

Colaiste Chiarain, Athlone

Careers Newsletter No. 3

October 2017

MIC new undergraduate scholarship

MIC has a new undergraduate scholarship scheme. 50 Undergraduate Entrance Scholarships, valued at €2,000 each, will be offered, for competition on the basis of results obtained in the Irish Leaving Certificate Examination.

<http://www.mic.ul.ie/prospectivestudents/Pages/Scholarships.aspx>

Scholarships for low income students

Limerick billionaire JP McManus is to spend €32 million on third-level scholarships

IRISHTIMES.com for more than 1,000 students from less well-off backgrounds over the next decade.

The scholarship programme will be open to 125 high-achieving students from low-income families annually in the North and the Republic.

The value of each scholarship is set at €6,750 per year (or stg£5,500 in the North) and continues for the duration of the undergraduate programmes chosen by the scholarship winners.

[Click here to read full article ...](#)

IT Sligo Sports Scholarship

Opportunities



Sports Scholarship Opportunities For 2016/17

At [IT Sligo](#), we want our students to reach their full potential, academically and personally. The Institute's Sports Scholarship programme has been running since 2003 and provides a support structure for high achieving sports scholars. This September, the Institute is introducing an additional Sports Scholarship programme, which is a new collaboration with the global biopharmaceutical company AbbVie. The details of both scholarship opportunities are below.

The AbbVie Sports Scholarship & Internship Programme 2016/17

High achieving students in the sporting arena will have a new opportunity to realise their professional career ambitions thanks to a unique sports scholarship collaboration between the global biopharmaceutical company, AbbVie, and IT Sligo. The AbbVie Sports Scholarship & Internship Programme aims to nurture the educational, sporting and leadership ambitions of students, and is now inviting applications for the 2016/17 academic year. Two AbbVie scholarships will be awarded, each worth €2000. The successful students will also be eligible for a paid internship with AbbVie. Closing date for applications is **Friday, September 30th, 2016**. [Read more...](#)

The IT Sligo Sports Scholarship Programme 2016/17

IT Sligo is offering a Sports Scholarship Scheme aimed to assist talented student athletes reach their sporting potential. If you are a keen sportsperson competing at an elite level, we want to hear from you. Under the scheme, up to 20 new scholarships are awarded each year. There are three sports scholarship levels:

Gold, Silver and Bronze. The Gold Scholarship Award for 2016/17 is €1,750. Closing date for applications is **Friday, September 30th, 2016**. [Read more...](#)

AIT Open Day

We are inviting all prospective students to explore our Sunday Times Good University Guide Award Winning Campus on

Friday, October 20 & Saturday October 21 from 10 to 2pm.

This is a perfect opportunity to speak to our lecturers and student ambassadors about our 52 industry focused CAO courses. It also provides an opportunity to learn about our strong industry links to ensure excellent placement opportunities. Discover pioneering courses such as microbiology, animation & illustration and physical activity & health.

AIT has partnerships with 230 third level institutions around the world, which give AIT students an opportunity to spend a year abroad in cities as diverse as New York, Beijing and Prague. AIT is nationally and internationally regarded as a centre of excellence in academic and practical training.

We view this event as the perfect opportunity to highlight our industry focussed courses, our student services and supports, and our vibrant community of students and staff on our award winning campus.

If you are planning to attend our event please register at www.ait.ie/openday

For more information contact:

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New Scholarship in Building



Engineering

Dublin Institute of Technology ([DIT](#)) and [SIRUS](#) have just introduced the inaugural SIRUS Scholarship in Building Engineering 2017.

The two talented students awarded this year's SIRUS Scholarship are Zoe Elliott and Pauric O'Connell, both fourth-year students of Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Building Engineering. The Scholarship is an initiative created by James Byrne, a DIT graduate and Frank Caul, co-founders of the successful Irish engineering company, the SIRUS Group. "SIRUS are always looking for good people", says Frank Caul, "we prefer to employ the graduates from Building Engineering in DIT as they are able to hit the ground running and contribute to the company rapidly; this also means that these graduates climb the career ladder quickly."

DIT's Bachelor of Engineering in Building Engineering is a unique course in Ireland and there are not enough students to meet strong industry demand. Ciara Ahern, Head of Building Engineering at DIT explains, "The buildings in which we spend 90% of our time are responsible for about half of global energy use and Ireland urgently needs Building Engineers to help meet recruitment demand as we scale up for the climate change targets for our built environment."

DIT has an open access policy to education and unlike other universities allows students access the system at apprenticeship level and without honours maths. "If you want in, there is a way in", says Ciara Ahern, "some of our best students are those that access the system at apprenticeship level and

ordinary degree level, we welcome all prospective students and encourage all to apply.”

