis participants. This will provide a golden opportunity for a Genesis participant to further develop their business and bring their project to market," said Paul Healy, General Manager of the Rubicon Centre.

Speaking on the night, Frank Walsh, a Partner in Enterprise Equity, co-manager of AIB Seed Capital Fund said: "AIB Seed Capital recognises the huge contribution which entrepreneurship has to play in the economic recovery. Incubation programmes such as Genesis play an important part stimulating and supporting entrepreneurship and both AIB Seed Capital Fund and Enterprise Equity are delighted to be associated with both the Rubicon Centre and the Cork Institute of Technology."

Genesis is the Rubicon's flagship development programme and its main focus is to provide supports to businesses which will enable them to grow and increase employment. To date, Genesis has assisted over 200 individuals and teams in starting and growing their businesses. More than 70% of the businesses that have completed the Genesis programme over the last 12

years are still in operation today. These businesses employ more than 1400 people and over 50% of the businesses are trading internationally. Genesis is the largest source of "High Potential Start Ups" (HPSU) for Enterprise Ireland in the Region and over 40 businesses have gone on to be designated HPSU status. Past Genesis companies have raised in excess of €100m in external funding. Genesis's success was recognised when it received an award for "Promoting the Entrepreneurial Spirit" at the 2010 European Enterprise Awards.

Each of the participants on the current 2011/12 Genesis programme is in with a chance of winning this €50,000 seed capital prize, placing the winner in a very strong position to develop and grow their business to its full potential. The current cohort of Genesis participants come from a variety of industries – electronics, energy conservation, e-commerce, food production, healthcare, software development, technical writing and wireless communications. In March 2012, at the end of the 2011/2012 Genesis programme, each participating business will be presented to the public during the annual showcase exhibition. Along with other significant prizes, the recipient of the funding from AIB Seed Capital will be announced at this prestigious event.

The Genesis Enterprise Programme is currently recruiting participants for the next Programme, commencing in March 2012. Further details can be found on www.rubiconcentre.ie or T: +353 (0) 21 492 8916.



John Slattery, AIB, 66 South Mall, Cork; Frank Walsh, Enterprise Equity, co-manager of AIB Seed Capital Fund; Dr Brendan Murphy, President, CIT; and Paul Healy, General Manager, Rubicon Centre; at the announcement of plans by AIB Seed Capital Fund to make available funding to the value of €50,000 to a participant on the Genesis Enterprise Programme.

Building Ireland's Future – 18 New Irish Companies Launch at 2011 Genesis Showcase & Awards

The winner of the AIB Genesis Emerging Business of the Year and a cheque for €2,500 was Gareth Cuddy, DirecteBooks Ltd. Established in 2009, DirecteBooks.com, is Ireland's only dedicated eBook retailer offering over 200,000 eBooks for sale worldwide (www.directebooks.com).



In March 2011, Mr Simon Coveney, T.D., Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Food launched 18 new Irish Companies at the 14th Annual Genesis Enterprise Programme (GEP) 2011 Awards & Showcase, at CIT.

Congratulating the new companies on achieving their first year in business, Minister Coveney said "In challenging economic times it is refreshing to find new opportunities and fresh entrepreneurial thinking which will help lead Ireland to growth and prosperity once more. What I have seen here this evening is Ireland's entrepreneurs demonstrating the Smart Economy in action. These are the businesses that will shape our future with the creation of high value enterprises and employment opportunities. Initiative programmes such as Genesis Enterprise are key to supporting emerging businesses turn their initial idea into a viable reality with export potential.

The Business Development Achievement Award and €1,250 went to James Kennedy of Unified Computing which simplifies the content creation process in the 3D animation industry by making many forms of rendering resources seamlessly accessible to studio artists (www.reaperrender.com).



Business Plan of the Year and €1,250 was awarded to Seamus Kerrigan, SmartComm. SmartComm provides a mobile payment solution which allows consumers to find and purchase local services via a personalised experience on their smartphone (www.smartcommsystems.com).



This year, 18 new companies completed the Genesis Enterprise programme and the industries that they are pursuing are varied – electronics, energy conservation, e-commerce, healthcare, software development, telecommunications and water monitoring. At the end of each year's programme, the participating businesses are presented to the public in a showcase exhibition with the achievements of particular businesses in reaching commercial milestones being recognised in an Awards ceremony.



The Market Entry Success Award and a prize of €1,250 went to Daniel Bradfield of AirDryer Systems Ltd. was set-up to manufacture market and distribute a new product based around an innovative new method of drying the laundry "The Marilyn" (www.airdryersystem.com).



The Award for Opportunity Investigation and €1,250 went to Pat O'Leary, Faaltech, a real time water monitoring company developing affordable sensors and communication platforms to rapidly detect changes in water quality 24*7 (www.faaltech.com).



Entrepreneurial Leadership Award: The participants on the Genesis Programme themselves voted Kieran Logan of Role Connect for a special "Entrepreneurial Leadership" Award. This Award is judged by the Genesis participants themselves for the person/team whom they felt had most demonstrated entrepreneurial ability, leadership and co-operative learning spirit espoused by the Genesis Programme. Kieran will receive a trip to Dublin for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards ceremony in September 2011 (www.roleconnect.com).



The Sales Strategy and Achievement Award was presented to Barry Walsh, Green Your Goods.ie. The website allows individuals, fundraisers, and businesses to earn the most money possible from used electronic gadgets (www.greenyourgoods.ie). Barry received €200 along with a four month sales mentoring package from Sales Solution.

The adjudication Panel for the 2011 Award combined the experience of established entrepreneurs with seasoned professionals and was composed of Kieran Moynihan, CIT Entrepreneur in Residence, Ian Venner, Director, Ernst & Young; John O'Doherty, Regional Director, AIB; Conor Keane, Business Editor, Irish Examiner and Chairperson, Pat Ryan, Director, Abtran.

Over 200 people attended the 2011 Genesis Showcase & Awards drawn from the regional development bodies, current and past Genesis participants, venture capitalists, private investors, the higher education community and the wider business community in the South West region, as well as local and national press.

The 2011 Genesis Showcase and Awards are supported by the sponsorship of CIT, Enterprise Ireland, Cork County & City Enterprise Boards, AIB, Ernst & Young, and Ronan Daly Jermyn. Media partner for the Event was Thomas Crosbie Holdings.

On the night, Genesis also presented the 2011 Genesis Alumni Award to Colum O'Sullivan and Cullen Allen of Cully and Sully (www.cullyandsully.com). The Award is presented annually to an alumnus of the Genesis programme who has made substantial achievements in their commercial field or has contributed in a significant way to the economic development of knowledge based businesses in the region. Cully & Sully started their business while participating on the 2004 Genesis Enterprise Programme.



(L – R) Michael Delaney, Vice President for Development, CIT; Pat Ryan, Abtran, 2010 Alumni award winner presenting the 2011 Alumni award to Colum O'Sullivan and Cullen Allen, Cully & Sully; with Denise Kennedy, Genesis Programme manager.

Annual Career & Postgraduate Options

FAIR 2011

A very successful Career & Postgraduate Options Fair 2011 was held by CIT's Careers & Counselling Service in association with the School of Graduate Studies on the 4th October 2011 in the Institute's Nexus Centre, Bishopstown campus.



Agnes Looney, Careers & Counselling; Treasa McSweeney, Acting Careers Officer, CIT; Minister Seán Sherlock; Dr Barry O'Connor; Andrea O'Driscoll, School of Graduate Studies' and Dr Eamonn Cashell, Dean of Graduate Studies.

The Fair was officially opened by Mr Seán Sherlock, Minister of State, Department of Enterprise, Jobs & Innovation and Department of Education & Skills with responsibility for Research & Innovation.

The Annual Fair provides an excellent opportunity to further develop links between employers, CIT students and staff, and the wider community. It also facilitates a broadened scope for options after third level education for all students; whether this involves employment, further study, travel or volunteer work.

The Fair was host to over 60 stands, including major national and international companies, SME's and local firms recruiting suitable graduates and work placement students. In addition to this were a number of CIT Academic Departments offering postgraduate course options and volunteer organisations seeking to encourage student involvement.

The 1,700 students in attendance on the day met companies from various sectors such as IT, Science, Food, Engineering, Finance, Retail and Construction. Exhibitors included the Musgrave Group, Abbott Ireland, EMC2, GE Healthcare, ACCA Ireland, Kingspan and the Defence Forces, among others. Students had the opportunity to speak to employers directly and to find out more about employment opportunities, application procedures, closing dates and interview processes.

It is evident from talking to employers that CIT students are highly regarded and sought after within the competitive graduate recruitment arena. Their combination of academic knowledge, practical skills and focus add to the students' overall employability. With this in mind, CIT continually encourage students to put time and effort into career planning in order to maximise their chances of success both in Ireland and abroad.

Companies commended the hospitality provided by CIT throughout the day and with that, many expressed their desire to return to next year's event. While the Career & Postgraduate Options Fair was jointly organised by the Careers & Counselling Service and the School of Graduate Studies, it would not be possible without the assistance and support of many other CIT departments and staff members.

The Fair proved to be a well organised and focussed event for all in attendance and showed students that there are options for the future.

The Careers & Counselling Service offers continued support to students in deciding their next steps and the School of Graduate Studies provides support to anyone choosing to move towards 4th level education in CIT.

WHY NOT CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES FOR INFORMATION ON FURTHER OPTIONS?

- www.careersandcounselling.com for information on jobs, career resources and career events and;
- www.cit.ie/postgraduates for postgraduate course information.



PLEASE NOTE: THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES IS HOSTING THE ANNUAL CIT POSTGRADUATE FAIR WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 2012 IN THE NEXUS CENTRE, CIT'S BISHOPSTOWN CAMPUS, FROM 10.30AM - 2.00PM.



