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South East
Technological
University



DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF LAND SCIENCES

**CAREERS DAY
2025**

**GRADUATE
HANDBOOK**



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Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to South East Technological University's Careers Day 2025 for final year students from the departments of science and land sciences on our Cork Road campus in Waterford.

This careers day is a fantastic opportunity for students and potential employers to come together and network. Every year the event goes from strength to strength with industry representatives from a growing range of scientific disciplines in attendance. Sectors represented this year include agri-food, pharma, physics, horticulture, forestry, and biology. Here students and employers have an opportunity to engage with each other, employers meeting the next generation of graduates and students exploring regional job opportunities and finding out more about company cultures and their global reach.

This is a timely occasion for our students to consider their future career progression with industry experts offering 'real world' experience and knowledge. We are extremely grateful to all companies attending this event, as we appreciate how valuable your time is. Given the calibre of our graduates from the departments of science and land sciences at SETU, we are confident that this is a valuable engagement for both students and industry alike.



Every year, we present the 'Una McDermott Contribution to Science Award' to an individual who has made a significant contribution to science. Previous awardees include Prof. Luke O'Neill (Trinity College Dublin), Tony Pettit (Teagasc), Prof. Katherine Fitzgerald (University of Massachusetts Medical School) and Louise Grubb, (Trivium Vet). The award was named in honour of our former colleague, Una McDermott, course leader of the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture whom we also remember today.

This year's recipient is Orlaith Ryan, CTO and co-founder of *Shorla Oncology*. We are absolutely delighted to recognise Orlaith for her tremendous achievements to date. Orlaith graduated from SETU (formerly Waterford Institute of Technology) in 2009, and in 2018, having pursued a successful career in pharma, she co-founded *Shorla Oncology*. Now headquartered in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, *Shorla Oncology's* mission is to deliver accessible and affordable innovative oncology therapies to patients with unmet needs.

And finally, I would like to say a special word of thanks to the organisers of this year's careers day who have worked diligently to realise what is a very valuable event for our students. The University is very grateful to you for your commitment to ensuring the ongoing success of this careers day.

I hope that everyone who attends today's event finds it extremely worthwhile and we look forward to hearing about the many fruitful relationships and new careers that emerge from it.

Professor Veronica Campbell

President of South East Technological University (SETU)

Schedule

- 9.00am** Opening of event
- 9.05am** Keynote address: Orlaith Ryan, CTO and co-founder of *Shorla Oncology* and recipient of 2025 Una McDermott Contribution to Science Award.
- 9.40am** Breakout sessions (concurrent) for each discipline:
- **Agriculture/Agricultural Science (Studio 3)**
Speakers: Eoghan Devereux (Grassland Agro)
Molly Kiernan (Irish Hereford Society)
Tom Hayes (Arrabawn)
Chair: Alisha Flynn
 - **Food Science and Innovation (Gallery Restaurant)**
Speakers: Lorna Flynn (Dawn Meats)
Catherine Murphy (Danone Nutricia)
TBC
Chair: TBC
 - **Forestry (Studio 1)**
Speakers: Jordan Foxtan (Euroforest Ireland)
Lorcan Ryan (SWS Forestry)
Barry Talt (Glavey Tree Experts)
Chair: TBC
 - **Horticulture (Training Room 3)**
Speakers: Kinta Oakes (GLDA)
Helen Kavanagh (Dunhill Multi Education Centre)
Brendan Redmond (South Dublin County Council)
Chair: TBC
 - **Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science (High Performance Suite)**
Speakers: Zak Dunphy (MSD)
Deirbhile Cruise (B+L)
TBC
Chair: Aziel Zafar / Paulina Maryinak
 - **Pharmaceutical Science (Studio 2)**
Speakers: Róisín O’Brein (Bausch + Lomb)
Clara Eko (Schivo Medical)
TBA
Chair: Kaitlin O’Keefe / Harrison Donnellan
 - **Physics for Modern Technology (Training Room 2)**
Speakers: Ruth Howley (AVA)
Alan O’Brien (HSE/IAPM)
Małgorzata Markowska (SEAM)
Chair: Joe Murphy
- 10.40am** Networking session with tea/coffee
- 1.00pm** Event concludes

List of Companies Attending

ABP	ICBF
AIB	Integer
APS Materials	Intel
ASA	Irish Forestry Unit Trust
Agri Lloyd	JFK - OPW
Alltech	Jabil
Arbor Forest Management Ltd.	Jacksonstone Recruitment
Arrabawn Tipperary Co Op	Liffey Mills
BD (Becton Dickinson)	MSD
Bausch & Lomb	Munster AI
Brett Bros	National Seafood Centre
Camida	O'Shea Farms
Coillte CGA	OPW
Complete Lab Solutions	PMBRC
Cooney Furlong	Progressive Genetics
DAFM Careers	Quinns of Baltinglass
Dawn Meats	Red Mills
Dunhill Multi-Education Centre	Roches Feeds
EPA (ORM)	SEAM
Eirgen	SETU CALMAST
Eli Lilly	SETU Careers Centre
Eurofins	SETU EU-CONEXUS
Eurofins Agrosience Services	SETU Post Graduate Studies
Euroforest Ireland	Sanofi
Eurogene AI	Scottish Woodlands (Ireland)
FDC Agricultural Consultants	Servier Industries Limited
FRS Recruitment / FRS Co Op	Sheep Ireland
Farm Solutions	Shorla Pharma
Forest Measurements Ireland Ltd.	Society of Irish Foresters
Forest Service, DAFM	South Western Forestry
Forestry Services Ltd.	Specialisterne
GLDA	Teagasc
Glavey Tree Experts	Teagasc Forestry Liaison
Grassland Agro	Tirlán
Green Belt Ltd.	UCD Ag Extension Masters
Haleon	Veon Ltd.
HerdWatch	West Pharmaceuticals
Hereford Breed Society	

Una McDermott Contribution to Science Award

We first presented the Una McDermott award in 2019. The award aims to recognise people or organisations who have made a significant contribution to science in the region.

Una McDermott was the course leader for the BSc in Horticulture course in WIT. She trained as a horticulturist originally in the National Botanic Gardens (1980–82) and subsequently worked in many horticultural posts/roles, culminating as OPW Head Gardener of the War Memorial Park at Islandbridge.

Una then returned to college and was awarded a BSc in Ag Science (Land, Horticulture) in 1996 from UCD, and then went on to attain an MA in Museum Studies from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne (1997). Following this, Una was tasked with the establishment and development of the BSc in Horticulture here in SETU (then WIT). During her time here, Una was incredibly supportive of all students, young and old.

Una passed away shortly after the careers day event of 2018. Throughout all of her time here, she was absolutely committed to her students and their education. Una is sadly missed by all who knew her.

About this year's worthy recipient

The worthy winner of the Una McDermott award for 2025 is SETU graduate and entrepreneur, Orlaith Ryan.