James Byrne, CEO of SIRUS is himself an excellent example of this open access approach, starting off his career as an apprentice plumber in DIT. “This is why we set up the scholarship based on the attributes of grit and perseverance rather than just academic merit,” says James Byrne, “and the end of the day it is a stick-with-it attitude that gets you through tough times in education, business and in life in general.”

SIRUS also generously donated a state-of-the-art recirculating air conditioning teaching system to the college which will be put to use for the next academic year.

[Click here to read original article ...](#)

Polymer Engineering Scholarships in AIT

A persistent shortage of polymer engineering talent in Ireland



has prompted the launch of a new scholarship programme in **AIT**, the JLGoor Polymer Engineering Scholarships. These scholarships will enable two **CAO** applicants to pursue a polymer degree qualification while receiving a bursary of €1,000 for each for their three years of study.

There is currently a shortage of polymer graduates in the industry and this shortage has been highlighted in both the Forfas/Expert Group on Future Skills Needs report on the Future Skills Requirements of the Manufacturing Sector to 2020 and the Action Plan for Jobs 2013. Career opportunities for graduates in the sector's 250 companies are exceptionally strong, given that 18 of the world's top 25 medical device companies are located in Ireland, alongside a thriving indigenous base.

Louis Goor, Director at JL Goor added, "As JL Goor we are excited at this opportunity to recognise and support the polymer students at AIT. We know first-hand the value of this course as we have three past students employed. The growth of our industry is dependent on a continuous flow of able, ambitious polymer engineers and we hope to encourage this with these Scholarships."

Mechanical and Polymer Engineering is one of the most popular courses in the Faculty of Engineering & Informatics in the Institute due to the high industry demand and guaranteed jobs at the end of the degree programme. The polymer/medical devices sector in Ireland is thriving and is recognised as one of the fastest developing in the world. In excess of 250 companies are currently developing and manufacturing a diverse range of medical devices and diagnostic products. The sector employs a highly skilled workforce – over 45% of employees in the medical device sector are qualified to graduate or postgraduate level.

Dr Austin Hanley, Dean of Engineering & Informatics said that 'We are very grateful to JL Goor and the Institute of Materials for providing these very generous student awards. The scholarships provided is further endorsement of the importance that graduates of this programme are to the Plastics and Polymer industry. It is clear that AIT are national leaders in both graduate and post-graduate polymer education. I hope that such endorsement will alert Leaving Certificate students to the opportunities available to graduates'.

He went on to say that the Mechanical and Polymer engineering honours degree programme is tailor made for the expanding medical device and polymer processing industries and that graduates are in very high demand. The programme which has extremely close ties with industry also enables students to undertake an 8 months placement commencing in January of year 3. The placement will facilitate students in gaining an insight into industrial practices in their area of specialisation.

The scholarships are awarded from the IOM and JL Goor. The Scholarship will be awarded based on Academic Merit & Personal Achievement. The scholarship recipient shall receive a bursary of €1,000 for each of the remaining three years of study towards a polymer engineering degree pending continued good academic standing.

Athlone IT Open Day

Come 'Explore Our World and Discover Yours' at our Open Days on October 20 & 21. Chat to our lecturers and student ambassadors about our 52 industry focussed **CAO** courses.

Register now at www.ait.ie/openday

IADT Open Days – Changed

Open days are for 2 days 24/25th November 2017.

[Click here for more information ...](#)

Bord na Móna Apprenticeships

Bord na Móna is developing new sustainable businesses, that will deliver greater returns for its employees and the wider community. Eighty years ago Bord na Móna committed itself to delivering a new industry for Ireland using our indigenous resources. We are now looking for you to help us deploy 21st Century technologies as our company fulfils its original mission as it delivers a new sustainable future.

The Role: Our Business Units currently wish to recruit Apprentices as follows:

- **Electrical Apprentices**

The Person: Candidates will need to have completed their Leaving Certificate at Ordinary Level completed, at a minimum. Candidates will also need to have attained a minimum of Grade D in five subjects (including Mathematics) and at least one of the following:

- Science;
- Construction Studies;
- Engineering;
- Design & Communications Graphics (Technical Drawing)

Proficiency in the English language is a requirement. Candidates who meet the screening criteria will be invited to complete a number of relevant aptitude tests. The results from these aptitude tests will be used to compile a short list for interview purposes.

Candidates selected for appointment will be required to pass a medical examination, including a colour vision test. Please attach your Curriculum Vitae including a contact number, e-mail address and details of your Leaving Certificate results.

Note: Failure to attach the above details will result in application not being processed.

The selection process for this role will include candidate screening from application. Visit <http://www.bordnamona.ie/careers/application-process-at-bord-na-mona/> for more information.