TWO CIT INTERNS WIN 2011 ABBOTT IRELAND INTERNSHIP AWARDS

John Caplice and Marlene Clarke were chosen from a group of 30 students from third level institutions across Ireland who had undertaken internships with Abbott Ireland and were presented with a €1,000 bursary each. Patrice Bohan, Senior Talent Acquisition Manager, Abbott Ireland said that John and Marlene had been selected for the inaugural bursary for “Exceeding the expectations of their respective roles, and making a strong contribution to Abbott.”

John, who is studying mechanical engineering in CIT, spent six months working with Abbott Ireland’s vascular facility in Clonmel while Marlene, who is studying chemical engineering spent six months in Abbott Ireland’s pharmaceutical facility in Sligo.

Thirty one Abbott Ireland Intern students nationwide were under consideration for this award.

John was heavily involved in the Station Design Project in Abbott Vascular which equates to CIP of \$500M + per annum through yield improvements and headcount reduction based on innovative design. One section of this is the design of a station which allows “distal prep” and “swaging” to be amalgamated through innovative design – if this is successful it will allow for a headcount reduction of 8 operators across two shifts (approx. \$400M CIP alone). John and his Industrial Engineer ran a Kaizen event with operations and quality engineering to ensure viability of the project, and determine best product flow for the operators. This is planned to deliver CIP in Q4 2011. Non financial benefits of the station design project are in many ways greater than the expected CIP. These stations will provide an improved ergonomic work area for operators where station equipment can be adjusted based on operator physical limitations. The stations will be aesthetically pleasing with all cabling and manifolds hidden, yet still providing quick release ease of access to the maintenance group.

One of the largest expected benefits however is the impact to yield. During extensive feedback and testing sessions a number of key points that lead to damaged parts have been addressed (kinks, notch damage, tears, balloon strating). The percentage improvement will not be defined until the stations have ran on line for a period of months, but reviews of the station expect a significant improvement. John’s Green Belt Project on Drug Spray utilisation is projected to deliver at a minimum a further 10,000 stents through the line constraint. This equates to \$1MM in finished goods which directly impacts the areas unit cost.

Marlene joined the Technical Support group in Abbott Pharma in Sligo as a summer intern but has quickly become a strong and responsible member of the team through hard work and excellent engineering knowledge. She has demonstrated great personal drive, true project ownership, sharp intellect, great engagement and very fine attention to detail. One of the key projects Marlene became involved in during her time in AIPO was the API Cleaning Strategy will serve as a powerful tool to make the site cleaning practices much more robust and repeatable, it will help to reduce the time required to validate cleaning processes on site, as well as demonstrating to Regulatory Authorities that the site is pro-active and constantly improving its practices. This project minimised future regulatory and business risk. In addition, Marlene has written numerous process recipes for an upcoming process validation for the Manufacturing Execution System (MES). The MES project was in the process of successful implementation for existing commercial products prior to Marlene starting work at AIPO but her activities focused on the MES system application to the first of many new site products. The use of MES for NPI manufacturing has raised the profile of the Sligo site, reduces the risk of batch failures, and will ensure that AIPO continues the successful transfer of new products - a critical component of our site strategy.

Elaine Fennessy, Abbott Ireland; Sédn Sherlock TD, Minister of State, Dept. of Enterprise, Jobs & Innovation and Dept. of Education & Skills with Responsibility for Research & Innovation; Inaugural Abbott Ireland Intern Bursary Award recipients: Chemical and Biopharmaceutical Engineering student Marlene Clark and Mechanical Engineering student John Caplice; and Dr Barry O'Connor, CIT Registrar and VP for Academic Affairs pictured at the CIT Career and Postgraduate Options Fair at CIT.

DR AIDAN COFFEY GIVES KEYNOTE LECTURE AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE

Dr Aidan Coffey, a member of the Society of General Microbiology (UK) since 1986, was invited to give a keynote lecture at the Society of General Microbiology conference, which is dedicated to new developments in biology of microbial viruses (bacteriophages and viruses of Archaea).



The conference took place in Queen's University, Belfast in April 2011 and featured several international speakers from the US and EU. The conference was organised by the School of Biological Sciences at Queen's University. Dr Coffey, from the Department of Biological Sciences and the CREATE consortium at CIT, has worked with bacteriophages (viruses which kill bacteria) for over twenty years at UCC, Teagasc and at CIT. A particularly exciting development in recent years has been the exploitation of bacteriophages and their machinery for elimination of pathogenic bacteria such as MRSA.

FOOD ADVISORY GROUP

Dr Coffey recently became a member of the Food Institutional Research Measure (FIRM) Advisory Group on consumer and industry acceptance of novel foods. Other members of the advisory group were drawn from the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, The Department of Agriculture and Food, Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland, Teagasc, UCC, UCD and representatives of the Irish food industry. In 2008 and 2009, Aidan Coffey was a member of an expert panel on the use of bacteriophages in food safety at the European Food Safety Authority in Parma, Italy.

DR MARINE HENRY TAKES UP POST AT THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE IN PARIS

Last February, Marine Henry, who recently graduated with a PhD from the Department of Biological Sciences took up a research position at the prestigious Pasteur Institute in Paris. Dr Henry's postgraduate research in CIT was financed by a fellowship from the Irish Research Council for Research in Science, Engineering and Technology. She published several scientific papers from her doctoral thesis under the supervision of Drs Jim O'Mahony and Aidan Coffey. She had previously graduated in CIT in 2006 with a First Class Honours BSc from the Applied Biosciences course.

WE WISH MARINE EVERY SUCCESS IN HER FUTURE RESEARCH CAREER.



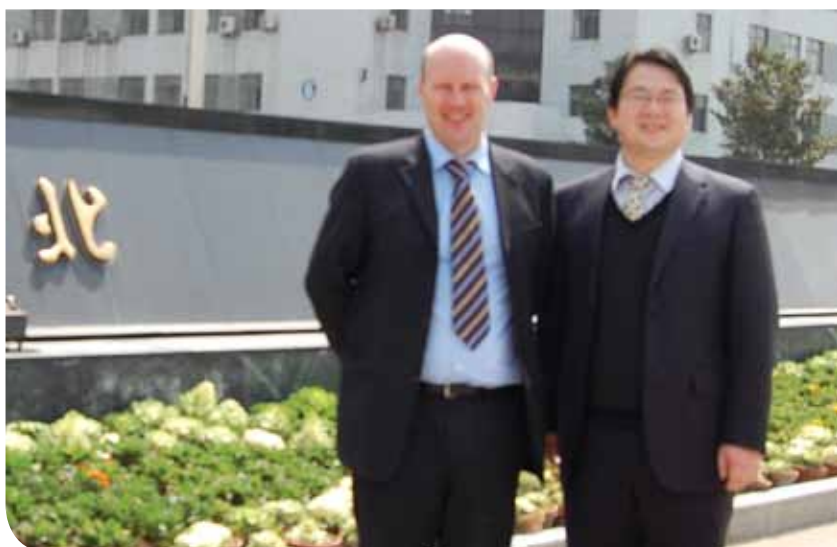
RESEARCHER MARK FENTON FINALIST IN NATIONAL AWARD



Congratulations to Mark Fenton, from the Department of Biological Sciences who was one of the 10 finalists in the Roche-sponsored Researcher of the Year event held in Dublin in November, 2010. Other finalists in the competition were from Queens University Belfast, Trinity College Dublin, UCC, UCD, and the Royal College of Surgeons. Mark, who was selected as the CIT representative for the competition has just completed his PhD project on the purification and applications of a bacteriophage-derived enzyme. The enzyme literally destroys MRSA cells as a result of degradation of the peptidoglycan cell wall. This occurs regardless of the antibiotic-resistance profile of the bacterium. Infections by antibiotic resistant staphylococci cost the Irish health system

over €20 million annually. The culmination of Mark's PhD project was a highly successful in-vivo trial, which was published recently. The work was financed by Science Foundation Ireland and supervised by Dr Aidan Coffey.

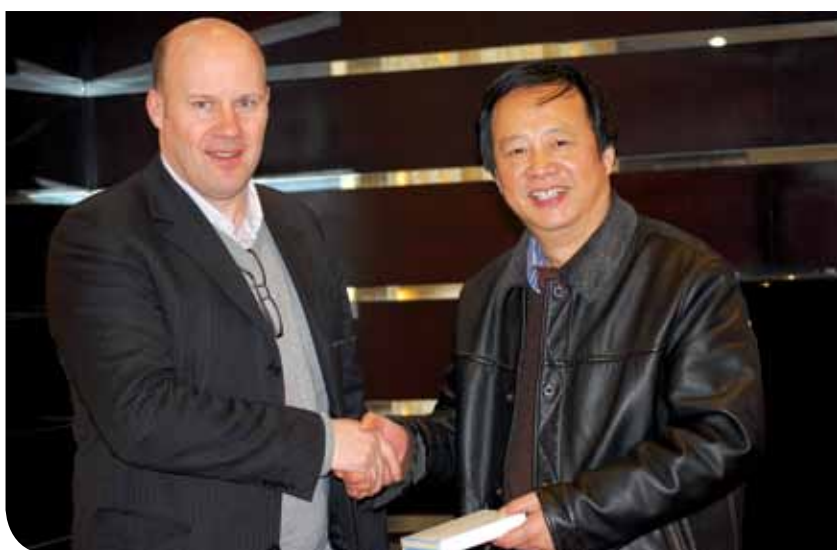
Mark Fenton won the best poster presentation prize, sponsored by the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre at the 40th Annual UCC Food Research Conference recently. Mark's presentation was entitled Three dimensional structure of an antistaphylococcal peptidase CHAPk cloned from staphylococcal bacteriophage K. In all, twelve CIT postgrads presented their work along with students from other Irish third-level Institutes at the UCC conference on March 31st and April 1st last.