Orlaith Ryan is the Co-Founder and Chief Technical Officer (CTO) of Shorla Oncology, an innovative pharmaceutical company specializing in developing oncology drugs to address unmet medical needs, with offices in Clonmel and Cambridge, Massachusetts. With over 15 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, Ms Ryan has held technical and leadership positions in Analytical, Quality Assurance, and Regulatory Affairs.

Before co-founding Shorla Oncology in 2018, Ms Ryan worked in senior roles at EirGen Pharma. At Shorla Oncology, Ms Ryan leads product development programs and supply chain activities, leveraging her extensive experience in product development, regulation, and compliance.

Ms Ryan is a Chartered Scientist and Biochemist. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Biology with Quality Management from Waterford Institute of Technology (now SETU), a Master of Science in Regulatory Affairs from the University of Wales, and a Certificate in Corporate Governance from INSEAD Business School.

Under her leadership, Shorla Oncology has obtained four FDA drug approvals with three of these oncology products currently on market in the US. These milestones have gained recognition of Shorla's commitment to developing innovative oncology treatments, particularly for indications where existing therapies are limited or inadequate.



Olive O'Connor — A Tribute

Olive O'Connor was the heart and soul of marketing and communications at SETU. As the Marketing and Communications Manager, she brought boundless energy, passion, and a dedication to excellence that inspired everyone around her. She had a unique ability to set high standards while simultaneously lifting spirits, ensuring that those who worked with her not only gave their best but also enjoyed every moment of the journey. Her warmth, humor, and kindness made her not just a colleague but a true friend to so many within the SETU community.

It was with immense sadness that we learned of Olive's passing on Christmas Day, 2024, surrounded by her loving family, after a short illness. The news was devastating to all who knew her, but the outpouring of love and heartfelt tributes from across the community is a testament to the incredible impact she had on so many lives. Beyond SETU, Olive's enthusiasm and generosity extended to numerous organisations, including New Ross Rugby Football Club, Ballyrue Equestrian Centre, Wexford Pony Club, and New Ross Swimming Club—each of which considered her an invaluable member and dear friend.

Olive played a key role in shaping SETU's Careers Day, particularly in its early years, when her wisdom and guidance were instrumental in its success. Her support for events that showcased the Departments of Science and Land Sciences was unwavering, always ready to lend her expertise and encouragement. Her absence leaves an irreplaceable void, and she will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of working with her.



Above all, our hearts go out to Olive's beloved husband, John, and their children, Emma, Tom, and Conor. During this difficult time, we hold them close in our thoughts, remembering Olive for the incredible person she was—one who made the world brighter simply by being in it.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

Departmental Awards



Peer-2-Peer (P2P) mentoring is an important part of science programmes at SETU Waterford. Pictured are Student Life & Learning staff and SETU President, Veronica Campbell, with P2P mentors from the Department of Science at the P2P Awards Ceremony in 2024.



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BSc (Hons) in Agricultural Science

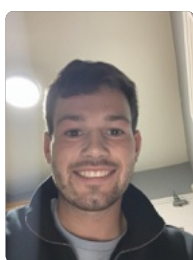
The **BSc (Hons) in Agricultural Science** programme gives an in-depth technical knowledge of science and other disciplines to the production of quality food. It encompasses a wide range of services provided to farmers and other food producers to ensure quality standards and profitable production systems, as well as building business and communication skills.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Michael Breen at Michael.Breen@setu.ie.

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Michael Bergin (Tipperary)

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Personal Profile

I am 22 years old and come from a tillage farming background in Tipperary. Growing up on a farm and being involved in agriculture influenced my decision to study Agricultural Science at Waterford. I am a hard-

working, honest, and motivated person who is always eager to learn and develop new skills.

Work Experience

I have worked for many years on my family farm, gaining experience in general farm work, crop maintenance, and management. In my third year of college, I had the opportunity to complete my work placement with Seedtech in Waterford.

This was a valuable experience as I learned a lot about crop research and gained insight into agriculture from a different perspective beyond the farm level.

Final Year Project

My final year project analyses the factors influencing yield components in hybrid winter barley. It examines key agronomic traits, environmental conditions, and

management practices to determine their impact on yield potential and efficiency.

Future Ambitions

My first priority is to complete my degree. I plan to build a career in the agriculture industry, gaining experience and knowledge before eventually taking over my family's farm.



Cian Brennan
(Carlow)

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Personal Profile

I'm 22 years old and living in rural Carlow. I have been involved in sports and many sectors of the Irish agricultural sector from a young age and these passions of mine have continued into my early adult life. I am currently studying

in my final year of Agricultural Science in SETU Waterford.

Work Experience

Full-time and part-time work across 4 dairy farms in Co. Carlow. Experience in spring and winter milking systems with herd sizes ranging from 85-180. Completed The Ohio Program in Agriculture in the United States based in Missouri. Herd size 1100, completed full calving and milking

term abroad in team of 8. Spent a term of work placement in Teagasc Oak Park in Carlow as an intern for tillage and dairy advisors. Have spent time working in large vet clinics as an intern.

Final Year Project

A investigation into the advantages and disadvantages of grass based once and twice a day milking systems. Project relevance to determine

potential cost and labour differences involved in each system to aid dairy operations into choosing more sustainable and practical farming decisions.

Future Ambitions

To progress my career in dairy and tillage sectors, complete my college degree to a high standard. I have a desire to travel abroad again to work in the agricultural sector.



Padraigh Brennan
(Laois)

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Personal Profile

I am from Clough in Co. Laois. I went to school in Clough NS before onto St Kieran's College, Kilkenny. I have always had a huge farming interest as I come from a dairy farm at home, where I try to implement

some of the learnings from this course.

Work Experience

For my work experience I completed 6 weeks in the Tirlan Feed Mill in Portlaoise. I got a taste of everything here such as how the mill is run, quality tests, logistics, nutrition, mill maintenance and also spent a few days in the oat mill. I also spent 12 weeks in Teagasc in Thurles where

I worked on derogation plans, nutrient management plans and profit monitors as well as attending many farm walks on a wide variety of topics. I think everything learnt on placement will definitely stand to me.

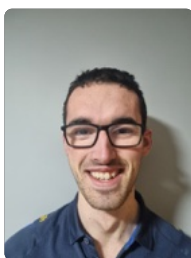
Final Year Project

My project is an investigation what impact DPL is having on the quality of colostrum on my home farm. I became interested in this by simply

observing the the different colours of colostrum from different cows as we were milking in the spring time. Colostrum is tested for IgG, fat & protein.

Future Ambitions

When finished college this May I hope to go into industry. From my work placement I really enjoyed the advisory aspect as well as nutrition and animal health.



David Carroll
(Tipperary)

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Personal Profile

My name is David and I am from Dundrum, Co. Tipperary. I am a hardworking and self-motivated individual with great problem-solving skills who enjoys working outdoors. I am currently one of two class

representatives for my course.

