

NUI Galway Forum on Public and Civic Engagement Showcase

Monday 9th July 2018

Emily Anderson Concert Hall

1. Dr. Muriel Grenon – *Cell EXPLORERS*
2. Michelle O'Dowd Lohan – *NUI Galway Sustainability Strategy 2017-2020* 3.
Aidan Harte – *University of Sanctuary and City of Sanctuary*
4. Lorraine Tansey – *ALIVE: Student Engagement through Volunteering*
5. Dr. Christine Domegan and Fiona Donovan – *Service Learning & Healthy Ireland Cities* 6. Lucy
Elvis Annie McKeown-O'Donovan and Dr. Orla Richardson – *P4C Initiative, Philosophy* 7.
Geraldine Marley – *Youth Academy*
8. Enda O'Connell – *ReeLIFE SCIENCE*
9. Edel Murphy – *PPI Ignite @ NUI Galway*
10. Andrea Fitzpatrick and Claire Riordan – *CÚRAM*
11. Vivienne O'Kelly – *Kitchen Chemistry*
12. Dr. Clare Carroll, Dr. Brian Ó Donnchadha, Gary Cunningham, Ita Cunningham, John Kelly, John
Tollan, Mary Tollan, Marian Ryan, Geraldine Warde, Eileen O'Donnell, Sabrina Browne and Katie
Nolan – *HearMe! Communication Awareness Training*
13. Dr. Mary Surlis, Imelda Byrne and Adele Clinton – *Access Programmes*
14. Dr. Kerry Thompson – *Under the Microscope*
15. Eoin Murphy, Dr Rachel Quinlan, Muriel Grenon and Andrew Flaus – *Famelab Galway*
16. Dr. Michel Dugon – *Eco EXPLORERS*
17. Dr. Jessamyn Fairfield – *Bright Club*
18. Dara Cannon and James Prendergast – *My Amazing Brain*
19. Brendan Smith – *Empowering Schools & Local Communities*
20. Prof. Andrew Shearer – *Centre For Astronomy Public Engagement and Proposed Science Centre*
21. Martha Killilea and Breda Kelleher – *HRB Primary Care CTNI*
22. Caitriona Carlin and Gesche Kindermann – *NEAR Health*
23. Dr. Derek Morris – *Biomedical Science Community Knowledge Initiative Module* 24.
Danielle Kennan and Carmel Devaney – *UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre* 25.
Dara Stanley – *Soapbox Science*
26. David Monahan – *PubhD Galway*
27. Jess Franklin – *Pint of Science*
28. Sinead Reidy – *H2020 RESPOND*
29. Dr. Thomas Conway – *The HRB-TMRN Schools Teaching Awareness of Randomised Trials*
(START) competition
30. Bronwyn Reid-McDermott and Dara Byrne – *SIMMED School*

Cell EXPLORERS

Muriel Grenon

The Cell EXPLORERS programme is an education and public engagement programme based in the School of Natural Sciences. It aims to inform, inspire and involve young people in modern biology. It runs with a unique model of sustainable public engagement for Higher Education Institution, which has the dual benefit of engaging children in local schools and communities whilst facilitating the training of tomorrow's science communicators. Cell EXPLORERS has developed nationally and now include 10 volunteering teams based in higher education institutions. Since its creation in 2012, it has involved more than 850 volunteers who engaged at least 26,000 members of the public in hands-on science. The programme is also researching the impact it has on its stakeholders.