CIT VISITS CHINA

In March, Dr Hugh McGlynn, Head, School of Science and Informatics, together with Xiao Fang Zhang (PhD student in Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Biological Sciences), visited a number of Chinese universities to examine the possibility of student exchange into CIT's Honours degree programmes.

Pictured left are Dr McGlynn and Professor Haimoou Zhang (Vice Dean, School of Life Sciences), outside the gates of Hubei University, where a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed for Hubei University students to engage in BSc (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology programme in CIT.



CIT has a more established relationship with Wuhan University of Science and Technology and Dr McGlynn and Xiao Fang Zhang visited the Faculty of Engineering and its research laboratories to examine possible research collaborations in the area of metallurgy. Discussions on staff and student exchange between CIT and Wuhan University of Science and Technology took place, pictured left is Professor Ma Jihua, Vice President, Wuhan University of Science and Technology and Dr Hugh McGlynn.

FOUR OF THE FIVE PHD GRADUATES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



(L - R) Dr Brid Coffey; Dr David Kelly; Dr Aidan Coffey (Lecturer, Dept Biological Sciences); Dr Annmarie Mollaghan; Dr Mark Fenton; and Dr Pdraigín Murphy was conferred in absentia.

CIT HOSTS MUNSTER SQUAD AT ELITE GYM

CIT has signed a licensing agreement with Munster Rugby which will see the Cork based members of the professional Munster squad and Academy headquartered at CIT's Elite Gym on its Bishopstown Campus. The four-year agreement will see the Munster squad utilising the sports and ancillary services at CIT. Squad members and Coaching Staff will be based at the Elite Gym which includes a 625sq metre gym area along with video analysis rooms, squad meeting rooms, physio treatment rooms, dressing rooms, offices, and recreation area. Squad sessions will be held on a dedicated training pitch as well as the use of all CIT's sporting facilities such as the athletics track.

Part of the cooperation agreement between CIT and Munster Rugby will also see academic development and research into training equipment, as well as strength and conditioning on the Sports Engineering side. The Institute will also cooperate with Munster staff and players facilitating enrolment in CIT and further learning.

Dr Barry O'Connor, Registrar and Vice President for Academic Affairs, said that he was delighted that CIT and Munster Rugby had created this linkage. "The growth and success of Munster over the past number of years has been one of Ireland's greatest achievements and so we are very pleased that the Cork based squad members and staff will be utilising the world class facilities we have here at CIT. All of our sporting facilities are located here on the Bishopstown campus which is fantastic for our staff and students. We are confident that this agreement will be beneficial to both sides in terms of making a contribution to the success of Munster and in helping CIT continue to attract the best students from around the country. Munster squad members will also be able to benefit from CIT's business/enterprise focussed programmes combined with accessible and flexible delivery mechanisms."



Tony McGahan, Director of Rugby, said, "Munster Rugby is very pleased to be associated with CIT. The quality of the facilities at the campus consolidates both the professional and academy operations in Cork and will, I know, show benefit over time in the quality of player development. We are also enthused with the possibilities for cooperation in research projects and the academic opportunities made available."

The Elite Gym is fully kitted out for the purpose of Team and Athlete Training in Strength and Conditioning and is available for CIT Sports Clubs and CIT Sports Bursary Recipients. CIT is also the annual venue for the international Cork City Sports.

LIFETIME AWARD PRESENTED TO MICHAEL P. WALSH

Michael P. Walsh, Senior Lecturer in Marketing, was given a Lifetime Award at the Marketing Institute of Ireland's recent celebration of their forty years in existence. In the citation, due credit was given to Michael for the many graduates, quite a number of them were present, that he taught and steered in so many important ways during their time in CIT and since. His on-going commitment and engagement with the Marketing Institute was commented upon very favourably. We too in CIT greatly appreciate and value his contribution and presence amongst us.



Vincent Scannell, Vice Chairman, MII south region; Ashley Hennessy Chairman, MII south Region; Michael Walsh CIT; and Tom Trainor, Chief Executive MII.



Dr Brendan Murphy with Norma Welch, Faculty of Engineering & Science Administrator; and Sinéad Rodgers, Industry Links Programme Co-ordinator, Nimbus Centre, CIT; who were conferred with HDip in Arts in Public Relations on the 24th October 2011.

New Theatre & Drama Degree

The new four-year BA TDS degree course will commence in September 2012 when the first cohort of twenty full-time students move into the state-of-the-art theatre education facilities in the CIT Cork School of Music's purpose-built conservatory building in the city centre.

The programme focuses on theatre performance training, with supporting modules in theatre design, acting for screen, musical theatre and education to facilitate wider career options. Alongside core disciplines of voice, movement and acting studies, students will develop a range of creative and practical skills, which will equip them to enter a competitive profession.

All applicants must apply through the CAO, using course code CR700. Applicants will also undergo a practical audition/assessment process at the CIT Cork School of Music in April.



Sam Perkin composes

Sam Perkin is currently an MA Composition student at the CSM under the guidance of Stephen Parker. Sam's work "String Quartet" was performed by the Vanbrugh Quartet on 31 March in the CSM's Curtis Auditorium.

Of his String Quartet, Sam says, "I was commissioned by the Cork Orchestral

Society to write a piece for the RTÉ Vanbrugh String Quartet. With such a great opportunity and only a few months notice it was all or nothing, so I put everything else on hold to concentrate fully on composing the piece. I did not plan initially to write a full four-movement String Quartet, but with fourteen-hour working days and some vital inspiration the piece transformed into just that. Not a single note was written until I had studied a sizeable portion of the String Quartet Repertoire. The study of texture, harmonic content, structural balance, and melodic line were of particular importance to me. My method was to think for a month, and to write for a month. It turned out to be a great method because when you have everything planned, the whole architecture

and so on, what remains is merely to write the notes. The rest is in the detail. It was an absolute honour to have such remarkable musicians playing my music."

The Vanbrugh Quartet premiered the piece in Cork on the 31st March in the Curtis Auditorium of the CIT Cork School of Music. On the 3rd April it was performed in Dublin in the Unitarian Church, St Stephen's Green. This second concert was recorded by RTÉ Lyric FM for future broadcast.

Recent pieces include a Violin Concerto (played by Olga Berar and Mairéad Hickey with the CSM Symphony Orchestra), Sangre Azul for Jazz Big Band (played at the Cork International Jazz Festival by the CSM Jazz Big Band), and his Sonata for Violin and Marimba was premiered on the 14th May in the CSM by Alex Petcu and Eoin Ducrot at a concert of new music by Cork-based composers. Also at that venue, was the premiere of his new piece for chamber orchestra commissioned by Conor Palliser and the CSM Mozart Players, which took place on the 5th May.

Award Winning Young Cork Classical Guitarist David Keating



*David Keating
with Lecturer Jerry
Creedon, and Dr
Geoffrey Spratt,
Director of the CSM.
Picture courtesy
Evening Echo.*

Prizewinner in National Music Competition

22 year old Classical Guitarist David Keating, a 4th Year Music Degree student in the CSM where he studies guitar with Jerry Creedon, has achieved third place in the Final of the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year Competition which was held in Dublin on the 8th October, 2011. David was also awarded the John Vallery Memorial Prize for the Best Performance by a String Player in the Competition. He was the only finalist from outside of Dublin.

He came through the semi-finals on the 6th October from a group of 14 competitors, drawn from the main Irish Music Colleges: The CIT Cork School of Music, The Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin; The DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, Dublin, and The Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick (MA in Classical String Performance). David's performance in the Final of the Competition was subsequently broadcasted on RTE Lyric FM.

David began studying the guitar in the CSM with Jerry Creedon at the age of 7 and achieved Grade 8 standard at age 14. Prizes for his classical guitar playing include the Rose Bowl and Classical Guitar award at Feis Ceoil, Dublin, as well as the Pro Musica Trophy for stringed instruments, and the Teachers Association Music Bursary and classical guitar trophy at Feis Maitiu, Cork.

In his final year at CSM, David is specialising in the art of performance. This affinity with performance has seen him give numerous solo recitals at several national venues, including Farnleigh House, Lismore Castle, and the Kinsale Arts Festival. He has also appeared as featured soloist with the Cork Youth Orchestra and Cork Sinfonietta. Aside from his solo playing, David also has a keen interest in chamber music and is a regular member of the Diversus Ensemble (a 25 piece guitar orchestra), who have toured both Ireland and abroad. He has received masterclasses with some of the world's top guitarists including John Williams, Xue Fei Yang, William Kanengiser, Scott Tennant, and Craig Odgen. Upon completion of his BMus, David hopes to pursue a Masters in Performance.

John Gibson celebrates launch of CD



An enthusiastic crowd gathered at the CSM for the launch of John Gibson's latest CD 'The John Gibson Collection Vol 2' which marks John's 60th year. It features works composed over the past 40 years — a retrospective of his compositions featuring the Vanbrugh, mezzo Amanda Neri, soprano Deirdre Moynihan, cellist Carol O'Connor, and John on piano. Orla Flynn, acting head of CCAD, paid tribute to John's long contribution to the CSM and to the cultural life of the city. John has lectured in the CSM since 1982.

John has performed extensively over the past 30 years, with the National Symphony Orchestra, the RTE Concert Orchestra and the RTE Vanbrugh String Quartet. His compositions include a Chamber Opera, Songs, Orchestral works and much Piano music along with 3 String Quartets. Commissions include a test piece for the AXA Dublin International Piano Competition, which received its premiere performance in Cork at the

Piano Portraits series in March 2007. A new String Quartet titled "IKON" written for the RTE Vanbrugh String Quartet, received its world premiere at the West Cork Chamber Music Festival in June 2006, in Bantry House. It was broadcast live to six countries including Poland and Germany. In 2007 John was commissioned to write a Nocturne for the right hand by Ian Fox for the leading Irish Pianist John O'Connor. In the same year he wrote a Lament for Voice, Cor Anglais and Piano. This was a private commission and the work will be included in his forthcoming new CD. Another recent private commission was Proverbs 13:12 for Piano. In 2009 he wrote a psalm setting for Madrigal 75 the distinguished choral group from Cork. John was delighted to receive the commission from Cork City Council for "Christ Church Music" in 2010. The work is in four movements and was completed in the summer of 2010.