Work Experience

My home farm consists of a small herd of beef cattle which we purchase at 14 months and sell to slaughter at 28 months. I am currently employed by Athassel Farm Ltd since early 2023. My main roles include machinery operation, milking on either of the 3 milking platforms, calf

rearing, and other general farm work. As part of my 3rd year placement, I spent 5 months in New Zealand working for B.S. Sommerville Ltd, mainly milking the 870 cows and setting up grass breaks for the 2 herds.

Final Year Project

The project aims to investigate the different growth rates of grass in the springtime under a couple of variables. Three paddocks are used,

with different autumn closing dates and grass sward ages. Each paddock will receive the same three application rates of slurry: 0, 1500, and 2500 gallons/ac.

Future Ambitions

I plan to further diversify my knowledge especially in the tillage sector. My main goal is to find employment in a role that is both practical and desk based.



John Codd

087 168 1105 

Personal Profile

I am 22 years old and come from a family farm which is a mixed tillage and beef enterprise. I have a great passion for growing cereal crops to a high standard. I enjoy working as part of a team

but can also work off of my own initiative.

Work Experience

I have worked for The Cooney Furlong Grain Company as a trainee agronomist as well as a shop assistant. I have also worked for T&J Coleman carrying out agricultural contracting services as well as constructing solar farms. I have also

worked for Killag Enterprises, similarly carrying out agricultural contracting services for farmers.

Final Year Project

This project is performed on my family farm to investigate how different sowing dates impacts the levels of carbon sequestered in the mix of different plant species. This will identify which date had the optimum

levels sequestered as well as which species of plant performs the best in the cover mix.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are to work in the agricultural sector predominantly based around the production and caretaking of cereal crops in Ireland, aiding farmers with regards advisory requirements.



Harry Conlon (Meath)

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Personal Profile

I am a 22 year old student in SETU Waterford and come from a farming background based in Sligo, but currently living in Meath. Still heavily involved in the farm at home trying to improve the day to day running on farm. I enjoy working as part of a team but can

work well on my own initiative.

Work Experience

I have been farming at home in Sligo all my life, along with working with a big tillage and beef farm located in Wilkinstown Co. Meath. For my work experience in 3rd year of my course I completed 16 weeks in Deeside Agri Chemicals outside Dunleer. This gave me a great insight to working as part

of team and good communication skills. I also learned valuable skills in agronomy and chemical sales around the Meath, Louth and North Dublin. I have also completed veterinary work experience.

Final Year Project

My project is based on my home farm in Sligo as we have problems with calf diarrhoea. My project is looking at the housing environment (cleanliness) and cow

health leading up to calving. I am testing variable factors including colostrum quality, blood sampling cows and sampling diarrhoea of calves.

Future Ambitions

I strive to improve my knowledge in farm advisory and agronomy. I look to improve my skills in day to day communications in the workplace. I also want to further push my home farm to better standards.

Michael Corr (Kilkenny)

086 172 4044 

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Personal Profile

I am a fourth year student of BSc. (Hons) Agricultural science with a view to working in the agricultural sector. I am from a farming background and have gained valuable experience in this industry. My hobbies include boxing, GAA and travelling.

Work Experience

I have gained practical

experience in the agricultural sector, working on a number of different farms including my own home farm. For my third year work placement, I worked with Tirlan across different sections of the company. Some of my tasks included, working in the research laboratory with the oat-based team in Ballyragget and completing a water qual-

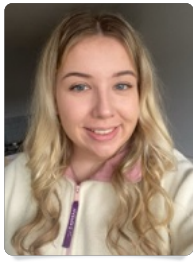
ity project at Clonroche grain mill.

Final Year Project

My project looks at colostrum quality in ewes and it is a comparison study between the Texel and Charolais breeds. The colostrum samples were taken within 1 hour post-partum and analysed for fat, protein and immunoglobulins.

Future Ambitions

I want to work in a fast paced environment, where I can enjoy my work and make a difference in the industry. I would like to gain experience across the sector in sustainability and innovation.



Carys Davies
(Laois)

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carysdbabs@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I consider myself to be hard-working, honest person and take pride in what I do. I particularly enjoy working outdoors, under instruction and in fast paced environments both individually and as part of a team. I come from a beef farm with a

keen interest in agriculture and in equine also.

Work Experience

As part of my degree, I completed my 16-week industrial work placement at Teagasc Advisory Office in Portlaoise. My knowledge in agriculture has broadened using NMP & especially in grassland management, breeding and water quality. From there, I was offered an extended 8-week contract with Teagasc. I also worked on

my neighbour's dairy farm during that year. Currently, I'm working part-time at Gurteen College in the equine unit, after previous part-time experience in the catering industry.

Final Year Project

This study aims to determine how the quality of grass silage pits possibly deteriorate during the feeding out period, from the pit face and why refusals occur. Management will be a key factor

here. Parameters such as DM, pH, lactic acid and protein content will be analysed from 5 different pits.

Future Ambitions

I hope to pursue a career in the Irish agricultural sector, where I can advance personally while extending my knowledge in animal welfare, nutrition and addressing potential environmental issues.



Jack Devitt
(Cork)

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Personal Profile

I come from a farming background with a suckler farm at home in Cork. I play football with my local club Knocknagree. I spend my free time halter training cattle for summer shows. I have a great passion for trying

to breed the best animals on our home farm to try and have successful produce.

Work Experience

In third year I spent my work placement with Munster Bovine. I chose this company due to my interest in breeding and to get as better insight into how bulls were selected for the company. I also spent my summers

working as a ground-worker in building sites with my fathers company. Throughout these experiences I learnt multiple new skills such as teamwork and leadership.

Final Year Project

My project is an insight into the relevance of ICBF's star ratings for suckler animals. My project will investigate to see if there is a correlation between weanling

output and their CBV and Terminal Index. Due to the current criticism of ICBF this project is very topical.

Future Ambitions

I hope to get into a career associated with cattle breeding and learn new information on how I can improve our family farm at home with what I will learn.



Ella Feenane
(Offaly)

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Personal Profile

I come from a dairy calf to beef farm just outside Birr. I've always had a passion for farming and the outdoors since a young age. I am a hard-working and motivated person, enthusiastic to learn new skills and challenge myself.

Work Experience

Last year I completed my work experience in the TAMS section in DAFM Johnstown Castle, where I was lucky enough to shadow several organic and nitrates inspections as well as accepting TAMS applications into the next stage of the grant approval. Currently working in the Rath Branch shop at J.Grennan and Sons for the past two years as

a sales assistant where I've gained so much experience in all different sectors of the agri industry.

Final Year Project

My final year project is based on the effects of compaction on the yield of winter crops, comparing three different methods of tillage. The project will compare the growth rates on headlands vs the middle of the field in terms

of establishment growth, tillering, soil health and earthworm numbers.

Future Ambitions

I am looking forward to continuing to learn new sustainable farming methods as well as gaining experience in the agricultural industry with a particular interest in the tillage and dry stock sectors.



Alisha Flynn
(Waterford)

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alishaflynn@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

Growing up on my family's dairy and beef farm, I developed a strong work ethic and a passion for agriculture and the environment. I am determined, hardworking, and have strong communication skills. Playing rugby and GAA from a young age has strengthened my

teamwork, leadership, and resilience.