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NUI Galway Sustainability Strategy 2017-2020

Michelle O'Dowd Lohan & CUSP

The NUI Galway Sustainability Strategy 2017 to 2020 was launched in November 2017 and sets out a vision to establish NUI Galway as a leading green, smart and healthy campus. The Strategy is based on a Learn-Live-Lead model whereby the University will build on its core strengths in teaching and research to learn about the environment and new techniques, analyse campus operations, building performance and user habits to live more sustainably and connect to the broader community and other institutions, to lead by example. The Learn-Live-Lead model is organised around six themes (Research and Learning, Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Nature and Ecosystems, Health and Wellbeing, Built Environment and Governance and Leadership), each comprising objectives and targets for our journey towards sustainability. While the proposals in this plan are well-grounded in Galway and the campus community, there is also a firm commitment to partnership with the local and wider community for example 'developing and implementing flagship projects with Galway City Council and Saolta University Healthcare Group' is a key target within the Leadership and Governance work package area. The Strategy illustrates an ambitious road-map for the campus to become a role model for the transition to a more sustainable future.

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NUI Galway University of Sanctuary and City of Sanctuary

Aidan Harte

The University of Sanctuary campaign seeks to highlight the importance of access to Third-level Education for those living in Direct Provision and members of the Traveller Community. The aim of the campaign at NUI Galway is to increase public awareness of the global refugee crisis and Traveller specific issues across the University campus, and the steering committee hopes to achieve their aim by advocating for the development of pre-existing fee waivers, bursaries, and scholarships for asylum seekers, while developing meaningful outreach programmes to address the dearth of Traveller participation in third-level education. The steering committee will introduce pilot projects promoting multiculturalism and equity across campus through cross-faculty cooperation. The campaign promotes increased awareness, understanding, inclusion and equity for all students attending or hoping to attend third-level education. The University of Sanctuary Steering Committee at NUI Galway includes academic and administration staff, students and societies, community partners and individuals living in the Direct Provision centres in Galway.

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ALIVE: Student Engagement through Volunteering

In its fifteenth year, ALIVE connects students with volunteering opportunities across Ireland through an online portal. Through ALIVE students can engage in voluntary activities across the university campus, Galway city, and wider communities. Students are enabled to develop their own practical skills and civic awareness through engagement with charities, non-profits and community organisations. Annually 1,000 students reflect on their volunteering experiences and achieve an award from the NUI Galway President in recognition of their learning.

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Co-creating Change for a Healthy Ireland

Fiona Donovan, HI National Co-ordinator

To create something is to make something happen as a result of one's own actions. To co create is to make something happen as a result of people working together. Co-creating change for active civic engagement is a collective process that connects and empowers us - students, academic staff and community partners - to be change agents in our own lives, in our families, in our communities and ultimately changing the way we live on the planet. Co-creating Change is about ordinary people coming together and making change happen through our everyday choices, decisions and behaviours. Service Learning project outputs will be shared, including: Second Bachelor Commerce (n420 in 105 Intervention projects); (n95 BComm in 25 research projects) and MSc Marketing (n47 in 10 Behavioural Change projects) all to do with "Increasing Physical Activity in Galway City" as Service Learning work for Healthy Ireland. HI estimates this hands on research and community work reached approx. 4,500 people in the community.

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P4C Initiative, Philosophy

Lucy Elvis and Annie McKeown-O'Donovan

The P4C (Philosophy for Children) initiative is run by staff and post-graduate students from NUI Galway Philosophy and is delivered by a cohort of volunteers taken from our under-graduate student body. Using P4C - a form of inquiry-based learning that promotes critical thinking skills through participation in democratic communities of inquiry - we work with schools, community groups, and cultural organisations that want to think more deeply and effectively together. To date, over forty students have received basic P4C facilitator training, and more than 400 children have participated in P4C projects on campus, at cultural festivals, and in local primary and secondary schools.

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Youth Academy **Geraldine Marley**

The Youth Academy at NUI Galway works with high ability 4th, 5th and 6th primary school students to support their learning and academic development. The Youth Academy aims to inspire entry into university by introducing children and their families to university life and to enrich the primary school curriculum. The programme also aims to create positive perceptions of the university and its academic programmes. Since 2012 almost 3,500 students from across the west of Ireland have attended courses from across the disciplines at NUI Galway.