To date 5 CD's of his music have been issued, many with Arts Council funding. The first staged performance of his Chamber Opera, "Judith and Holofernes", was sponsored by Cork 2005-European Capital of Culture. Much of John's music is played regularly on RTE Lyric FM especially the Music Box for Piano. His works have also been performed and heard in China, Brazil, America, Russia, and throughout Europe and Japan. This is due largely to the work of the Contemporary Music Centre in Dublin, which promotes Irish Composers' work abroad.

In 1997 John was awarded the prestigious Nijinsky Medal for his piano piece Nijinsky, by the Polish Ministry of Arts and Culture and the International Society of the Friends of Vaclav Nijinsky. He is the first composer to receive this honour.

www.johncgibson.com

Outstanding Achievements

Gary Curtin - Euphonium - CSM BMus and MA graduate

Gary has been appointed Solo Euphonium with the Black Dyke Band. Black Dyke is probably the World's most renowned brass band, with a busy schedule of performances and recording sessions. The position of Solo Euphonium with Black Dyke is arguably THE most eminent in the UK and even the world. It's a phenomenal achievement by Gary.

Michael Marshall - Trombone - CSM BMus graduate

From a large international field of applicants, Mick has gained a trial with the RTE Concert Orchestra for the position of Sub-principal trombone. He was one of only four players to do so.

Cillian O'Ceallacháin - Trombone - former CSM student

Cillian has been offered a place in the European Union Youth Orchestra. This would be one of less than a handful chosen from audition centres across Europe. Cillian was a part-time student at the CSM for more than ten years and is continuing his studies at the Scottish Royal Academy of Music in Glasgow.

Cork City Music Education Partnership Delights



www.corksmusicgeneration.com

In March 2011, the Cork Music Education Partnership launched the highly anticipated website www.corksmusicgeneration.com in the Council Chambers City Hall. The website was launched by the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Michael O'Connell in the presence of Ciáran Lynch, TD; Brigadier General, Paul Pakenham; Soprano Cara O'Sullivan; and Cllr. Jim Corr with performances from the Knocknaheeny Youth Music Project and Blarney St. Boys CBS National School Brass band. The website was launched as part of Cork's bid for funding for music educational provision in the Rapid areas of the city.

The perception of Cork is that we do very well when it comes to music – it's associated with many famous names in the musical world, from Seán Ó Riada to the Frank & Walters, John Spillane to Cara O'Sullivan, and many others. At academic level music is well catered for, with diploma and degree courses offered at CSM and UCC.

Unfortunately, there are large gaps in opportunities in Cork for children to learn music. Despite this, across the Northside of Cork, something magical is happening – in a prefab in Knocknaheeny, in a primary school in the Glen, in Cope Foundation in Mayfield, children are being taught a variety of musical instruments and it is causing quite a stir.

'It's this type of activity the Cork Music Education Partnership want to see happening in all areas of the city, especially in areas where there is little opportunity currently for young people to access music learning and a new scheme, the brainchild of U2, offers Cork the chance to do this' said Ted Owens, CEO, Cork City VEC.

U2 has donated €5m in an effort to give other young people the opportunity they had to learn to play instruments. This national music education initiative Music Generation was announced in 2009 by U2, together with the Ireland Funds and Music Network, and is supported by the Department of Education and Skills. It's the intention of Music Generation through Music Education Partnerships to deliver new opportunities for vocal and instrumental tuition for young people and to raise the profile of music education in Ireland. Cork Music Education Partnership (MEP) has been formed in Cork City and will be applying for funding under this scheme.

The Cork City Music Education Partnership believes in the right of every child to have the opportunity to learn music. Its ambition is to set up programmes where gaps exist, where little or no instrumental or vocal tuition is available for young people. Classes, courses, and performance opportunities will be offered to young people from pre-school age to 18. They will take place in a variety of settings – in crèches, schools, community centres, and youth projects.

Members of Cork Music Education Partnership are: Cork City Council, Cork VEC, UCC, CIT, FÁS, the HSE, Cork Academy of Music, Cork Music Works, Togher Music Project, Barrack Street Band, Comhaltas Ceolt irí Éireann, Togher Music Project, Second-level, and Primary school representatives.

For more information, please contact members of the Steering Committee: Denis Barrett, Community Education VEC: M: 086 836 8563; or Evelyn Grant, Cork Music Works: M: 087 225 5826

Dr Evelyn Grant, Cork Music Works; Ciaran Lynch T.D; Tina Neylon, Life-Long Learning Festival; and Bob Seward, Cork Academy of Music.

Young Musicians' Award 2011

Mairéad Hickey, a 14 year old part-time violin student of Adrian Petcu at the CSM, has been awarded first prize in the 2011 National Concert Hall 'Young Musicians' Award. This award is given bi-annually and is open to all classical string players (violin, viola, cello, double bass) from 13 to 17 years of age living in Ireland. All applicants had to submit a recording and five were selected to play in a final round at which each finalist had to give a 20 minute recital and be auditioned by the panel of judges at the National Concert Hall on 11th March 2011. Mairéad plans to use the award of €8,000 toward tuition and travel costs for a summer violin masterclass in Romania, for study in France during her transition year and towards the purchase of a new bow.

The National Concert Hall Young Musicians' Award fund was born of a gala concert Anne-Sophie Mutter gave in The National Concert Hall in March 2007, in support of expanding its Learn & Explore programme. Ms. Mutter and the Trondheim Soloists Chamber Orchestra donated their fees, and patrons mirrored this great generosity in their response to the event.

In this spirit of excellence and commitment to music education, The National Concert Hall Young Musicians' Award, launched in 2008, supports the development of talented young musicians in Ireland.





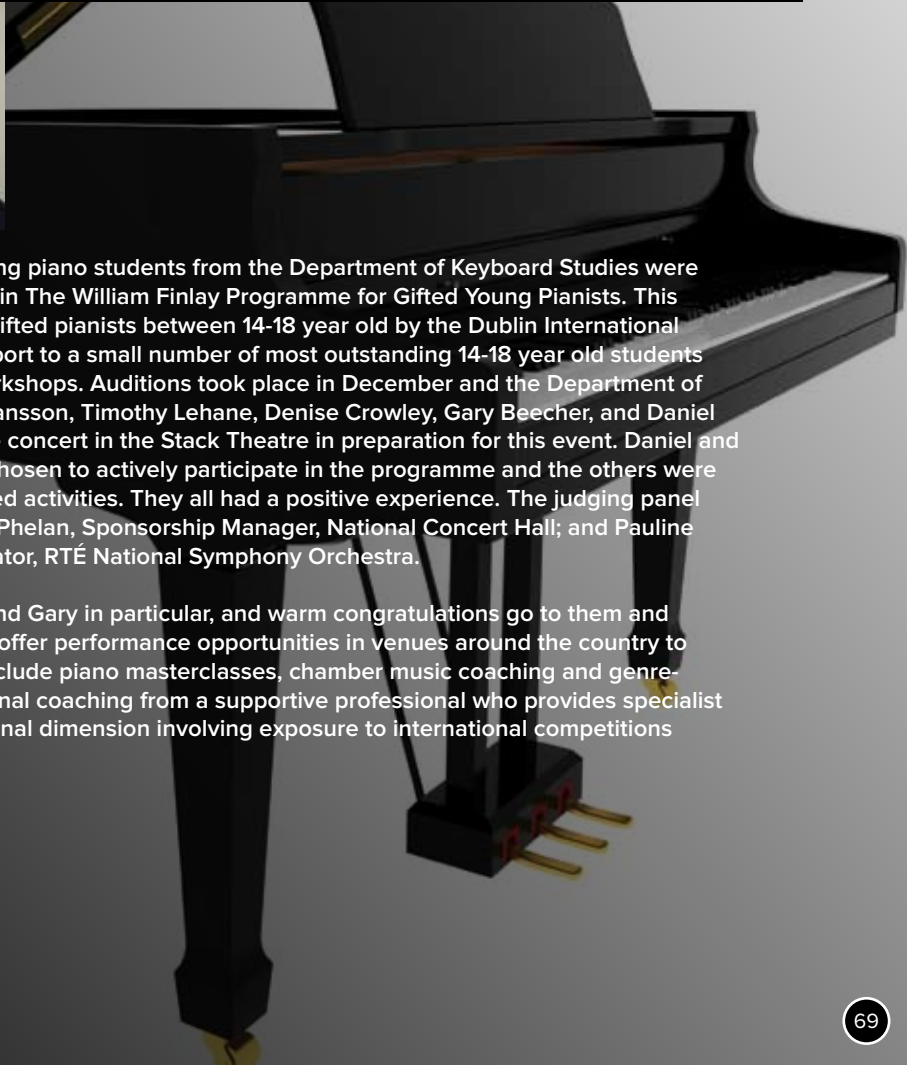
Ciara Glasheen receives the Fulbright Award

Ciara Glasheen, a recent first class honours graduate of the BMus programme was awarded the prestigious Fulbright Award in the Visual and Performing Arts to support her further studies in the USA.

Ciara is moving to Boulder, Colorado to study for a Master of Music degree at the University of Colorado, where she will be specialising in oboe performance. She will be studying with the principal oboist of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, Peter Cooper. In addition, she has been awarded a full tuition scholarship by the University of Colorado and has also been offered a salaried graduate Teaching Assistantship position where she will teach undergraduate students.