Work Experience

I have worked on my family's dairy and beef farm all my life. In transition year, I gained further experience in the dairy unit at Kildalton Agricultural College. In 2024, I completed a 16-week placement at Teagasc Moorepark, mainly working with calves but also assisting in genetics and grassland trials. While

there, I had a part-time job milking at the Coolmohan Herd, a top-EBI dairy farm. That summer, I interned with Grassland Agro, travelling across Ireland for soil sustainability work.

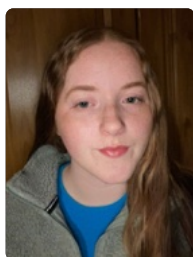
Final Year Project

My study examines faecal microbiome diversity in pre-weaned dairy calves using 16S metabarcoding analysis. I collect faecal samples at different time points

from birth to track microbiome changes as the calf grows, exploring the influence of diet and environment on gut health and development.

Future Ambitions

I aim to contribute to agriculture by improving sustainability and efficiency. I want to help ease the pressure on farmers while ensuring food production remains competitive and sustainable.



Sheenagh Hallinan
(Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am a highly motivated, team orientated agricultural science student passionate about the agricultural industry and science behind farming. Growing up on a dairy farm instilled a strong work ethic in me and a deeper understanding of

the agriculture sector, fuelling my commitment to sustainability.

Work Experience

In 2024 I completed an 8 month internship with Tirlán, as a laboratory technician. I found it beneficial as I further developed my interpersonal skills, teamwork skills and I became more proactive. I learned to better adapt to new situations, enhancing my learning abilities and

gaining leadership skills. Working on the farm at home has allowed me to acquire general farm skills and further develop my knowledge in this area. Our farm has received the AHI CellCheck award in 2019, 2021 and 2023.

Final Year Project

My project investigates bovine health and the effects different variants of genes have on the animals health. Health is of

high importance on our farm. I am genotyping for the BLG gene to see what effect the gene has, using statistical analysis, on cows health and their milk quality.

Future Ambitions

Upon completion of this degree I hope to join the industry and utilise my acquired knowledge and skills. I am open minded, enthusiastic and aspire to broaden my knowledge in the agricultural sector.



Rory Hannan
(Limerick)

085 108 0719 📞
rhannan15@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

I come from a successful agricultural contracting business alongside sucklers and dairy beef. This gives me a great passion for agriculture and in particular areas associated with a sustainable future for the industry. I pride

myself in being enthusiastic and driven at anything I put my mind at.

Work Experience

I have worked on the home farm for as long as long as I can remember taking great pride in ensuring customers and animals are happy and content. I completed my work experience at Green Gas AD plant in Shanagolden Co. Limerick. This was a new area

for me and I enjoyed the experience of learning how an anaerobic digester is run on a daily basis. This sparked my interest in all things AD and renewables.

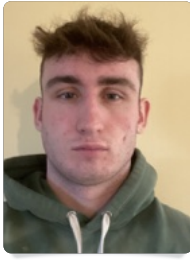
Final Year Project

I am investigating how digestate from an AD plant compares to other fertilisers in the growth of grass in Irish grassland. Artificial fertiliser (CAN)

and cattle slurry was used as other methods of fertilisation. A control plot was also used to allow for comparison.

Future Ambitions

I hope to continue my education in the area of sustainable farming practices. My ambition is to have a good level of knowledge to bring to the agricultural industry and the home farm.



Dermot Hennessy

(Kilkenny)

089 237 5272 
dermotheno13@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Experienced in dairy, beef, and tillage farming with strong stamina, keen attention to detail, and advanced animal husbandry skills, including animal nutrition. Proficient in equipment maintenance, problem-solving,

and effective teamwork. Committed to ethical care and precise record-keeping.

Work Experience

Skilled in various enterprises of the farming industry, especially dairy, beef, tillage and sheep on a large scale, with 9 years of experience managing animal and crop nutrition, machinery maintenance, animal

husbandry, and team operations. Proven track record of increasing farm productivity and herd health.

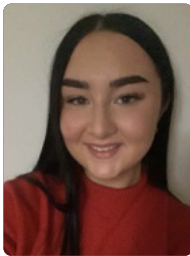
Final Year Project

The project is based on 40 cattle's progress in DLWG for the final 70 days before slaughter. A stabilised form of *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae* is top dressed to 20 cattle's TMR; the remaining

20 cattle are the control group. The rumination of the cattle is monitored to determine if it increases FCE.

Future Ambitions

Committed to advancing our family farm with innovative practices while open to exploring new opportunities in agriculture that leverage my expertise.



Anna Kelly

(Wexford)

085 176 2934 
annakell140@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and motivated individual passionate about agriculture. I excel under pressure, manage tasks efficiently, and thrive in team environments. Committed to learning and growth, I bring a strong work ethic

and collaboration skills, reflected in my studies and passion for rugby.

Work Experience

I completed part of my work placement at the Teagasc Advisory Office in Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, working with tillage advisors to develop nutrient management plans. I also gained experience at Teagasc Johnstown, Co. Wexford, assisting PhD students with field

and lab trials. Additionally, I have five years of part-time retail experience, where I developed key skills in communication, teamwork, and customer service.

Final Year Project

My project is on the effect probiotics have on dairy cows. With the growing concern of antimicrobial resistance in the agricultural sector, there is a pressing

need to develop alternative practices to mitigate these risks. The use of probiotics may present a promising solution to rising immunity.

Future Ambitions

I intend to pursue a career in the agricultural sector, where I can further my knowledge through advanced studies and practical experience to drive positive change within the sector.



Clodagh Lane

(Limerick)

087 337 8080 
clodagh46247@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I am from Co. Limerick and currently in my final semester studying Agricultural Science in SETU. I would describe myself as a hard working and dedicated person and strive to complete any task at hand to a high standard. I work well in both teams and on my

own while using my own initiative.

Work Experience

In 2024 I spent 8 weeks working with Tom Harte's Farm Services. I completed office work and visited dairy farms all over the Munster region milking with both conventional and robotic systems. I then spent a further 10 weeks working in Eurogene where I worked in the lab packing orders for farmers

and technicians and completed a week of tagging dairy cows and calves for genotyping. I enjoyed my placement and I benefited from working in two different areas of the sector.

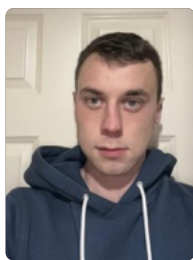
Final Year Project

I am carrying out my project on probiotic feeding to pre-weaned dairy calves vs traditional milk feeding. I have three different milk diets allocated to three calf groups

including milk only, milk and probiotics and yogurt/milk and will compare their weights and general health factors like scour.

Future Ambitions

In the future I would like to gain more experience and broaden my knowledge of the agricultural sector by getting a job that is both of interest to me and challenges me to constantly improve.



