DCU President’s Awards for Engagement 2017
For DCU, engagement with the wider society is a key plank of our philosophy. It promotes many of our key values as an institution, such as equality, inclusion and sustainability. It is one of the core principles by which we deliver DCU’s mission to transform lives and societies through education, research and innovation.

The President’s Award for Engagement symbolises the importance of engagement in the university, for staff and students alike. What stands out in this year’s record number of entries to the President’s Award for Engagement is the sheer diversity of the engagement practices DCU displays. We see engagement with communities, enterprise engagement and public engagement examples of best practice.

DCU stands for the transformation of people and society and the translation of knowledge into societal and economic benefits. The projects outlined here, the entries and winners of the 2017 President’s Award for Engagement, are a fine testimony to this mission.

Professor Brian MacCraith
President
Dublin City University
Winner Student Category: DCU Media Production Society – The 24 Hour Broadcast in aid of the Peter McVerry Trust

In 2016/2017 academic year, the DCU Media Production Society chose the Peter McVerry Trust as the charity to support during the 24 Hour Broadcast. Over 100 DCU students were involved in the two-month preparation for the programme creating 44 different TV shows to create 24 hours’ worth of live content to allow raising funds for the charity. Preparation and planning for the broadcast involved members of the Society visiting a homeless shelter run by the Peter McVerry Trust to promote understanding and reflection on the issues of homelessness. The broadcast, which included a video testimonial from a current DCU student who experienced homelessness, raised awareness about the issues among the wider DCU student community and helped break down the stigma surrounding homelessness through an effective public relations campaign. MPS members had an opportunity not only to develop their media production skills, but also engaged with an external community partner to make real impact and raising over €10,000 during the 24 Hour Broadcast.
Special Merit Student Category: Helen Concannon - PhD Student, School of Law and Government – Chief Commissioner Irish Girl Guides

Helen Concannon was elected to the position of Chief Commissioner of the Irish Girls Guides - the largest female only youth organisation in Ireland with a membership of over 12,000 girls and women - four years ago. In this volunteer role she is the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Irish Girl Guides leading the Board of twenty members, representing the organisation at national and international levels and ensuring the organisation helps girls and young women develop to their full potential in Ireland. As Chairperson she leads the strategic development of the organisation and has responsibility for the twenty members of staff employed by the organisation to support its members. Through her leadership the Irish Girl Guides has recently developed a 4-strand plan that will help the organisation remain dynamic and relevant and continue to build on its 107-year history responding to the needs of the young women of Ireland today and into the future.
Winner Staff Category: Veronica Crosbie -
SALIS –
Refugee and Asylum Seeker Outreach, University of Sanctuary

Veronica Crosbie’s involvement with refugees and asylum seekers is multi-faceted and ranging from work with those living in direct provision; setting up initiatives aimed at building bridges between society and asylum seekers and refugees; to leading campaigns aimed at raising awareness on equality, justice and anti-racism. Her activities contribute to breaking the isolation that many experience and to creating opportunities for all involved to work together, to exchange on cultural and social matters and to maintain sustainable, long terms links. Veronica Crosbie’s involvement has an immediate impact on the student body she teaches, as she has set up various fora for students to meet with representatives of the asylum seeking/refugee community. She also led the campaign to have DCU recognised as the first in Ireland “University of Sanctuary” in December 2016 demonstrating commitment to welcoming asylum seekers and refugees into the university community and to fostering a culture of inclusion for all.
Special Merit Staff Category: Eilish McLoughlin -
School of Physical Sciences -
Leadership in public engagement and STEM education

Over the past 12 years, Dr Eilish McLoughlin, Director of CASTeL, has initiated and led a number of STEM education initiatives, e.g. Physics Busking, Science on Stage and Scifest@DCU. Physics Busking is aimed at increasing engagement of the Irish general public with STEM through the use of interactive demonstrations and audience participation. Eilish McLoughlin coordinates a yearlong calendar of events and locations to engage with young people and their parents. Science on Stage provides a platform for European science teachers to exchange teaching ideas and approaches and is coordinated in Ireland by Eilish McLoughlin since 2005. SciFest@DCU is one of the national SciFest at College science festivals and was first organised in DCU by Dr McLoughlin in 2016. The initiative fosters active, collaborative and inquiry-based learning among second-level students showcase STEM projects in 15 regional venues across Ireland. This coherent and strategically focussed suite of activities led by Dr Eilish McLoughlin spans engagement with the general public, STEM teachers and pre-university STEM students.
Special Award in Enterprise Engagement: Dr Brian Corcoran, Dr Paul Young, Mr Liam Domican, Mr Dean McLoughlin - School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering – Siemens Greenpower Design Challenge