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- Social media links: Facebook: www.facebook.com/YAnuigalway
Twitter: @YAnuigalway

The logo for Youth Academy, featuring the words "Youth Academy" in a purple, sans-serif font.

ReelLIFE SCIENCE **Enda O'Connell**

ReelLIFE SCIENCE is a nationwide STEM engagement programme, which encourages the public to discover more about STEM and its impact on individuals, society and the environment. Participants of all ages from schools and community groups are challenged to research a scientific topic and communicate it for the public via an engaging and educational three minute video, while developing their critical thinking, communication and digital skills. Since launching in 2013, ReelLIFE SCIENCE has enabled more than 9,000 Irish students and community group members to engage with STEM in a novel way, while the videos produced have been viewed over 150,000 times online and at public screenings.

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PPI Ignite @ NUI Galway **Edel Murphy**

Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in research means research carried out 'with' or 'by' members of the public rather than 'to', 'about' or 'for' them. The PPI Ignite @ NUI Galway programme, funded by the Health Research Board, provides support, education and training to NUI Galway healthcare researchers and members of the public and patients who want to work together in partnership across the research cycle. The programme office also connects patient and community organisations and members of the public with researchers who are seeking PPI partners.

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Andrea Fitzpatrick and Claire Riordan

CÚRAM is the SFI Centre for Research in Medical Devices and is located in NUI Galway. CÚRAM's goal is to improve the lives of people living with illnesses such as Parkinsons Disease, diabetes and heart disease. The title of CÚRAM's Education and Public Engagement Programme is Breaking Barriers as it aims to engage with under engaged and underrepresented audiences. The EPE programme has 3 residency programmes; teachers in residence, filmmakers in residence and artists in residence, and with each of these residency programmes CÚRAM finds new ways of interacting with audiences.

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www.linkedin.com/company/c%C3%BARAM---centre-for-research-in-medical-devices/



Kitchen Chemistry

Vivienne O'Kelly

Kitchen Chemistry run different workshops and events allowing children and adults to explore chemistry in the lab and in the world around us. Our aim is to promote chemistry education for all and provide young people with the encouragement, support and role models they need to thrive in the sciences.

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HearMe! Communication Awareness Training

Gary Cunningham, Ita Cunningham, John Kelly, John Tollan, Mary Tollan, Marian Ryan, Geraldine Warde, Eileen O'Donnell, Sabrina Browne, Katie Nolan, Dr Clare Carrol and Brian Ó Donnchadha

Hear Me! is a training solution for service industry staff. It is a 1.5.hr training session delivered by people with a range of communication disabilities together with student speech and language therapists. Our vision is to create a communication friendly businesses on NUI Galway Campus, in Galway city and county and in Ireland. Service industry workers gain confidence and strategies when communicating with a person with a communication disability. To date 92 service industry staff in Galway have been trained and 12 speech and language therapists were trained in our Train the Trainer Programme. HearMe! came second in National Enactus Finals in May 2018.

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· Website: www.hearmecap.com

· Social media links: [@HearMeNUIG](https://twitter.com/HearMeNUIG);

[@CommunicationAwarenessProgramme](https://twitter.com/CommunicationAwarenessProgramme)



Access Programmes

Dr. Mary Surlis, Imelda Byrne and Adele Clinton

NUI Galway provides access to all academic programmes through a range of inclusive and responsive Access Programmes. NUI Galway's programme of developmental initiatives and supports targets those at primary and secondary schools and potential adult students who might not ordinarily progress to higher education. This includes: Intervention programmes with Primary and Secondary schools; Preparatory Access Programmes; HEAR, an alternative admissions scheme for School Leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds; QQI/FE a third level admissions scheme for those who have successfully completed a Level 5 or Level 6 QQI programme in the Further Education

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Under the Microscope

Dr Kerry Thompson

Under the Microscope began in 2014 when a pilot project was funded and established between three project partners, National University of Ireland Galway (NUI Galway) (Via EXPLORE Funding), The Microscopy Society of Ireland (MSI) and the Royal Microscopical Society (RMS) in the UK. The Under the Microscope team aim to directly engage and promote educational activities concerned with microscopy for the benefit of the general public and the scientific community.