Shane Lawler (Kilkenny)

087 704 1665 
shanelawler41@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm 22 years old from Ballyhale, Co. Kilkenny. I grew up on a mixed farm and I've had a strong passion for agriculture from a young age. I would consider myself as hardworking, a good

team worker and I'm always willing to learn.

Work Experience

In 3rd year of this course I completed 16 weeks of work placement in Connolly's Red Mills. During this time I worked as a laboratory technician in the lab. My role was to test the different animal feeds and raw materials using an NIR. I gained valuable experi-

ence working in a state of the art laboratory. I have also worked locally for the past number of years during the summers for a local contractor covering different jobs such as silage, cultivations and slurry.

Final Year Project

My final year research project aims to determine the levels of mycotoxins within certain

horse feeds, as if mycotoxins are not managed correctly they can contaminate food/feeds and cause significant health effects to both humans & animals.

Future Ambitions

I hope to pursue a career in the agricultural sector and develop the skills further that I have learned upon completion of this degree.



Eoghan Lenehan (Waterford)

087 347 2593 
eoghanlenehan1@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am hard working, dedicated, motivated and always willing to learn new skills to broaden my knowledge within the agricultural sector. I'm competitive in what I do and work well on my own or part of a team

and try to better myself with everything I do.

Work Experience

For work placement, I got the opportunity to work in the Teagasc office in Dungarvan Co. Waterford. I gained vast experience in all sectors of Irish agriculture. I helped formulate nutrient management plans and help advisors with derogation plans for their clients. I also got an

insight into how farmers run their enterprises by attending discussion groups with advisors and their clients. I work part time for a dairy farmer and contractor for the last 3 years and silage contractor for 4 years.

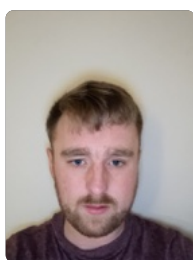
Final Year Project

I decided to do my project on the soil and fertiliser, as chemical fertilisers play a key role in Irish agriculture. Different types of fertilisers will

be applied to the soil to see if each variation of fertiliser, whether it be a compound or a straight, affects the organic matter within the soil.

Future Ambitions

I hope to broaden my knowledge and upskill, while helping to promote sustainable agriculture and tackle ongoing issues within the sector. I also hope to see different parts of the world.



Ross Moloney (Galway)

087 795 6021 
rossmoloney@live.ie 

Personal Profile

Growing up on a beef farm in East Galway instilled a love and an interest in all things farming from an early age. I am particularly interested in emerging technologies that have the potential to

progress the sector form an efficiency and sustainability perspective.

Work Experience

For my third year work placement i worked on a 700 cow dairy farm in Scotland, where I gained experience in milking, calf rearing and grassland management. I have also spent several summers working for Bord na Mona harvesting peat

and restoring bog-land. In my free time I dairy wash and dosing for my father who is a veterinary sales rep.

Final Year Project

For my final year project I am treating slurry with enzymes and measuring if they have an effect on the emission of methane, ammonia and hydrogen sulfide, when compared to untreated slurry. I will

then apply the slurries to grass and see if they have different effects on the microbiome of the soil.

Future Ambitions

I intend to travel abroad for the summer and then get a job in the agricultural industry that will allow me to implement and expand the knowledge that i have learned over the last four years.



Declan Mullins (Cork)

087 367 7099 
declanjohnmullins@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a very motivated and hard working individual. I come from a beef and tillage farm in North Cork and have an interest in all aspects of farming, in particular the beef and tillage industries. I am willing and

keen to learn new skills and knowledge from the agricultural industry.

Work Experience

I have worked on a variety of farms including beef, tillage, dairy and pig farms. I have also worked for an agricultural contractor for 3 summers. I completed my college placement with ABP where I gained a lot of valuable knowledge about the beef in-

dustry. I experienced many elements of the business such as lairage, kill floor and boning hall operations, cattle procurement and the ongoing research which is taking place on their demonstration farm.

Final Year Project

This research investigates if the CBV can be used effectively by beef farmers to buy cattle with a higher genetic merit to

bring through to slaughter while comparing the performance of the animals to their CBV and its sub-indexes.

Future Ambitions

In the future I look forward to taking over our home farm from my father. In the meantime, I would like to work within the agricultural industry to further develop my knowledge and skills.



Kelly O'Brien (Offaly)

087 391 2730 
obrienkelly954@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Enjoying farming from a young age I have gained a keen interest for animals and the outdoors. As a result I have always wanted to pursue a career in the agricultural

sector. I enjoy hands on work and I am eager to learn and complete new tasks to the best of my ability.

Work Experience

I completed my college work placement in Eurogene AI services where I became knowledgeable in the AI industry and completed a DIY AI training course. Currently I

am working in a hotel as a house keeper and in a local pub part time.

Final Year Project

My research project aims to investigate various equine production systems in relation to the quality of their soils. By doing so areas that need improvement will be identified. Soils is an

area which equine owners lack a lot of knowledge in when in comparison to beef or dairy farmers.

Future Ambitions

Following on from my degree I hope to pursue a career in the agricultural industry where I can develop my skills and knowledge further.



Heather O'Connell (Cork)

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heathernichonail@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My passion for agriculture blossomed from a young age, having grown up on a dairy farm in North Cork, with poultry, pigs, and ponies also in the mix. I am an outgoing individual with strong communication skills and a driven nature. In 2024,

I was a semi-finalist in the FBD Young Farmer of the Year.

Work Experience

I completed my professional work experience in ICBF as part of the HerdPlus & Customer Support team. I gained valuable knowledge in various schemes and programmes while also enhancing my communication, sales and problem solving skills through

daily customer interactions. Working within the dairy sector and contract rearing on our home farm has provided a strong foundation in animal husbandry, grassland management while igniting an interest in breeding and genetics.

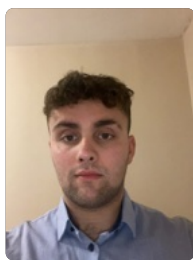
Final Year Project

A changing live calf export market with an increased beef sire usage in the dairy sector resulted in this study on

dairy-beef integration. I compared the CBV of dairy-beef animals to their ADG and carcass performance. Farmers opinions on dairy-beef integration was also obtained via survey.

Future Ambitions

I intend to further develop my knowledge and skillset within the agricultural industry in a role that will foster personal, professional and potentially academic growth.



Jack O'Connor (Tipperary)

087 343 4275
Jackoconnor140@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am from a beef and tillage farm just outside the town of Cahir in South Tipperary. I have always had a keen interest in livestock, crops, and agricultural machinery, which is why I chose to study level 8

Agricultural Science at SETU Waterford.

Work Experience

College placement completed through the Ohio Program at Jorgensen Land & Cattle, located in South Dakota, USA. Jorgensen Land & Cattle is a 10,000-head Aberdeen Angus feedlot that has a primary focus on the genetics of their Angus cattle.

Three harvest seasons (2021, 2022, and 2023) completed working as a machinery operator for the crops and livestock team at Coolmore Stud in Fethard, County Tipperary. Harvesting 4500 acres of cereals.