She looks forward to representing the CSM as a Fulbright scholar in Colorado for the next two years.

Congratulations to Gary Beecher and Daniel Kearney



Gary Beecher and Daniel Kearney, two young piano students from the Department of Keyboard Studies were among four pianists selected to participate in The William Finlay Programme for Gifted Young Pianists. This is a new national educational initiative for gifted pianists between 14-18 year old by the Dublin International Piano Competition offering systematic support to a small number of most outstanding 14-18 year old students over three years in a series of intensive workshops. Auditions took place in December and the Department of Keyboard Studies sent five pianists: Ellen Jansson, Timothy Lehane, Denise Crowley, Gary Beecher, and Daniel Kearney. They were featured in a showcase concert in the Stack Theatre in preparation for this event. Daniel and Gary were among the four young pianists chosen to actively participate in the programme and the others were offered opportunities to participate in related activities. They all had a positive experience. The judging panel consisted of Finghin Collins, Chair; Audrey Phelan, Sponsorship Manager, National Concert Hall; and Pauline Ashwood, Planning and Projects Administrator, RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra.

It is a remarkable achievement for Daniel and Gary in particular, and warm congratulations go to them and their teacher Jan Cap. The programme will offer performance opportunities in venues around the country to gain experience, weekend workshops to include piano masterclasses, chamber music coaching and genre-specific events, mentoring, providing personal coaching from a supportive professional who provides specialist knowledge and expertise, and an international dimension involving exposure to international competitions abroad as observers or competitors.

patrick

THE STORY

CSM HOSTED THE WORLD PREMIERE OF 'PATRICK THE STORY'

In March 2011, a ground-breaking, multi-media re-imagining of the classic Patrick tale received its premiere at the CSM. Composed by Pierre O'Reilly, the performance combined the talents of Academy Award-nominated animator, Nicky Phelan, renowned soprano, Cara O'Sullivan, The Artists Factory, and a 90-strong orchestra and choir. This ambitious and exciting project combined the talents and resources of the most innovative students from CIT's CSM and CCAD, and St John's College to create a new vision of a classic Irish story, moving away from stereotypical notions of Patrick's life.

"Our aim was to challenge the perception of conventional orchestral presentations with a multiple-sensory journey, incorporating live performers, illustrative media, music, sculpture and audio-visual technology" – Composer, Pierre O'Reilly.



ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONY

The Annual Award Ceremony was held at CSM in September 2011. The ceremony opened with a magnificent performance by the CSM Jazz Big Band directed by John O'Connor. Competition winners were also honoured at this ceremony and we were delighted to welcome Eoin Lynch representing ARUP who sponsored the trophy for the Junior Concerto Competition.

Awards were presented to the most distinguished students in the Junior, Intermediate, Senior, and Post-Grade-8-area in each Department of the School. Awards were also presented to the highest-placed BMus Degree students and highest-placed Taught Masters Student.

The ceremony included musical interludes by 4 students who represented CSM at the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year Competition and culminated with Dr Geoffrey Spratt presenting the Director's Prizes to 2 outstanding students, Alex Petcu and Kieran Prendergast.



Dr Geoffrey Spratt presenting the Director's Prize to Kieran Prendergast.



Aiveen Kearney, Head of School, William Lehane - winner of the Junior Concerto Trophy, and Eoin Lynch, ARUP.



Dr Geoffrey Spratt presenting the Director's Prize to Alex Petcu

CIT Entrepreneurial Supports System

continued from page 59

The system starts with the “Idea” from the on-campus society and runs to full time incubation in the country’s leading business incubation centre ‘The Rubicon Centre’ based on the CIT Bishopstown Campus. CIT can offer invaluable support to students and the public.

The Ideahub is the on-campus society that promotes the power of the idea and gets students thinking about entrepreneurship. The society organises fun competitions and boardroom lunches to promote creativity and discuss talks given by successful entrepreneurs.

The CIT Prize for Innovation is a competition that awards cash prizes to those whose inventions and business ideas are judged most creative, novel, innovative, and likely to succeed in the marketplace. The prize fund for the competition is €10,000. The competition, now in its tenth year, has introduced entrepreneurship training which is delivered over four weeks by CIT Entrepreneur in Residence Kieran Moynihan. The 2011 winner Myles Murray has been accepted on the Genesis Enterprise Programme which is a rapid incubation programme in the Rubicon Centre.

Summer internship “The Hatchery” In an attempt to bridge the gap between a student project and company incubation, CIT introduced a 12 week summer internship in the Rubicon Centre with €5,000 seed capital for each successful applicant. Summer 2011 saw the first running of the programme with three participants. They immediately began training on CIT’s Genesis Enterprise Programme. This put them on a level footing with a long history of successful ventures that have come through the programme. Mentorship was available to each business from onsite entrepreneurs along with seminars from top industry professionals. The student entrepreneurs also had access to the valuable knowledge of the CIT Entrepreneur in Residence, Kieran Moynihan.

William Allen together with his brother Danny started a company “Allenweld” that exports flat pack stables; William has continued the development of the business since the programme completion. Tracey Ryan of BiaBeauty has since been accepted on the Rubicon’s PINC programme for female entrepreneurs. Adrian O’Flaherty, whilst in his final year in business studies, is prototyping an innovative project in three pet stores.

The programme was the brainchild of Chris Gibbons (Department of Mechanical Engineering) and was initially targeted as a mechanism for entrants to the annual Cork City and County Enterprise Boards CIT Prize for Innovation to further their business ideas developed during the competition. As it turned out, the applicants came from many different areas of the Institute. Entitled ‘The Hatchery’ by CIT’s Industry Liaison Manager, Carole O’Leary, the programme provided the vital link between student project and business incubation.

After an impressive summer, Rubicon Centre Manager Paul Healy said: “The Summer Internship Programme participants exceeded our expectations. The students showed us that they can develop and market their ideas as good as any of our Rubicon clients. We hope that this venture can attract more students next time, both from the Cork County and City Enterprise Boards CIT Prize for Innovation and other areas of the Institute.”



(L – R) Danny Allen; William Allen; Tracey Ryan; Adrian O’Flaherty; Carole O’Leary, Industry Liaison Officer; and Paul Healy, Rubicon Centre Manager,

THE RUBICON CENTRE HAS A RANGE OF PROGRAMMES OPEN TO ALL WOULD BE ENTREPRENEURS...

The Discovery Zone is a programme held in the Rubicon over a 12 week period to give prospective entrepreneurs training and mentoring in opportunity identification and idea generation. The Discovery Zone helps people to develop new ideas, start a business or alternatively to explore ways of using their skills in exploiting other commercial opportunities.

The EnterpriseSTART programme is run three times a year, over six weekends (Friday evening and Saturday morning) and offers a realistic market-place perspective on what is involved in creating a competitive and sustainable commercial enterprise. EnterpriseSTART delivers training and business advice to potential entrepreneurs to assist them in developing their business idea into a tangible business plan.

PINC is an intensive programme for female entrepreneurs who want to take their business ideas to the next stage and is run part time over ten weeks. The idea behind PINC is to allow participants the opportunity to focus on their business idea in a structured group environment, whilst at the same time offering one to one business mentoring on all aspects of the project, including market research, business development and funding advice.

Genesis Enterprise Programme is the Rubicon Centre’s flagship programme. This award winning programme provides a package of supports to entrepreneurs to help accelerate the development of their business in the first 12 months of operation. The programme is operated by CIT in partnership with Enterprise Ireland. Entrepreneurs are based in the Rubicon Centre and receive invaluable commercial support and business mentoring. Now in its 14th year, Genesis has, to date, supported almost 200 entrepreneurs in starting their own businesses and more than 70% of the start-up businesses are still in operation to-day, employing in excess of 1,400 people. In addition, over 50% of the businesses are trading internationally with some 40 businesses designated as “High Potential Start Ups” by Enterprise Ireland.

Further information details are available at: www.cit.ie and www.rubiconcentre.ie.

Seán F. O'Leary wins the "Outstanding Contribution to Engineering National Award" - Engineers Ireland Excellence Awards

The Engineers Ireland "Outstanding Contribution to Engineering National Award" was presented to Senior Lecturer Seán F. O'Leary based on his contribution over many years to the promotion and achievement of excellence in the engineering profession both in Ireland and on the international stage.

Over the past two years alone, students tutored and mentored by Seán have won a glittering array of international and national awards including the Babson Award for Best European Mechanical Engineering Student, the European Laureate of Innovation "Innovact" Award, The Vicon and Corin International Medical Engineering Awards, The Siemens Engineers Ireland Innovative Student of the Year Award, The Oscar Wilde and William Butler Yeats Gold Medals, Undergraduate Awards of Ireland and Northern Ireland and The MEETA Asset Managers National Student Award.

On an annual basis, Seán organises the Cork Mechanical, Manufacturing & Biomedical Engineering Exhibition - Ireland's largest Educational Engineering and Innovation Exhibition, with over 180 stands in 2011. The exhibition attracts over 30 sponsors, large numbers of the industrialists, academics and the general public, including in excess of 2,000 second-level students annually with major centrepiece exhibits, including a full-scale Reconstruction of the Studio of the renowned Engineer and Artist, Leonardo da Vinci incorporating six scale models of his designs/inventions. Both Jordan and Ferrari Formula 1 Racing cars have also formed centrepiece exhibits. To view the 2011 exhibit, follow the link www.cit.ie/schoolofmechanicalelectricalandprocessengineering

Seán is the driving force behind the development and delivery of ground-breaking innovative and new product development multi-disciplinary engineering/business laboratories modules and projects at CIT. Business and engineering students are brought together through an action learning project in which multidisciplinary teams collaborate in conception, research, design, development, experimentation, validation, prototype production, proof of concept of an innovative product, estimate its commercial potential, and plan for its exploitation. Many of the emerging products, while critically cognisant of commercial realities and practicalities, are also driven by student idealism towards the use of engineering, business, and innovation to better mankind - with many projects addressing biomedical and societal needs and issues.