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- Social media links: <https://twitter.com/lovemicroscopes>



Famelab Galway

Eoin Murphy

FameLab is the world's leading science communication competition. It is designed to inspire, motivate and develop scientists and engineers to actively engage with the public and stakeholders. It has seen more than 9000 emerging scientists and engineers participate from over 30 countries since 2007. In Ireland, FameLab has been running for 4 years with the support of the British Council, but already boasts an amazing network of 50+ science communicators, all skilled and committed to sharing their work and knowledge with public audiences nationally and internationally. The Galway regional competition is organised by NUI Galway since 2016 and runs in the middle of the city in An Taibhdhearc theatre. It has seen more than 35 scientists based in the west of Ireland taking part. Successful candidates who make it through the initial regional heat stage attend an all-expenses paid Communication Masterclass as well as The FameLab Ireland Final held at the Science Gallery, Dublin. In 2018, Eoin Murphy, Postgraduate student in the Centre for Chromosome biology has won Famelab Galway 2018 with a presentation on "The role of genetic modifiers on mutation risk in Huntington's disease" and 3rd place of Famelab Ireland. Following his participation to Famelab, Eoin took part and won the ResearchFest public speaking competition 2018. FameLab Ireland is managed by the British Council Ireland, funded by the Science Foundation Ireland and supported by Cpl Resources Plc and Henkel Ireland Limited. The Galway competition is organised by Dr Rachel Quinlan, Muriel Grenon and Andrew Flaus with support from Famelab winners of previous year.

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- Social media links: [@FameLab_Galway](https://twitter.com/FameLab_Galway)



Eco EXPLORERS

Dr Michel Dugon

"Eco EXPLORERS" is a science outreach initiative founded by Dr Michel Dugon, with the support

of the NUI Galway School of Natural Science and the NU Galway Discipline of Zoology (part of the SNS). The aim of Eco Explorers is to promote ecological and zoological awareness through school workshops and public / media communication. Since 2013, Michel and 80 NUI Galway volunteers have delivered over 600 workshops to approximately 18,000 pupils throughout Ireland. Michel has hosted the children show "Bug Hunters" on RTE and is regularly consulted by the media to speak about reptiles and bugs.

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- Social media links: @EcoExplorersNUI

Bright Club

Dr. Jessamyn Fairfield

Bright Club is a variety night featuring academic researchers doing stand-up comedy style sets about their research. The events take place in an informal setting with professional production values, including comedians and other professional performers, and videos of the sets are released on YouTube. 40 Bright Club events have run in Ireland, reaching an audience of 2800 people in person and 30,000+ online. Over 100 academics, across all disciplines, have participated in speaker training and shows, with glowing reviews from audiences and the press. Bright Club is funded by Science Foundation Ireland, CKI, CÚRAM, AMBER, and the NUI Galway Research Office.

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- Website: <http://brightclub.ie>
- Social media links: www.facebook.com/BrightClubGalway
@brightclubgal <https://www.facebook.com/BrightClubDublin>
@BrightClubDub <https://www.instagram.com/brightclubireland>

My Amazing Brain

Dara Cannon & James Prendergast

In order to mark International Brain Awareness Week, staff and students of NUI Galway's Neuroscience Centre held a public information exhibit entitled "My Amazing Brain" from 15-16th March in the Aula Maxima, NUI Galway. Members of the public and schools from across the city and county including Colaiste Cholmcille (Inverin), Presentation College (Athenry), Mercy College (Woodford), Dominican College (Galway city), Salerno Secondary School (Galway city) had the opportunity to visit the exhibit to learn more about how the brain and nervous system work. The exhibit consisted of interactive displays such as puzzles and tests of hand-eye coordination, visual perception, left/right handedness and creativity, where visitors learnt more about the nervous system in a hands-on way. In addition, visitors had the chance to learn more about the brain and related disorders through a series of large information posters on various prepared by the staff and postgraduate students of NUI Galway Neuroscience Centre. The exhibit was a resounding success and featured on several local and national media sources including UTV Ireland news.