Final Year Project

I am investigating if there are any specific genes that Irish cattle are carrying that either positively or negatively affect intra-

muscular fat composition (also known as marbling in Irish cattle) as marbling plays a big part in the tenderness and flavour profile of beef.

Future Ambitions

To try to integrate intramuscular fat (IMF) composition into the grading process of beef carcasses in Ireland, as I believe that IMF composition is an important factor when it comes to beef quality.



Rebecca O'Connor (Wexford)

087 349 3379
rebecca1973.roc@gmail.com

Personal Profile

Growing up on a tillage and sheep farm, I developed my strong interest in agriculture, which has shaped my passion for farming and my work ethic. I consider myself highly motivated, diligent, and hard-working with excellent organisational and interpersonal skills.

Work Experience

During my work placement at Teagasc Advisory Office in Tinahely, I participated in discussion groups, events and completed NMPs, farm sketches, uploaded soil samples, and more. I also communicated with farmers daily. During my time in DAFM, I became familiar with ACRES terms, payments, TAMS 3

conditions, collaborating with other divisions and inspectors. My placement experiences along with soil sampling part-time helped me develop strong attention to detail, customer service and teamwork skills.

Final Year Project

Analysing the germination rate of commonly grown cover crop species in pot trials under a range of conditions, emphasising the impact of

temperature and soil type. Gaining a better insight into which cover crop will have a successful germination in relation to a particular field condition.

Future Ambitions

Utilising my experiences to reach full potential in agriculture, exploring farm management and advisory roles, while contributing to sustainable practices. Stay updated on industry trends.



Peter O'Dwyer (Limerick)

087 332 7119
peterodwyer2020@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I'm a motivated, reliable, hard working and diligent person who works well as an individual as well as part of a team. I am very keen on progressing my knowledge

and skills within the agricultural sector. I have a massive interest in agriculture, GAA and rugby.

Work Experience

I decided to travel to New Zealand for my college work experience. I spent 5 months working on a 1800 cow farm where I gained huge insight into the global agricultural sector. I have worked with Farm Relief

Services throughout the last 5 years where I have picked up lots of new skills and knowledge by working on many different farms.

Final Year Project

Live weight gain will be examined on Charolais, Angus, Hereford and Limousin cattle over the winter period on a number of organic beef farms as well as testing samples

of silage and grass in order to see which breed is most suitable for the organic system.

Future Ambitions

I would love a job in the agricultural industry to promote the sector and tackle some challenges that face the sector. Furthermore I would like to expand our organic beef enterprise at home.



William O Dwyer

(Tipperary)

087 344 9592 ☎
williamjohnodwyer2001@gmail.co ✉

Personal Profile

I am a 23 year old student from Co. Tipperary coming from a farming background of a small dairy and beef farm. My hobby is hurling with my local club. I have a passion for dairy farming and am looking forward

to learning more about dairy and beef farming.

Work Experience

I grew up on a small 40 cow dairy farm with some beef cattle and have been working since the age of 12 learning new skills everyday. I have experience of working with my neighbour since the age of 19 where he had 260 milking cows but has gone down to 200. I

have worked with calves feeding them and rearing them. I have experience using machinery spreading slurry and fertiliser. I have also been to New Zealand for 4 months milking 600 cows through a 50 unit rotary parlour.

Final Year Project

I picked 10 cows to use dry cow therapy on that had a SCC of 150 and above and another 10 cows below

150 SCC and gave them just sealant. I took samples before and after they calved and I then tested for fat content using the Gerber method in the lab. I compared the results on a graph.

Future Ambitions

I hope to start farming at home as a hobby and also have a job in the agricultural industry whether it be in a co-op or advising farmers.



Nathan O Mahony

(Limerick)

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20098851@mail.wit.ie ✉

Personal Profile

I am dedicated, self motivated and hard working. I come from a dairy/beef background and have had great interest in farming from a young age. I am good at working on my own and as part of a team. I am always looking to broaden my

knowledge and skills within the agricultural sector.

Work Experience

For my work experience in 3rd year I travelled to New Zealand and worked on a 466 cow dairy farm where I milked cows and took part in grassland management. I also spent a summer in South England working as part of a contracting team with FGS Agri. I have also

spent some time working with companies such as Dairygold and Teagasc Moorepark. I enjoyed all my work placements and appreciated learning about the different aspects of farming along with the skills I learned.

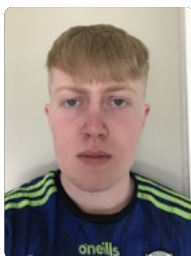
Final Year Project

I decided to carry out my project on investigating the effects of probiotics in the diets of dairy calves. Throughout my project I will have 2 milk

diets allocated to 2 different groups. I will weigh and observe all calves each week to examine the different benefits of probiotics in the diet.

Future Ambitions

In the future I would like to see myself working in a job that is both of interest to me and challenges me into becoming an educated member of the agricultural sector along with travelling the world.



Daragh Sheridan

(Ireland)

087 970 1303 ☎
Daraghsherdan6250@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am 22 years old from Co. Meath. I am a very hard working man and like to work as part of a team and on my own initiative. I am an enthusiastic person and have a great interest in the agriculture sector. My

hobbies include playing club football and helping out on the tillage farm at home.

Work Experience

For my 3rd year college work placement I wanted to gain experience in the agricultural industry so I did 6 months with DLF seeds and Seedtech (Arvum group). I learned a lot from it and realised I'd like to further develop

my experience in the industry. Furthermore I have a wealth of experience in farm work from working on our potato and tillage farm at home from a very young age.

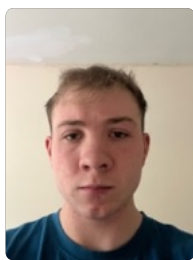
Final Year Project

For my final year project I am investigating cover crops impact with spring barley. I chose this project as I feel cover crops have a very positive effect on soil health

and can reduce the cost of growing crops. I aim to discover all the benefits of cover crops and see how profitable they can be.

Future Ambitions

I would like to further develop my experience in the agricultural industry, particularly in the tillage and potato areas. I would not be afraid to expand my interests and learn new skills.



Ian Stafford
(Wexford)

087 331 6447 
lanstaff132@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a 22-year-old student with a deep passion for dairy farming. Outside of work, I follow and play GAA; I enjoy the energy of the sport and its community spirit. Dedicated and hardworking, I'm always eager to learn and

grow in both my career and personal life.

Work Experience

I have been working on my dad's dairy farm since I was young, from this I gained valuable insight into the dairy industry and benefits of working hard. I recently completed an 8 month sustainability internship with Tirlan from this I learned the importance

of sustainable farming as well as how to increase on farm sustainability and the benefits of having a sustainable farming enterprise.

Final Year Project

My project focuses on assessing and improving water quality in local stream. By analysing key parameters such as pH levels, dissolved oxygen, and contaminants, the

project aims to identify sources of pollution and recommend sustainable practices for maintaining clean water.

Future Ambitions

In the future I would like to work as an agricultural consultant as I believe I have the knowledge and experience dairy farming to understand the problems farmers occur on and daily bases.