If you wish to be considered simply click the “Apply” on the job on our Intranet or enter the following link on your own personal computer: <https://goo.gl/CEumH6>

[Click here for website ...](#)



Trinity College Open Day

The Trinity College Open Day for students starting College in 2018 will take place on **Saturday 9th December 2017.**

Second-level students, mature students, and parents/guardians are invited to attend. A series of presentations will cover Trinity's courses, while prospective students will have an opportunity to meet with teaching staff and current students for all courses at the individual course stands. Tours of College will also be provided.

[Click here to download prospectus ...](#)

GMIT - Open Days

Save the date!

Our upcoming Open Days and Mornings are as follows:

Date	Campus	Details	Time
5 October, 2017	GMIT Centre for Creative Arts and Media (CCAM), Galway	Creative Pathway Open Day	10am-3pm

11 October, 2017	GMIT Mountbellew	Open Day	10am-3pm
13th & 14th October, 2017	GMIT Galway campus	Open Day - all five campuses represented	9.30am-1.30pm (Fri) & 10am-12.30pm (Sat)
10 November, 2017	GMIT Mayo campus	Open Day	10am-2pm
24 November, 2017	GMIT Letterfrack	Open Day	11am-2pm
9 January, 2018	GMIT Mayo campus	Open Evening	7pm-9pm
20 January, 2018	GMIT Galway campus	Open Morning- all five campuses represented	10am-12.30pm
23 January, 2018	GMIT Centre for Creative Arts and Media (CCAM), Galway	Creative Pathway Open Day	10am-3pm
26 January, 2018	GMIT Letterfrack	Open Day	11am-2pm

<https://www.gmit.ie/general/open-day>

Getting the best out of college Open Days

Getting the best out of college Open Days: Students must keep an open mind. There is a college and a course for every student. Finding the best fit course and college requires serious thought and engagement. Open Day experiences can provide an ideal opportunity to help you make informed choices about the study path ahead.

Be Proactive: Be your own driver: Open Days are all about you, not your friends, parents or teachers. This is your journey.

Establish your interests: What subjects do you enjoy? These might be in school or outside school. Eliminate what you dislike. Look at the courses around your area of interest. Even if you are sure about what you want to study, you will need to find out more about your course.

Prepare: Develop a list of questions. This list will and should change over time.

Research: The Internet is your first port of call. You will be surprised at the level of detail that you will find there. Refine your list of questions following each course search.

Observe: When you get to the Open Day, look around you and listen to others. Be discerning when you attend the various talks. Take notes and refine your questions.

Ask: You need to get answers to your questions. The stands will have students, lecturers, admission staff and often graduates in attendance. They are there to help you but you must ask. Be selfish in your search for information about your course.

Check out the facilities: Does this college meet your needs? Have you thought about the location, student numbers, course content, teaching methods, academic supports, college services, opportunities abroad, internships, college societies and sports clubs?

Talk: While you are there, seek out as many opinions as you can and draw your own conclusions. You must find students from the course you are interested in. You

will need to broaden your network outside of Open Day to find out more about study paths. This could be within your own school, family, friends and community. Look for graduates. They will be more than willing to share their experiences with you.

Invest: You need to invest serious time and effort into this exercise for all your courses of interest and all Open Days you attend. It will repay itself in gold.

Visit as many places on the college campus as you can. Get a good feel for the location and its environment. Remember, once you choose, you will be there for three or four years.

Evaluate: Look back on each Open Day experience and what you have gained from it. Refine your set of questions and follow up afterwards. Colleges (and the individual courses) are open to your enquiries all through the year.

Given the competitive nature of college entry, you will need to have a wide range of choices available to you in your area of interest. For all courses you plan to list on your [CAO](#) application, ask

yourself one question, 'How would I feel if I were offered this course in August 2017?'. Your answer speaks for itself.

©Catherine O'Connor MA (Ed) Education Consultant at Trinity College Dublin and Author of Cracking the College Code, A practical guide to making the most of the first year college experience.



UCD OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2017

10AM-4PM

REGISTER NOW

*UCD Science cordially invites you to attend the UCD Science Open Evening. This event takes place from **5.00pm to 8.00pm on Tuesday 24 October 2017** in the UCD O'Brien Centre for Science.*

› ***Date & Time: 24th October 2017 - 5:30pm***

The evening will cover degrees in DN200 Science, DN230 Actuarial & Financial Studies and DN201 Computer Science.

It will comprise a series of talks from graduates and current students, a chance to meet lecturers and a talk on the UCD Science, Computer Science and Actuarial & Financial Studies degrees.

We will hold two a separate talk for all parents, guardians and teachers during the Open Evening which will include a Q&A session with the Dean of Science Professor Joe Carthy. This talk will take place at the same time as the talk for prospective students.