Seán is also the author of the submission CIT Innovative Product Development Laboratories major submission 'Engineering an Innovation Eco-System', which was also declared the inaugural Winner of the "Best in Class" Engineering Education 2011 Award at the Engineers Ireland Excellence Awards. Employing educational and research tools, methodologies and skills acquired, developed and honed over many years' experience of board face lecturing and industrial cooperative applied research, the laboratory and workshop based modules centre on the practical development and inculcation of engineering systematic product research, design, development and production

Seán F. O'Leary with his wife Mary at the Engineers Ireland Award Ceremony



skills, experimental and modelling techniques, commercial investigation/assessment, marketing, communication and interdisciplinary teamwork management. Environmental impact, lifecycle, safety and hazard analysis techniques are introduced and implemented in the innovative product design, production, validation, optimisation, utilisation and disposal. The student learning process is enhanced by academic, industrial, peer and public review through formal demonstration and exhibition of the developing solutions. Industrial professional expertise is harnessed through the incorporation of formal consultations and day/ evening lectures by leaders of industry and research, project managers, entrepreneurs, patent lawyers, marketing analysts and innovation centre managers. IPD student intern progression to founding of start-up companies, developing a range of international award winning pipeline innovative products, heralds a bright future for Irish innovation and entrepreneurship.

Seán expounds "The exposure of students to international standards in research and development is critical to the establishment of a world class learning and research environment and also performs a most important benchmarking and validation role. Many of the International and National Adjudication panels have averred to the integrated multi-disciplinary structure of the CIT projects as a critical element in setting them apart from other innovation research projects. The Engineering of an Innovation Eco-System through the development of Innovative and New Product Development Multi-Disciplinary Engineering/Business Laboratories modules and supporting structures has led to a great flowering of Irish engineering educational achievement and will play a major part in the recovery and future development of a powerful, vibrant, prosperous and ethical knowledge-based Irish economy."

"I am continuously energised by my students. There is a great life and career enhancement to meeting and engaging with a new cohort of bright young minds every year. This indeed was encapsulated by the proudest moment for me at the Engineers Ireland Excellence Awards when Louise Connolly of ESBI was presented with the Chartered Engineer of the Year Award 2011.

Seán had lectured Louise throughout her undergraduate years here in CIT in the early 2,000's and was Louise's final year capstone project supervisor in 2004, when she undertook the design of an autoclave system for Amersham Health. "Louise greatly impressed me at that time. She was a highly motivated and idealistic student. Louise returned to us recently here in CIT to present on her ESB International work experience to our final year students - we were all impressed with the very significant technical, design, logistical and managerial challenges that Louise had encountered and admirably overcome. As Engineers Ireland Chartered Engineer of the Year Award 2011, Louise will be a great ambassador for engineering."



Louise Connolly of ESB International was presented with the Chartered Engineer of the Year Award 2011.

Seán attributes his success in the Outstanding Contribution Award and the CIT success in the "Best in Class" Engineering Education Award to the work of many devoted staff members at CIT, but dedicates his award and inspiration to his wife, Mary, his four young sons Eoghan, Rory, Conor, and Tomas and his community in Ballinspittle – "My work nationally and internationally has required me to travel extensively and has also required many very early mornings and very late nights at work in CIT. None of this would have been possible without the great support of Mary and our great neighbours in Ballinspittle."

Senior Lecturer Seán F. O'Leary was also the recipient of the National Academy for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (NAIRTL Ireland) Inaugural Excellence in Teaching Award 2008 and the Cruickshank Intellectual Property Attorneys Enterprise Ireland / Invest Northern Ireland Academic Award Winner at the Student Enterprise Awards 2009.

CAMPUS LAUNCH OF 'THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX'



(L to R): Jerry Moloney, Enterprise Ireland Regional Director for the South Region and Seán F. O'Leary with students Siobhán Hickey, Daniel Allen, Patrick Byrnes, Agnieszka Leja, Richard Childs, Orla Good at the Cork launch of the Enterprise Ireland Think Outside the Box Awards, third level student enterprise competition.

In November 2011, Enterprise Ireland launched a major drive to spur entrepreneurial students to develop innovative business proposals as part of the 30th 'Think outside the Box Awards' competition. This is a great opportunity for ambitious and enterprising students to build a real-world business venture and at the same time be in with a chance to win a prize from the overall €30,000 cash prize fund, and €30,000 consultancy fund, which includes a €10,000 first prize.

The 'Think outside the Box' competition, which is co-sponsored by Invest Northern Ireland, Cruickshank Intellectual Property Attorneys, Mammoth Advertising, and Grant Thornton, is open to all full time third level students in the island of Ireland. The priority is to get students thinking now about starting their own business as a viable career option once they graduate.

Launching the competition, Jerry Moloney, Enterprise Ireland's Director South Region, said: 'Building on last year, the campaign launching the competition features a host of approaches to reach the students and make sure they get every encouragement and support to develop viable business plans. We encourage them to team up with their colleagues and friends from other faculties to think outside the box, innovate and collaborate on coming up with business

proposals that will help them explore their ideas and own appetite for going into business for themselves'.

Features of the competition include a website, Facebook page, and pod casts – reaching out to students in the world that they know best. Students will be able to come together and pool their ideas and energies. The Facebook page features a team up icon, so they can link with other students from their college interested in entering the competition. They can use Facebook to talk to other students who have participated in previous student enterprise programmes and get their advice.

Regional Executives from Enterprise Ireland will be presenting the details of the competition to all colleges and institutions between now and the closing date for the competition which is Wednesday 25th April 2012. The closing ceremony will be hosted in DCU on the 13th & 14th of June 2012.

www.thinkoutsidetheboxawards.com

Oscar Wilde Gold Medal

On October 28th, President Mary McAleese presented the Oscar Wilde Gold Medal to Rian Edman in Dublin Castle.

Congratulations also to CIT students, Aoife Sadlier of CIT Cork School of Music and Emmet O'Brien of the Department of Electronic Engineering, who were short-listed to the top 10% of entries and adjudged worthy of the much coveted Undergraduate Awards of Ireland and Northern Ireland Highly Commended Accolade.

With 2,381 entrants in 2011, the annual Undergraduate Awards of Ireland and Northern Ireland awards programme recognizes, and encourages academic excellence, independent thinking, and innovation on the island of Ireland and, as of 2011, in the USA also. Through the annual publication of the Undergraduate Journal, the Undergraduate Awards of Ireland and Northern Ireland present the ideas of the brightest young minds. The Undergraduate Awards of Ireland and Northern Ireland envision a culture of excellence through which graduates create, advance, and realise world-class ideas.

Rian with Barry Leach, Chairman of the distinguished Judging Panel.



MEETA Student National Award



On the 18th November, MEETA (the Irish Maintenance and Asset Management Association) adjudged CIT Student Team Danny Allen, Richard Childs and Patrick Byrnes as the outright winners of the MEETA Student National Award 2011 for their project on the design, development, manufacture, commissioning and testing of an automated system for the sand blasting of prosthetic shoulder stems, carried out in conjunction with Croom Precision Medical of Croom, Co. Limerick.

In June, the team also won first place and was awarded the title of Siemens Engineers Ireland Innovative Student Engineer of the Year (Level 7) 2011. The ceremony, sponsored by Siemens, took place at Engineers Ireland HQ, Ballsbridge, Dublin.

Rian takes 1st Place for Ireland in Euro Engineering Competition

On the 23rd September, at a glittering awards ceremony in Mayfair, London, the following results were announced at the 2011 European Science Engineering and Technology SET Award Finals:

First Place Babcock Award and Best European Mechanical Engineering Student 2011

● Rian Edman of CIT, project: Thermodynamic Analysis, Testing and Evaluation of a Concept 6 Stroke Engine.

Runners Up Finalists

● Benjamin Lindley of the University of Cambridge, project: Waste incineration in a pressurised water reactor.

● Ross Doak of Heriot-Watt University, project: Design of a spherical mobile robot.

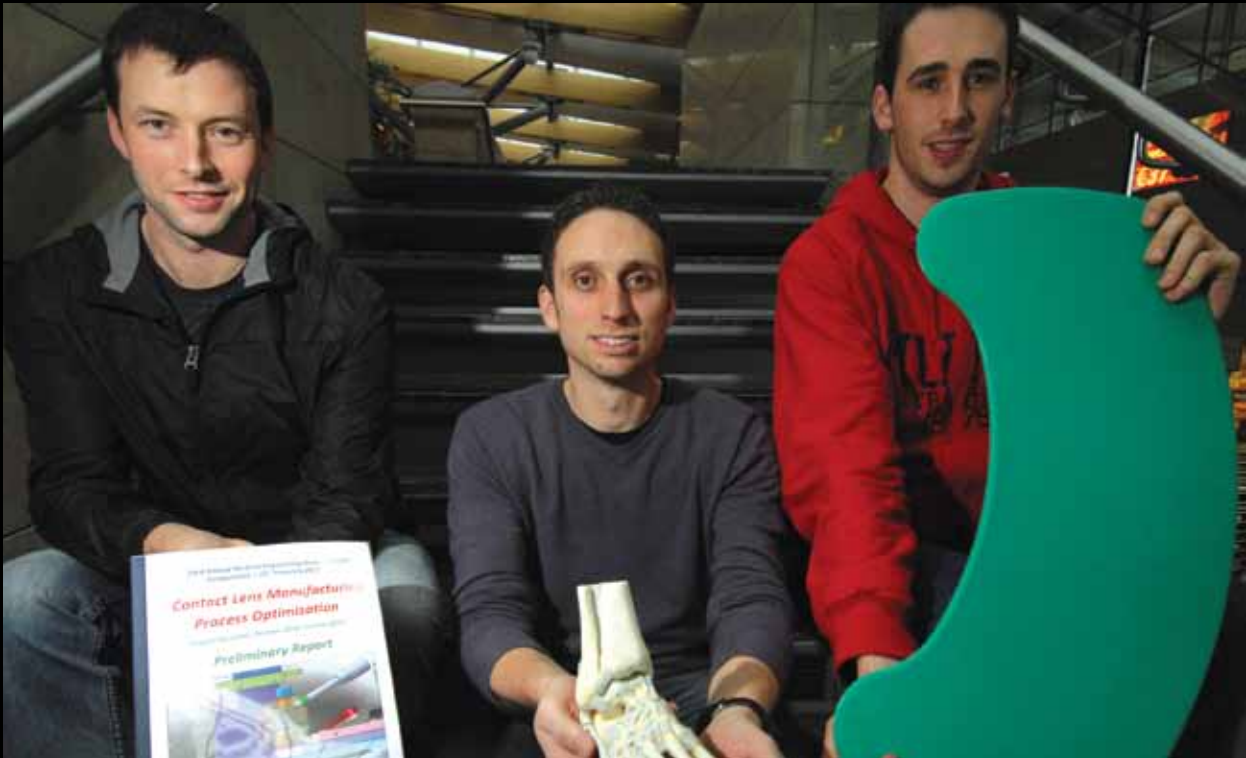
The Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn, T.D., offered his congratulations to Rian on his remarkable achievement. "He has competed, and been successful, at the highest level and is a credit to himself, his family and to the calibre of graduate being produced by CIT."