The Greenpower Education Trust project raises awareness and changes views about sustainable engineering and technology among young people; promotes engineering and STEM education with the emphasis on sustainability; creates partnerships between industry and community; and engages with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Siemens Greenpower design challenge links universities with secondary schools on the design and built of a car running on a 24 volt electric motor and 12 volt lead/acid batteries. Cars are designed and built by students of the schools with the help of their teachers and third level staff members. The student teams compete in a number of Greenpower races throughout the country. Since 2015/2016 Dr Brian Corcoran, Dr Paul Young, Mr Liam Domican, and Mr Dean McLoughlin have engaged with and supported students and teaching staff at Donabate Community College through workshop type/design and build of two cars. This enabled two teams from the school to participate in the Siemens All-Ireland Green Car Challenge in 2016 with further races scheduled for 2017.
Staff Category – Nominees

Dr James O’Higgins Norman
School of Human Development

National Anti-Bullying Research and Resource Centre (ABC): internationally recognised centre of excellence for research on workplace and school bullying

Dr Brian Corcoran, Dr Paul Young, Mr Liam Domican, Mr Dean McLoughlin
School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Siemens Greenpower Challenge: sustainable car design challenge linking secondary schools and third level institutions

Paul King
School of Human Development

Advising the Oireachtas Committee on positive mental health & wellbeing in schools

Samantha Fahy
Manager, Sustainability at DCU

St Patrick’s BNS Green Schools Project: assistance to the school in obtaining further green flags as a part of An Taisce Green School project

Dr Greg Foley
School of Biotechnology

Engagement in a national discourse about the importance of Teaching and Learning in higher education

Dr Eilish McLoughlin
School of Physical Sciences

Leadership in public engagement and education in STEM: Physics Busking, Science on Stage, Scifest@DCU

Luke O’Riordan
DCU SU Society Officer

What’s Going on with Socs: creating a weekly email for all DCU staff and students to inform about Clubs & Socs activities

Dr Margaret Farren and Dr Yvonne Crotty
School of STEM Education, Innovation & Global Studies

Inspiring Science Education: promoting engagement with science in the school context through the use of inquiry based science and ICT

Tanja Tillmann
DCU Institute of Education

Education for Sustainable Development: exemplary lecturer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Project or Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liam Mac Gabhann, John Kelly, Mary Farrelly, Martha Griffin</td>
<td>School of Nursing &amp; Human Sciences</td>
<td>Dublin North, North East Recovery College: a community based mental health and wellbeing initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Melrona Kirrane</td>
<td>DCU Business School</td>
<td>Industry and public engagement: Chair of the Scientific programme of the congress of European Association of Work &amp; Organisational Psychology; Member of the Scientific Advisory Board, Psychological Society of Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Brown</td>
<td>School of Policy and Practice</td>
<td>DCU Polycentric Inspection Research Project: highlighting and promoting education advances and attainment successes in West Belfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Monica Ward</td>
<td>School of Computing</td>
<td>Technology for Irish (T4I): using Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) for teaching and learning of the Irish language</td>
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<td>Yvonne Daly, Vicky Conway, Yvonne Crotty</td>
<td>School of Law and Government; School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies</td>
<td>SUPRALAT: professional training for defence lawyers to assist the accused during arrest and police questioning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Mel Duffy</td>
<td>School of Nursing and Human Sciences (with Cody Byrne DCUSU)</td>
<td>Bystander Initiative: developing sexual consent workshops programme for DCU students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Donal O’Mathuna</td>
<td>School of Nursing and Human Sciences</td>
<td>Disaster bioethics: addressing ethical issues triggered by disasters to help impacted communities, and to assist the global community in their response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Veronica Crosbie</td>
<td>School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies</td>
<td>Refugee and asylum seeker outreach; University of Sanctuary initiative</td>
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</table>
Leadership and Talent Institute, DCU Business School

LTI: Centre for the study of leadership to share with business leaders

International Centre for Innovation and Workplace Learning, Play4Guidance Project Team, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies

Play4Guidance: innovative business game aiming to train and educate students, young people, and the unemployed in entrepreneurial, transversal and mathematical skills

