



Welcome to the latest edition of the information sharing newsletter from MaynoothWorks at Maynooth University. Our goal is to share relevant market news and activities on the commercialisation of Maynooth University research. We hope you enjoy this newsletter. MaynoothWorks now encompasses knowledge transfer, entrepreneurship innovation and enterprise partnership.

## **COMMERCIALISATION AWARD**

Each year MaynoothWorks recognises excellence in the commercialisation of research at Maynooth University. We consider activity such as invention disclosures recorded, licence deals completed, new patents filed, spinout company creation and developing new links with industry as key factors in bringing research to the market place.

The Awards were presented in two categories (1) Commercialisation of Intellectual Property and (2) Industry Engagement activity. Dr Jennifer McManus and Dr Bryan Hennelly, respectively, were the successful recipients this year, with both researchers being supported in their activities by Dr Karen Griffin from the MaynoothWorks team.

Dr. Bryan Hennelly, jointly of the departments of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science, was awarded the Commercialisation of IP Award. Bryan is developing IP on label free life science imaging. Traditionally biologists are required to chemically stain cells/tissue samples with fluorescent chemicals that bind to sub cellular features and to use specialised microscopy techniques such as fluorescent microscopy or phase contrast microscopy. His research group is developing several methods to achieve this without the use of labels. In 2018 Bryan was a awarded an SFI TIDA award to help commercialise this technology, and also filed a number of invention disclosures and patent applications.

Dr Jennifer McManus of the Chemistry Department was awarded the Industry Engagement Award. Jennifer, who leads the Soft Matter and Biophysical Chemistry research group and her team have been working collaboratively with a number of companies in Ireland, the UK and Italy. The primary research focus of the lab is understanding protein-protein interactions and assembly pathways. This is very important for the biopharmaceutical industry, where protein and peptide-based drugs are formulated to keep them stable for as long as possible. Three postdoctoral researchers and one Ph.D. student have been funded through these partnerships.





## **CONNECT UPDATE**

If you wanted to learn about topics ranging from professionalism in medical practice to managing drone airspace to infectious disease control and 27 other diverse research topics in between, then CONNECT 2019 was the place to be. Held on May 15th on Maynooth University campus, CONNECT 2019 brought together researchers, company representatives, VC's and state support organisations to get an overview of the broad scope of the high level research at Maynooth University. Each presenter had 5 minutes to make their presentation and all researchers rose to the challenge, sharing a snapshot of what they do. Each block of 10 presentations was separated by a coffee and networking session allowing researchers and attendees to explore the topic areas further. CONNECT 2019 aimed to create opportunities for collaboration by discovering potential solutions to problems that exist in industry and the marketplace. The event was organised by MaynoothWorks, Maynooth University's office for Knowledge Transfer, Enterprise Partnership and Entrepreneurship Innovation. Feedback from attendees has been very positive. Most really liked the idea that they could hear about a range of current research themes and challenges, from deep-tech to design innovation to human health with short sharp presentations. Feedback also indicates that CONNECT 2019 has helped seed new relationships and collaborations which the MaynoothWorks team will support into the future.



- 1. Gary O'Meara, CEO Meath Enterprise
- 2. Conor Sweeney, Programme Manager, Mid East Regional Enterprise Plan
- 3. Sean Doyle, Biology
- 4. Michael Cooke, Psychology
- 5. Lucy Cradden, NCG
- 6. Subhra Dey, Hamilton Institute
- 7. Eithne Dempsey, Chemistry
- 8. Paul Donovan, Business
- 9. James Carolan, Biology
- Ken Duffy, Hamilton Institute
  Karen English, Biology
  - 12. Rowan Fealy, Geography
- 13. Bryan Hennelly, Computer Science
- 14. Victor Lazzarini, Music
- 15. Aidan Magee, NCG
- 16. David Malone, Hamilton Institute

- 17. Joanne Masterson, Biology
- 18. Eoghan McCarthy, NIRSA
- 19. Shane McLoughlin & Abhinay Puvvala, Innovation Value Institute
- 20. Aisling McMahon, Law
- 21. Peter Mooney, Computer Science
- 22. Nicola Mountford, School of Business
- 23. Sean O'Kane, NCG
- 24. Patrick Rigot-Muller, School of Business
- 25. John Ringwood, Electronic Engineering
- 26. Mark Robinson, Biology
- 27. A Jamie Saris, Anthropology

- 28. Martina Schroeder, Biology
- 29. John Stephens, Chemistry
- 30. Trevor Vaugh, Design Innovation
- 31. Fiona Walsh, Biology
- 32. Damien Woods, Hamilton Institute
- 33. Joe Moore, MaynoothWorks Business Innovation Centre



MaynoothWorks Knowledge Transfer Enterprise Partnership Entrepreneurship Innovation









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