A delighted Rian expressed gratitude to all who had aided him in his preparations for the European Finals and in particular Dr Keith McMullan, Project Supervisor, and CIT PhD Student Kieran O'Callaghan, whose advice and guidance in the run up to the finals were invaluable. Rian was conferred with a BEng (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering at the autumn conferring and hopes to pursue a PhD in CIT.

www.cit.ie/currentnews?id=257

Top Undergraduate and Second Place Overall Awards

International Medical Engineering Project Competition



Mark Quigley, Pádraig Herbert and Gavin O'Sullivan.

In February 2011, the results of the 23rd Annual International Medical Engineering Project Competition were announced: Corin Group Prize for Best Healthcare Technology Project:

First Place Overall:

Euan McGaughey - University of Glasgow, Master of Engineering Graduate Project: 'Development of a Statistical Classifier of Breathing Patterns for Automatic Abdominal Muscle Stimulation in Tetraplegia'.

Joint Second Place Overall and First Placed Undergraduate Student

Mark Quigley – CIT, Final Year Mechanical Engineering Degree Project: 'Contact Lens Manufacturing Process Optimisation' - Bausch and Lomb

Joint Second Place Overall

Susan Mulcahy - Imperial College London, Master of Engineering Graduate Project: 'Electrical Detection of Spreading Depolarisations in Injured Tissue in the Human Brain'.

JRI Prize for Best Medical Engineering Exhibited and Presented Project:

First Place Overall:

Caroline Smith - University of Sheffield. Master of Engineering Graduate Project: 'Optical Coherence Tomography Imaging of 3D Tissue Engineered Skin Cultured in Refusion Reactor'.

Joint Second Place Overall and First Placed Undergraduate Student

Pádraig Herbert – CIT, Final Year Biomedical Engineering Degree Project: 'Dorsiflexion Assistance and Stability Control of the Talocrural Joint in a Subject with Post Polio Syndrome'.

Joint Second Place Overall

Tetyana Nedicko - Queen Mary University of London, Master of Engineering Graduate Project: 'The Effect of Shock Wave Lithotripsy on Encrusted Urological Stents'.

Congratulations also to CIT Mechanical Engineering Student, Gavin O'Sullivan, whose self-conceived project on 'Design and Development of a User Friendly Integrated Ergonomic Wheelchair Transfer Board' was highly praised and received a Finalist Award at the International Medical Engineering Finals.

In September 2011, **CIT welcomed 140 incoming Erasmus students to CIT, from partner institutions across Europe. Another 70 students are expected to register for semester 2.**

Four students from the CSM are currently on one-year Erasmus exchanges abroad. Two students are currently studying at conservatoires in Italy: Michael Crowley, a guitarist, will spend the year at the Conservatorio Statale di Musica “Giuseppe Tartini”, Trieste, and Kelley Lonergan will study singing and voice literature at the Conservatorio di Musica “E.F. Dall’Abaco”, in Verona. Eamonn Muldowney is the first student from CIT to study at the Escola Superior de Musica e das Artes do Espectaculo in Porto. Tom O Drisceoil is studying at the Hochschule fur Musik und Theater Leipzig.

Students from the Department of Media Communications are currently studying in the University of Staffordshire and Hochschule Darmstadt in Germany. Some of these students will spend both semesters abroad.

Three Business Studies students who are taking a Spanish module, taught by Ana Cruz Garcia, will go to study at the Universidad Europea de Madrid (UEM) for semester 2. In order to promote more interest in studying languages, Ana Cruz Garcia has established a “Tandem” conversation swap system for English mother tongue and Spanish-speaking students.

The outgoing Erasmus placement programme usually gets underway in January, with groups of Social Care and Early Childhood Studies students travelling to Sweden, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, and Denmark. During March and April, students from Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering, and Sustainable Engineering will travel to France, Spain, Germany, Finland, and the UK to undertake industry or research-based placements.

There is funding available for students from all departments who wish to spend their training period abroad. The Erasmus placement programme now allows for students to carry out a funded training period abroad during the summer months, provided that certain conditions are met.

Erasmus study exchange grants can also be availed of by Masters and PhD students.

Professor Dr Spyros Vassiliadis Retirement

Professor Dr Spyros Vassiliadis from the Technical E Institute of Thessaloniki in Greece, visited the School of Business to give a series of lectures on the Greek financial crisis and the Greek government response. These very interesting and topical lectures were, in fact, the last lectures given by Professor Vassiliadis before his retirement. The TEI of Thessaloniki has been a partner institution of CIT’s School of Business Studies since the early 1990’s, starting with the Erasmus ICP projects, through the Socrates I and II programmes, and up to the current Lifelong Learning Erasmus programme. Students from Thessaloniki come to CIT every year, and a number of CIT students and staff have visited Thessaloniki on Erasmus exchanges over the years.

We wish Professor Vassiliadis a long and happy retirement.

Recreation & Leisure and Social Care students participate in an Erasmus Intensive Programme on Wellbeing, Lahti University Finland 2011

(Student perspective)

This was the second Intensive Programme on Wellbeing hosted by the Lahti University of Applied Sciences in Finland. It was run over a ten day period from 26th April – 7th May 2011. Nine CIT students, four from second year Recreation and Leisure, and five from first year Social Care travelled. The other Institutes which participated in the programme were: Saxion University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands; Frankfurt am Main University of Applied Sciences, Germany; and Lahti University of Applied Science, Finland. The fields in which they were studying were Social Care, Physiotherapy, Social Work and Nursing. This mix of people brought an intercultural and inter-professional aspect to the exercise.

In undertaking this programme, there were a number of identified goals we wished to achieve. We wished to gain knowledge and understanding of the structure of Social and Health Care systems in other countries. Also we discussed how people might relate culturally and professionally to their client/patient/service user. How might they view the multi-faceted concept of well-being? From this programme it was also planned to identify new areas of health care in which we might secure employment in the future. It was also seen as important to identify the professionals we may work with in the field of health care and gain an understanding of how our different roles would complement each other. We saw this as an opportunity to develop our ability to work in a team situation.

The programme consisted of a mixture of lectures, workshops and visits to Health and Social Care facilities, all of which were based around the concept of well-being. The lectures were based on the following themes;

- The concept of well-being;
- A definition of health and well-being and the determinants of well-being;
- Promotion of well-being;
- Multi-cultural influence on well-being;
- The structure of social and health care services;
- Professional ethics;
- Different social and health care professions;
- Entrepreneurial potential.

The Health and Social Care Centres included;

A trip to Helsinki- This was a very enjoyable trip. We visited Ruskeasuo School, a school for children with disabilities. This school has a very high standard of facilities, equipment and staffing. We all agreed that we saw potential for using some of the ideas and methods of learning used in the school in similar schools in Ireland. The most interesting aspect for us was the multi-disciplinary relationships in the school, how all the professionals worked together within the classroom for a practical learning environment.

Lahti- This trip involved visiting two centres. Group 1 visited the Social Psychiatric Foundation (Community Mental Health Centre) and Visio (A Centre for Early School Leavers). Group 2 visited Wanha Herra (A Day Centre for Older Adults) and Lahti Rehabilitation Centre (a Centre for People with Physical

Disabilities). Both groups truly enjoyed their visits to the centres and gained a wonderful insight into good work practice. From this programme we developed many skills including the competencies to study and work in an inter-professional and multi-cultural working group, we broadened our vocabulary for discussing professional issues, we gained tools to argue and defend our own opinions, we improved our linguistic and rhetoric competencies and we strengthened our e-learning skills in an international context. The programme also helped us to learn to respect other cultures and opinions, to respect the work and ideas of different professions in the social and health care areas and to gain positive attitudes towards new and entrepreneurial approaches in the social and health care area and also towards new, innovative teaching methods. We believe that we are now more competent and confident to study and work in the EU which is a great benefit to us and I'm sure we will avail of this in the future.

This Well-being programme was very well organised and ran smoothly. The Finnish participants showed us fantastic help and hospitality, this allowed us to make the most of the two weeks we had there and to use our time in the best way possible. The Finnish students designed a social programme for us that included a trip to Sibelius Hall for an orchestra symphony concert, a Wappu festival celebration party, Nordic walking, and many other activities that added to our cultural experience. This helped us to get to know the other students from the different countries and to build friendships with them. We attended lectures and workshops in the Faculty of Social and Health care in the Lahti University of Applied Sciences, where we experienced the Finnish college life and some interesting Finnish cuisine! We had the opportunity to experience many aspects of Finnish culture.