Jasmin Stephens
(Wicklow)

087 100 3835 
jasminstephens.js@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Coming from farming background of sheep and beef, which thought me to be strongly driven and hard-working to achieve goals. I have a strong passion for the agricultural industry in particular sheep, beef and soil

health. I consider myself motivated, enthusiastic, work well in teams and individually.

Work Experience

In third year I completed 18 weeks at Teagasc in Johnstown Castle Research Centre where I worked independently and in a team in soil labs completing nutrition's tests on soil samples including pH, lime require-

ment, Mehlich 3, total digest and Morgans. I have worked at home on my family farm my whole life which has given me great experience working, managing livestock and machinery.

Final Year Project

My project investigated the effect of different lime rates on soil aggregates and compared their performance on loamy

and clay soil. The aim of this is to understand how the role of lime can improve soil structure further.

Future Ambitions

To improve farming to be more environmentally and finically sustainable while maximising efficiency. I plan to look at further education or research work in the future to achieve this.



Ben Tynan-Dunphy
(Waterford)

089 484 4277 
bentynandunphy089@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I come from Waterford City and have found a love for the agriculture industry through my time here in SETU. Not coming from a huge farming background has made me work harder to learn as much as possible and allows me to remove

bias from situational topics. I'm hard working with a positive attitude.

Work Experience

I started working when I was 16 in McDonalds; it provided great experience into ensuring the perfect product for each menu item. I have worked as a milk relief worker for a herd of 330 cows during my 2nd year of college while I was still in McDonalds. After 4 years in McDon-

alds I began working for Freezin Frieisan, where I learned how to make artisan ice cream. For work placement I was the first student in ROI to work for Yara Ireland where I worked as a sales rep. At the moment I work in Lidl.

Final Year Project

My research project is a novel research project to Irish agriculture. I am looking at beta caseins in a herd in Waterford

in particular the A1 and A2 genotypes. I am comparing the actual yield values and comparing to ICBF Herdplus results on the cows genetic merit to see if A2 has better production.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are to go far in the agri-food sector, where I could travel for work and help grow the Irish food brand and agriculture around the world.



Jennifer Tyrrell

(Wicklow)

087 133 7077
jtyrre02@icloud.com

Personal Profile

Coming from a sheep and suckler farm I am very passionate about the agricultural industry. I am a hardworking, highly motivated, determined individual with strong communication skills always giving one hundred percent to every task. I am very capable

of working independently or as part of a team.

Work Experience

For the past six years I have been employed by Blessington Mart in the busy livestock yard and also gained experience on the administrative side. I completed a 16-week placement at Teagasc Grange, working alongside a dairy advisor. During this time, I developed key skills such as preparing Teagasc NMPs, facilitated

discussion groups, and gained valuable industry knowledge. These experiences have equipped me with a diverse knowledge and skillset for various aspects of the agricultural industry.

Final Year Project

This project aims to investigate if higher Eurostar rated ewes produce higher-quality lambs and whether Eurostar-based breeding strategies should be

prioritised. The research will compare lamb daily live weight gain with dams Eurostar ratings and colostrum quality will be assessed post lambing.

Future Ambitions

I am eager to pursue opportunities in the agricultural sector, building on the skills and knowledge gained through my studies and work experiences. These will be invaluable in my professional career.



Josh White Keating

(Wexford)

087 384 8563
Joshwhitek03@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am Josh White Keating. I am 21 years old and I am from County Wexford. I am in my 4th year studying Agricultural Science in SETU Waterford. I have an interest in beef farming and sports. I am

involved in my local gaa club.

Work Experience

Work placement for my college degree was working in the advisory office in Johnstown Castle with Teagasc. I also spent time in Killowen farms on the manufacturing floor. I have worked on multiple farms over the summers including

beef, dairy and tillage farms. This was alongside working on building sites as a groundwork and a labourer in earlier years.

Final Year Project

My final year project is based on the Annestown River. Involves testing water around the constructed wetland system to see if there is a

need for the constructed wetland system and if it makes a difference to the water.

Future Ambitions

I see myself going travelling for a few years on the completion of college either with a company or on my own accord. I would like to have a practical job to be out and about.



Christine Worrell

(Kildare)

085 758 8794
worrellchristine1@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I'm 22 years old from Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. I don't come from a farming background but have always had an interest in horses. I currently hold an amateur jockey license and am based in Martin Brassil's yard (Curragh). Animal

care, nutrition and management would mainly be of interest to me.

Work Experience

I carried my work experience out for 15 weeks at The Irish Equine Centre located in Johnstown Co. Kildare where I was assigned to the environment and nutrition lab. I prepared and carried out water testing, mycotoxin testing, nutrition testing, bedding and forage testing and environmental

monitoring testing. It was interesting to see how important it is to manage a horse's environment to ensure they perform to their best ability.

Final Year Project

Microbial activity is not considered enough when it comes to land management and my project will reflect the effects chemicals and organic fertilisers have on microbial activity and compare the

two to each other and to a control plot where nothing has been applied. Less is more in my opinion.

Future Ambitions

I'd like to do advisory work in equine yards as I believe there's an opportunity there. In my opinion land management is definitely an issue in racing yards and improvements could enhance performance.

Departmental Awards – Agriculture / Agricultural Science

Yvonne Leahy and Conor Mulligan (BSc. Agricultural Science) winners of the Dairymaster Students Award 2024 being presented with their awards at the National Ploughing Championships 2024. From left to right: Eleanor Kent (Head of Dept. of Land Sciences, SETU), Prof. Veronica Campbell (President SETU), Dr. Michael Breen (Programme Leader BSc. Agricultural Science) John Harty (CEO, Dairymaster) Roisin O' Regan (Dairymaster), Pat Daly (Dairymaster).



SETU Student Placement Travel Bursary award winners David Prendergast (Agricultural Science) and Orla Bennis (Agriculture) with sponsor representatives Caoimhe Murphy (Tirlan), Sarah Buckley (IFJ) and Denise Stuart (Seedtech).

AIB Land Management (Ag) Final Year Project award finalists Jack Larkin, Sean McAuliffe, Ciara Leonard, Louis Power, Clodagh Forbes (AIB), Katie Fallon (overall winner), Stephen Carroll, Dr Tony Woodcock (SETU).



Pictured after the Student Placement Travel Bursary interviews were (L-R) Dr Michael Breen (SETU), Dr Tony Woodcock (SETU) Caoimhe Murphy (Tirlan), David Prendergast (Agricultural Science) Sarah Buckley (IFJ), Orla Bennis (Agriculture) Denise Stuart (Seedtech) and Dr Siobhan Walsh (SETU).