Dr Jiang Zhou, Insight Centre for Data Analytics

VisuallID: an innovative Photo OCR-based method to retrieve text rich images

Dr Artemisa Jamarillo and the DCU@PNU Team, DCU Business School

DCU@PNU educational initiative between Dublin City University and Princess Nourah Bint Abdulrahman University

DCU Centre for Family Business, DCU Business School

Centre for Family Business: education of challenges and opportunities of the family business owner

Leadership and Talent Institute, DCU Business School

LTI: Centre for the study of leadership to share with business leaders

Dr Aileen Pearson-Evans, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

DCU Languaculture Space: a meeting and learning platform with workshops and cultural events linking Irish and international students

Conor Kerley, School of Health and Human Performance

MedEx Nutrition Service: delivering workshops and seminars on nutrition to older participants of the MedEx programme

Dr Simon Dunne, School of Nursing and Human Sciences

FYP Modules, Psychology: exemplary lecturer

Grainne McKenna, DCU Institute of Education

Bachelor of Early Childhood Education: exemplary lecturer
## Student Category – Nominees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Program/Role Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muhammad Alli</td>
<td>PhD Track Student, School of Physical Sciences, Leap Towards Big Data: project enabling students to develop skills to pursue careers in big data and data analytics, promoting DCU as a centre of excellence in enterprise and STEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hugh Daly</td>
<td>MSc Multimedia, Videographer/Videography Mentor: mentoring young people in Ireland and abroad to encourage their interest in digital creative arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eva Liu</td>
<td>BA Applied Languages and Translation Studies, Voluntary work: involvement in DCU societies (RAG, Suas, YogaSoc), DCU student events and off-campus involvement on SpunOut.ie’s Youth Panel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Nolan</td>
<td>BSc Analytical Science, Chairperson of Games Society: organising charity fundraising event for Crumlin Children’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Media, Democracy and Journalism Student Group</td>
<td>MA Political Communications, #SaferFromHarm: project raising awareness of harm reduction and Supervised injecting Facilities in collaboration with Ana Liffey Drug Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Stephen Farrell</td>
<td>BCL Law and Society, Student support and voluntary work with DCU Access Service to promote third level education in socio-economically disadvantaged areas; work as PRO for the DCU FLAC Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shraddha Gatt</td>
<td>Bachelor in International Business (Spanish), On campus engagement: Secretary for Club Life Committee (CLC) at DCUSU; Equality Officer at DCUSU; Consultant at DCU Business Consulting for NGO; Irish Community Rapid Response; DCU Intergenerational Learning Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Phelan</td>
<td>BSc Education and Training, Student support and mentoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCU Mature Students Society Committee</td>
<td>Providing cross campus integration activities, events, and on campus involvement for the mature student cohort</td>
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Helen Concannon
PhD Student
School of Law and Government

DCU Media Production Society
BSc Communication Studies

DCU tv 24 Hour Broadcast 2016 for Peter McVerry Trust: designing and broadcasting 24-hours of content to raise over 10,000 for the charity

Allan Stevenson and The DCU Postgraduate Society

Pathway towards a DCU Postgraduate Students’ Union: pursuit to establish an independent and autonomous Students’ Union for the postgraduate population in DCU

Vito Moloney Burke
Bachelor of Business Studies

Volunteering with DCU RAG; Fáilte Refugees campaign; Special Olympics Ireland; U.S. Embassy Youth Council; and Enactus HeadstARTs programme

DCU FLAC Society

Offering access to justice and free legal advice to students and in the community and promoting social awareness

Chief Commissioner, Irish Girl Guides: strategic development and leadership in the organisation
**Enactus DCU**
Social projects: HeadstARTs, Camphill Crafts, Well on the Way, Plan Bee and Second Scoop; promoting social entrepreneurship among students

**Sadhbh Candon**  
**BSc Science Education**
On campus involvement in student life: Clubs Officer; Club Development GIG Week x2 Executive Committee; member of Club Life Committee (CLC) and DCU Students’ Union (SU)

**DCU Athletic Boxing Club**  
**DCU ABC**
DCU ABC Community Engagement Programme: Collaboration with the Ballymun Educational Support Team School Completion Programme (BEST SCP); Boxstart; TY Students’ Boxing Sessions
To view posters and photographs from the event visit:

To browse current volunteering opportunities for students visit:
www.studentvolunteer.ie
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