Science Open Evening Talks - Prospective Students Talk: Assoc Prof Evelyn Doyle, Associate Dean of Science will discuss DN200 Science, DN201 Computer Science and DN230 Actuarial and Financial Studies. This includes a series of short talks by alumni and current students on their experiences in their subject areas.

Science Open Evening Talks - Parents, Guardians, Teachers Talk: Prof Joe Carthy, Dean of Science will chair a session with Dr Orla Donoghue dedicated to parents, guardians and teachers.

The event is free but booking is essential via the [Science Open Evening Booking Page](#),

Further information including the programme of events will be added to this page closer to the event. For information on all UCD Science Degree Courses please visit: www.ucd.ie/myucd/science

Kind Regards, **Gary Dunne** Science Outreach UCD College of Science

O'Brien Centre for Science

Sligo IT Open day

I am writing to invite you to our IT Sligo Open Day **on Thursday 19th October**, from 10am to 2pm.

You can book your school in at: www.itsligo.ie/openday (or just attend!)

Please see below all our new courses. We will be delighted to answer questions at our Open day and during our visit to your school.

CAO Code	Title	Details
SG302	Construction Economics (L6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Geared for those with an interest in the construction industry but not sure which path to take · Students can progress to final (3rd) year of the L7 of Quantity Surveying degree · CAO Points in Aug '17 were 280 · Maths requirements is either Ordinary or Higher (Foundation maths in not accepted)
SG300/SG330	Engineering (L6/L7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Geared for those who are not sure which Engineering discipline they wish to pursue · Students can progress to final year of L7/L8 in a wide range of engineering disciplines at IT Sligo · CAO Points will be available in Aug '18 · Maths requirements is either Ordinary or Higher (Foundation maths in not accepted)
SG247	Humanities (English and Psychology) (L8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 3 years duration · Aligned to meet Teaching Council requirements for teaching English at second level · Geared towards those who have an interest in an Arts programme which traditionally was only available at University

SG248	Humanities (Sociology and Politics) (L8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 3 years duration · Aligned to meet Teaching Council requirements for teaching CSPE at second level · Geared towards those who have an interest in an Arts programme which traditionally was only available at University
SG249	Writing and Literature (L8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 3 years duration · Geared towards those who wish to develop writing skills · Coursework is anchored in English literature, drama and film. Students explore fiction, nonfiction, poetry, screenwriting, flash fiction, cultural journalism and other forms of writing

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Apprentice agri mechanic numbers report slight increase in 2017



AgriLand, Conor Finnerty, September 26, 2017

The number of people enrolled as apprentice agricultural mechanics in 2017 reported a slight increase on the previous year, the latest apprenticeship figures show.

A total of 148 apprentice agri mechanics came on board in 2016; this figure increased slightly to 152 by August 31, 2017.

The number of apprentice agri mechanics makes up less than 1.5% of the total number of apprenticeships taken on across the board each year.

In relation to the motor sector, agri mechanics make up approximately 6.5% of the total number of apprentices taken on within the sector.

The figures released by the Minister of State at the Department of Education and Skills, John Halligan, also showed that no female agri mechanics have been taken on in either 2016 or up until August 31 in 2017.

Type of Apprenticeship	Females 2016	Males 2016	Total 2016	Females 2017 (August 31)	Males 2017 (August 31)	Total 2017 (August 31)
Agricultural Mechanics		148	148		152	152
Construction Plant Fitting		215	215		238	238
Heavy Vehicle Mechanics		470	470		487	487
Motor Mechanics	6	1,258	1,264	3	1,285	1,288
Vehicle Body Repairs		152	152	1	159	160
Total	6	2,243	2,249	4	2,321	2,325

Minister Halligan released the figures in a written response to a parliamentary question on Thursday, September 21.

There is a total of 76 more apprentices taken on across the motor sector in 2017 (up until the end of August) than there was in the entirety of last year. This equates to an increase of just over 3%.

Meanwhile, across all sectors the total number of apprentices hired this year up until the end of August has surpassed figures for the whole of 2016 by 1,367 – or a jump of about 13%.

The number of female apprentices hired remains significantly low across the board. A total of just 30 female apprentices were taken on this year alone. Figures for 2016 showed that these statistics only improved by an additional three to 33.

A significant boost in funding in relation to apprenticeship training was cited as a contributing factor for the increase in apprenticeship numbers this year by Minister Halligan.

“A total of €69.6 million was spent on apprenticeship training in 2016.

“A budget allocation of €98.7 million has been made available for apprenticeship training in 2017, an increase of over 40%,” he concluded.

St. Patrick’s College Maynooth – Open Days

St. Patrick’s College Maynooth – Open Days – November 24 & 25 2017,

8th April 2018, June 23rd