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- Social media links: @NUIneuroCentre

Insight Centre for Data Analytics: Empowering Schools & Local Communities

Brendan Smith

Since 2004 Insight Centre for Data Analytics (& its predecessor DERI) has been empowering schools and communities with its multiple award-winning science and technology initiatives since

2004. These projects include coding and app-making courses in schools and with Coderdojo; 'BEO' digital local heritage archiving; Internet Safety/Cyberbullying Awareness workshops for parents, teachers and youth; Career Talks; IT awareness sessions for older peoples; coordinating schools' involvement in Galway Science & Technology Fair; and Girls Hack Ireland. The centre hosts the Computer & Communications Museum of Ireland; was the location for the first ever Coderdojo in Galway city; co-founded Camara Galway and established IT learning facilities in Direct Provision centres across Connacht.

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- Social media links: @insight_centre

Centre For Astronomy Public Engagement and Proposed Science Centre

Prof. Andy Shearer

Astronomy is a natural vehicle to engage the public in University activity – it appeals to all age groups, it is often in the news, it is a fundamental science and there is an active community of amateur astronomers. In the CfA we have taken part in different forms of public enge for the past thirty years. These have included 1) Participation in the annual Science and Technology Festival since its start 2) Ran Researchers night, for all researchers in NUI G in 2011/12; 3) Held weekly observatory open nights for the public and members of staff; 4) Coordinated the CERN LHC exhibition with lectures and tour guides in 2012; 5) Currently running the Royal Astronomical Society bicentennial project with community groups, art events and public infrastructure We have shift from public outreach to public engagement over recent years. More recently Andy Shearer has been working on getting the University to buy into the concept of a Public Engagement centre, similar but better than the Science Gallery.

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HRB Primary Care CTNI

Martha Killilea and Breda Kelleher

The HRB Primary Care Clinical Trials Network Ireland is a collaborative partnership that brings together key people in Ireland to run clinical trials in primary care. Working closely with the public, with patients and with GPs and other healthcare professionals, the Network aims to improve individual patient health and health care by conducting high quality, internationally recognised, randomised trials in Irish primary care, addressing important and common problem.

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- Social media links: @pmrycaretrials1

NEAR Health

Caitriona Carlin and Gesche Kindermann

NEAR Health investigates how Nature and Environment can help society Attain and Restore Health. We aim to connect people with nature to benefit their health and wellbeing. We collaborate with

communities to co-create and/or assess inclusive nature-based activities that promote and restore health and wellbeing, helping us value and care for our environment. Combining multisector stakeholders, we develop and transform knowledge for communities, policymakers and practitioners. Funded by EPA and HSE, it contributes to Healthy Ireland goals to create a healthy environment where 'every sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland'.

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- Social media links: @NEARhealth_NUIG

Biomedical Science Community Knowledge Initiative Module

Dr Derek Morris

This 2nd Year 5 ECTS module introduces students to the concept of Community-Based Learning and is the only such module in the College of Science. It aims to link classroom learning and community service to enrich learning experiences and emphasize civic responsibility. Students learn and develop through active participation in service experiences that meet real community needs. The module is integrated into the students' curriculum to provide structured time to think, talk and report about their activities. Community partners include youth groups, charities, local government and sporting organizations.

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UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre

Danielle Kennan and Carmel Devaney

A major child welfare systems change has occurred in Ireland with a new independent Child and Family Agency, Tusla. At this transformational time in Irish social services the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre has played an important role in re-designing services. A significant aspect of our mixed methods programme of research focused on prevention, partnership and family support is to foreground the views of parents, children and young people. The programme involves significant collaboration with senior managers in Tusla and senior officials and policy makers across government departments and statutory agencies. This collaboration directly responds to the University's vision to develop our partnerships with external organisations to enhance the quality, impact and relevance of our research.

