



**Maynooth
University**

National University
of Ireland Maynooth

**School of Business
Research Seminar Series 2017-2018**

'You're Anxious, and I know It!

***A Machine Learning Approach to Perceiving Anxiety using
Microblog Data'***

Dr Jon Gruda

Date: Wednesday, 14 February 2018

Time: 12.00pm

Venue: Staff Development Room, John Hume Building

Paper Abstract

The purpose of this study is to provide a better predictive measurement tool of anxiety from a developmental perspective, using a non-intrusive method. Secondly, we use a machine learning approach to scale human rating of anxiety in Twitter microblogs. Further, we examine the development and association between anxiety and workplace outcomes, such as social engagement and popularity. Results suggest that while perceived state-anxiety fluctuates over time by user, some users show higher trait anxiety (mean) than others. Results also show that anxiety level has a reverse relationship with social engagement and popularity, as expected. In addition, we examine the relationship between anxiety and economic indicators, such as unemployment. Practical implications for this approach in the workplace include the automatic monitoring of workers' wellbeing and prevention of situations such as burnout, leading to benefits for both workers and organizations.

About the Speaker

Dr Jon Gruda is a Lecturer in Organisational Behaviour at the School of Business. With a double doctorate in management and psychology, he studies leadership with regard to individual differences and perception. His recent work has been published in Small Group Research and has been presented at several international conferences. Jon also serves as a reviewer at Frontiers in Psychology.

To RSVP, please email business@mu.ie