We also learned a lot about different cultures through each country completing presentations about their country, college, healthcare system and cultures. We learned how different universities operate and different methods of teaching and approaching disciplines. Germany, Finland and the Netherlands composed creative and enjoyable presentations that promoted our learning and understanding of their countries and their professions over the two weeks.

We also had the opportunity to complete presentations about Ireland, our culture, healthcare system and our studies also. This resulted in helpful learning and personal development in relation to accepting and understanding how different parts of the world function. This type of learning and experience is vital to allow us to gain understanding, get ideas from other countries and to promote positive change in our own professions. This in turn will impact positively on our work within the social care and health sector. We would like to thank everyone who made this a good experience for us; the co-ordinators, our lecturers Jennifer Flack and Ona McGrath, and all of the students who took part.

Neasa Peters, Amy O'Sullivan, John Dunlea, Adam Peerbux, Jennifer Healy, Wesley Tong, Colum Nugent, Leona Buckley and Sinéad Stretton.

Update from the Sports Office

The **Sports Bursary Scheme** has gone from strength to strength. This year saw 105 bursaries presented to student athletes across 18 different sports. The presentation evening took place on the 30th of November with guest speaker Sue Ronan. Sue Ronan made her international debut against Sweden in 1988, she has gone on to manage the Irish U16, U18 and is currently Senior Women's Soccer Manager.

Athletics Club jumped straight into winter training. Resident coach and staff member Ian O'Sullivan is joined by Eamonn Flanagan (Events Coach) and Liam O'Reilly (Conditioning Coach). The club retained its U'23 County Title and came in 6th position in the Novice in Conna in October. The Road Relays in Maynooth took place in November with CIT sending 2 men's teams and a full women's team for the first time in a number of years.

The **Hockey & Golf** teams dived straight into competition with both Varsities taking place in October. The golfers faced tough competition in Tramore drawing NUI Maynooth, UCD, and UCC in their pool. None the less, first year student, John Hickey, finished in the top 10 overall. The Hockey Club travelled to Galway with a strong Men's and Ladies Squad. The Men's team won the Mauritius Plate after a titanic battle against Trinity College Dublin. The women's team drew a tough pool with UL, UCD, and UL. They came close to taking UCC scoring 1 goal to their 3.



(L-R) John Hobbs, Roger Gray, Harry Flemming and Alastair Smith.

Congratulations to CIT's very own Clíodhna Sargent who has just returned from Argentina with the Irish Women's Hockey Team. Clíodhna received an early Christmas present when she reached a milestone in December against India earning her 100th Irish Cap.

The Pool Club signed up large numbers this year and subsequently entered 3 teams in the HESPC League. A training workshop was organised in CIT by the club on the 23rd November when the club enlisted the advice and expertise of PJ Nolan (Republic of Ireland National Snooker Coach & Director of Coaching in Ireland). Next up for the club is the Pool Intervarsities taking place in Dundalk the 3rd, 4th and 5th February.

The Canoe Club is taking part in the newly formed Irish University Polo League drawing UCC and NUIG in its pool. The league is aimed at developing college level polo. The club trains every Tuesday in Leisureworld and also uses weekend for river trips. Up next semester is the Intervarsities.

The Rowing Club travelled to Trinity to compete in the Rowing Ireland Indoor Championships in November. The Fresher's teams returned victorious in the 2000m relay event coming in 1st and 2nd place for the Institute. Next up for the club is St. Michael's Head of the River on the 28th January.

The Mountainbiking Club organised two outings to the Ballyhouras in Ardpatrick in semester 1. The club utilised the loops which range from moderate to demanding a perfect

course to introduce beginners to the sport. Next up for the club is the annual rag week trek up Croagh Patrick!

The Ladies Volleyball team displayed a fantastic win at the Intervarsities in November hosted by NUIG. The team won the Plate Competition, a remarkable achievement given the high standard at college level.



Ladies Volleyball team

The Skydiving Club organised its first CIT based training session in November. James from Skydive Ireland spent a day at the Institute training students for their first tandem dive. Unfortunately, the bad weather meant the club will have to wait until semester 2 for their first outing.

The Subaqua Club based in NMCI has been busy training up new recruits in preparation for shore dives next semester. To date, the club has been training every Monday evening doing snorkel pool work.

The Mixed Martial Arts Club is proving as popular as last year with high numbers of beginners joining the club. Training takes place twice weekly with instruction from MMA Clinic Coaches across the various disciplines.

The Men's & Ladies Basketball teams jumped straight into the Irish Colleges Basketball League. Both teams are currently undefeated and will be hoping for a place in the League Finals in the National Basketball Arena in March. Coaches Daniel O'Mahony and Mary Lyall will ultimately be looking to the Varsities in April.

The Motorsport Club are currently lying in 2nd position behind DCU on the leader's board in the CUSAI Karting League. CIT's Kevin O'Connell and Alan Farralley are currently in 4th and 5th position in the Individual Leaders Table.

The Sailing Club returned from the Student Yachting World Cup with an outstanding 3rd Place finish in what can only be described as an incredible feat given equipment setbacks. The club put in a tremendous performance to come in behind Euromed Arthur Lloyd France and Solent University, England.



GAA News ...

The Club has 15 teams entered into competition for the 2011/12 Academic Year, and a membership of over 450 students and a further 30+ staff.

In Semester 1 the Club played 78 games between all the teams; 52 of which were league/tournament games. Both Senior Men's team qualified for the National Division 1 Semi-Finals, however, both were beaten in the Hurling by UL, and Football by IT Carlow. All five fresher teams came out of their groups but none were able to take league honours this year, despite this the teams are pleased with their campaigns. The Intermediate Hurling and Football teams also had good league campaigns and both are through to the National Semi-Finals. In Camogie and Ladies Football interest is good and despite playing in a league division higher than their championship grading they held their own in the league.

Alumni Involvement: Pat Mulcahy who graduated in 2000 is now coaching the Fitzgibbon Team while Noel Barry (2002 Business Graduate) is training the Senior Footballers. Billy O'Connor (Business Studies 2009) and Vincent Manning (Business 2002) are coaching the Intermediate Football teams whilst Maurice O'Sullivan (Business Studies 2009) is a selector with the Fitzgibbon Team. Frank Flannery who is a graduate of Construction 2005 is again coaching the Fresher Hurlers and indeed is now coach to the 2011/12 Cork Minor Hurlers. Timmy Murphy Master Business Studies 2010 is coaching the Camogie Team while current PHD student Shona Cunningham is his able assistant.



3rd Year Recreation and Leisure Student Aidan Walsh was a member of the Irish team who had a comprehensive victory in the International Rules Series in Australia. Pictured here with Dr Barry O'Connor.



Gym

The summer gym development works have been well received with the installation of air conditioning, new flooring and a glass partition adding to the positive environment the gym creates. Further minor works will take place in the New Year to upgrade the area with minimal disruption to gym users.

Opening Hours

Mon-Fri 7.30am - 9.00pm and Sat 11.00am - 4.00pm
t 021 4335778

e peter.lucey@cit.ie or sinead.joyce@cit.ie

4th Year Construction Management student Colin Fennelly of Shamrocks Club won his first Senior All Ireland Hurling medal. He is a current CIT Sports Bursary Recipient and was a member of the 2011 Fitzgibbon Cup side that lost to eventual Champions UL in the Fitzgibbon Cup Semi-Final.

Crossword solutions

The theme referred to in the special instructions is that all of the down solutions begin with a two-letter symbol for a chemical element.

ACROSS 7 Chemical 9 Symbol 10 Knot 11 Inquisitor 12 Listen 14 In a party 15 Element 17 Reverse 20 Obstacle 22 Patron 23 Institutes 24 Albs 25 Renown 26 Energise
DOWN 1 Think ill 2 Smut 3 Action 4 Estimate 5 Ambivalent 6 Cop out 8 Liquid 13 Temptation 16 Nicotine 18 Snobbish 19 Fettle 21 Binder 22 Posset 24 Argo

Cork County and City Enterprise Boards

CIT Prize for Innovation 10 Year Anniversary

March 2012 will see the 10th anniversary of the highly successful Cork County and City Enterprise Boards CIT Prize for Innovation Competition.

The CIT Prize for Innovation is a competition that awards cash prizes to those whose inventions and business ideas are judged most creative, novel, innovative, and likely to succeed in the marketplace. The prize fund for the competition is €10,000.

The competition is open to all CIT departments and students can use a project that forms part of their coursework for the year as their entry to the competition. The awards ceremony will take place on Friday 9th March which will conclude Innovation Week 2012 which will run from Monday, 5th March for the week.

PRIZES

1st Prize and title of CIT Entrepreneur(s) of the Year	€4,000
Most Technically Innovative	€2,000
Post Graduate/Part-time Award	€2,000
Best Business Plan & Presentation Pitch	€1,000
Best Exhibition Stand on Innovation Day	€1,000

This year the students participating in the competition were offered Entrepreneurship Training by Entrepreneur in Residence, Kieran Moynihan. The training focused on the practical aspects to business creation with seminars including Spotting the Opportunity, Sales and Marketing, Intellectual Property, Building a Team and Finance. Kieran will also meet with the students to provide feedback in the later stages of commercial development.

2010 marked a major success for the competition with the winning entrant Myles Murray of PMD Solutions being accepted on the prestigious Genesis Enterprise Programme in the Rubicon Centre. Myles has since developed an investment level business plan and secured funding for his product development.

CIT will also host the Cork Schools Enterprise Programme to coincide with Innovation Day. The Cork Schools Enterprise Programme aims to educate second level students about the realities of setting up and running a business.