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- Social media links: @unesco_CFRC and #PPFSstudy

Soapbox Science

Dara Stanley

Soapbox Science brings science to the streets, targeting members of the public who may not have sought out science outreach, and promoting the visibility of women in science. The event consists of 12 female speakers, who take turns standing on wooden soapboxes in a public space explaining their research, selected from a variety of STEM fields, institutions, and career levels. The 2018 Galway event is run by Dr. Jessamyn Fairfield (Physics) and Dr. Dara Stanley (Botany), and will occur on July 7th by the Spanish Arch, supported by the Galway City Museum and the NUI Galway Research Office.

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PubhD Galway

David Monahan

PubhD Galway is a monthly, free event that brings together PhD students and researchers from every Galway college across a range of disciplines to share their work in ten-minute presentations without powerpoint, with an additional 20 minutes for friendly questions and answers. Masters

students, undergraduates and the general public usually join too because it's good fun. It was established by two non-academics working in Nottingham during 2014, since then its network has expanded to over 20 cities, across five different countries. It is a fantastic opportunity to share your research with a non-specialist audience, to test new ideas ahead of a conference, and to meet students from the other universities and disciplines.

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- Social Media: @Galwaypubhd Facebook: PubhD Galway

Pint of Science

Jess Franklin

Pint of Science is an international science festival that brings some of the most brilliant scientists to local pub to discuss their latest research and findings with the general public. The festival runs in 21 countries on the 3rd week of May. In Ireland, it takes place in Cork, Dublin, Limerick and Galway. The Pint of Science Galway committee 2018 is made of 3 postgraduate students based in the NUI Galway College of Science and Engineering and one teacher based in Headford.

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Building Energy Model of Killeany Lodge Inis Mor

Sinead Reidy

RESPOND is an EU H2020 Project focusing on Smart Grid development in Sustainable Energy Communities. The Aran Islands are one of 3 pilots in the RESPOND Project. Killeany Lodge is serving as one of 25 houses that will comprise a Smart Grid on Inis Mor containing various renewable energy systems that include heat pumps and solar PV. An Energy Simulation Model is required for Killeany Lodge to provide a Baseline of Energy demand prior to integrating Killeany Lodge into the Irish RESPOND Smart Grid Pilot. Also the School of Engineering builds students skills at undergraduate level through the 'Building Engineering Community Based Project' second year module.

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SIMMED School

Bronwyn Reid-McDermott and Dara Byrne

SIMMed School is a unique programme delivered by the School of Medicine NUI Galway and the Irish Centre for Applied Patient Safety and Simulation to Transition Year students who are interested in exploring a career in healthcare. SIMMed School takes place over 4 days and there are 2 sessions where students are introduced to medicine through simulation. This year saw more than seventy national and international students complete the SIMMED programme. This diverse programme allows students to gain experience in an area that may be otherwise inaccessible and promotes public engagement and involvement, awareness of healthcare professionals and students, inter-professional team-working and healthcare simulation.

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10

The HRB-TMRN Schools Teaching Awareness of Randomised Trials (START) Competition

Dr. Thomas Conway

The HRB-TMRN celebrate International Clinical Trials Day (20th May) annually by hosting the START competition. The competition sees entries from Irish primary schools where the 4th, 5th, and 6th classes have come up with their very own trial research. Teachers and students are asked to identify a suitable research question that they can answer scientifically using the resources provided

on the HRB-TMRN website (www.startcompetition.com). The purpose of this competition is to help students become aware of the trial process, rather than answering any ground-breaking questions. Students are encouraged to pick a simple, easy to answer question, but to also use the proper steps of a trial to answer it and make sure to have FUN!

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