BSc in Agriculture

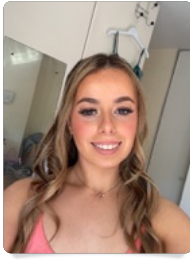
The **BSc in Agriculture** programme is designed to allow the student to finish with a level 7 qualification with the ability to go on further to an education in the Land Management course. It gives the student a diverse education from a “hands on” approach out at Kildalton College and an in-class and labs spread between Kildalton and WIT main campus. Students who avail of the course get to go out on placement giving the student an opportunity to use the skills that they developed on the course. The course also provides a good understanding on setting up a business and also how to run the business and to show the student the influences of the volatility of the foreign and domestic markets.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Tony Woodcock at Tony.Woodcock@setu.ie.

Projects

Shannon Breen	
Comparing the Weight of Calves on Whole Milk vs Milk Replacer	19
Con Cahill	
Live Weight Gain of Calves	19
Tom Coffey	
Factors Affecting the Performance of Offspring in the Kildalton Suckler Herd	19
Tomas Conroy	
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Brittany Davis	
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Shannon Breen (Tipperary)

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Personal Profile

I am from a dairy farmer from Co. Tipperary, I am a hardworking ambitious individual with a keen interest in the Agricultural sector. I am in my final year of

the BSc in Agriculture level 7 course in SETU.

Work Experience

I completed my farm placement on a dairy farm in New Inn, Co. Tipperary. On placement I learned to work as an individual and as a team and from this placement I gained a lot of experience to allow me to now be able to work for

various farmers around Tipperary. I use the skills that I have learned on a regular basis, and wish to expand on this skill set going forward.

Final Year Project

For our project we are comparing the weight of different breeds of calves on the 4 different farms with some being reared on whole milk and the

rest being reared on milk replacer. The results should be very useful to anyone interested in rearing calves.

Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to be successful in the agricultural sector. I am open to opportunities from across the Ag sector.



Con Cahill (Laois)

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Personal Profile

My name is Con Cahill I am 21 years old and I live in Laois on a 140 cow dairy farm. I am a good worker and always love a challenge when it comes to work. I enjoy

working with livestock and have plenty of experience handling livestock and driving machinery.

Work Experience

I have plenty of experience working with livestock and machinery. I'm always working at home on the farm. I also worked on a 450 cow dairy farm in Woods-gift(Co.Kilkenny) for my

work placement. I also have a freeze branding business which I am very proud of. I also worked with contractors near my home place over a few summers.

Final Year Project

This project is based on the live weight gain of different breeds of calves. Some calves will be fed

whole milk and others will be fed probiotics over the course of a few weeks and they will be weighed each week.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are to travel and see the world more. I would like to do this while growing my knowledge of the agriculture sector.



Tom Coffey (Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I'm a motivated and enthusiastic individual with a strong interest in the Agriculture industry. At present, I'm in my third year of studying for a bachelor's degree in Agriculture at SETU. I've gained lots of skills and knowledge through

work and college and I'm keen to apply these to the workplace.

Work Experience

From a young age I have been involved in farming beginning on my home suckler farm. I have been employed with the Waterford Farm Relief Services since 2020 and have done various relief work and have had full time employment for dairy farmers in the West Waterford Area.

I completed 12 weeks of work placement in 2024 in Clashmore Co. Waterford where I further improved my skills and capabilities in the agriculture sector. I am currently employed doing relief milkings for a farmer every weekend.

Final Year Project

The objective of the research project is to try and figure out the factors that affect the performance of calves within

the Kildalton Suckler herd. These factors include Sire and Dam breeds, impact of maternal traits, nutrition during and after pregnancy and hybrid vigour.

Future Ambitions

I hope to eventually take over our suckler farm at home and work it part-time and my goal is to find full time employment in the agriculture industry.



Tomas Conroy

(Laois)

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 tomasconroy300@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I come from a calf to beef farm background in county Laois. I take pride in having a hard working mentality and being able to adapt and improvise to any challenge that I may encounter. I enjoy using

new technologies on and off the farm and hope to create a successful career in the agri-sector.

Work Experience

I am currently working part time in my local co-op Stradbally Town and Country since I was 16. I also work on my home farm, helping improving the infrastructure and animal welfare on the farm. I also help out

some of my neighbours farms at busy times such as silage, harvesting, caving. I often find myself relief milking for one of my neighbours when he is not around.

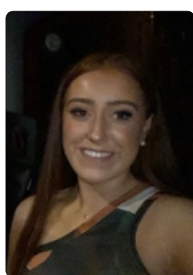
Final Year Project

The final year project is based on data that was obtained from ICBF and then examined to see if there was any correlation between the CBV,

DBI, Terminal index of the bull, carcass kill out weight and the suckler cow report.

Future Ambitions

I hope to broaden my knowledge in all agriculture related areas and to get a full time job off farm as I fell like it is a sector jobs that I may like.



Etain Coughlan

(Cork)

Coughlanetain@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am from West Cork and come from a dairy background. Working alongside my father since a young age, I am involved in all aspects of the day to day runnings of the farm. My favorite

tasks are milking, feeding calves and drawing silage. Outside of farming I enjoy playing camogie with the local club.

Work Experience

Over the years working at home and relief milking has provided invaluable experience for me. For my year two placement I was fortunate enough to complete it out in New Zealand on a 1600 cow farm.

This created great opportunity to expand my knowledge and understanding of their different methodologies and also improve my skills. I also was lucky enough to receive a travel bursary from the Farmers Journal.

Final Year Project

Our aim for this project is to investigate can a cow's susceptibility to mastitis be attributed to milking systems such as

robots, once a day herds and conventional dairy-ing. We will also examine the financial implications on a farmer.

Future Ambitions

I hope to continue broadening my knowledge in all aspects of agriculture whilst adapting and understanding the current and future problems that face this sector.



Brittany Davis

(Kilkenny)

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 bmarie7@live.com 

Personal Profile

I am an ambitious, determined, and hard working individual who is originally from California. I have been living in Co. Kilkenny for over ten years, and I am very passionate about the agricultural industry and its

future, and for farmers to be able to continue in their desired enterprise sustainably.

Work Experience

The last 4 years I have worked on various dairy farm enterprises ranging from small to large scale operations, and the completion of work experience through Kildalton Agricultural College. I am currently working on a large scale dairy farm

in Kilmeaden for over two years where I have been able to continue to develop critical working skills, and a good work ethic.

Final Year Project

To compare three different types of pig breeds, and the quantity of lysine, calcium, and phosphorus used in their diet, by analysing the total amount of each found in their feed, and the total

amount upon excretion. With the further determination on if it will impact the environment.

Future Ambitions

The hope is to work with a company where my qualification will be beneficial, and to be apart of limiting the impact of agricultural practices on the environment, yet not affecting future farmers.



Adam Delaney

(Laois)

Personal Profile

I come from a dairy farm located in Co. Laois. I am organised, hard working, and I like to get tasks done efficiently and to the highest standard. I have good communication skills and work well

as part of a team.

Work Experience

I have come from a dairy background where we milk 120 spring calving high EBI cows. I worked in Tirlan as a yard worker dealing with customers which greatly improved my interpersonal skills. My 12 week placement was on a dairy farm in Durrow

where I helped to manage 240 spring calving cows. Since my placement I have worked on this farm where I gained experience on the day to day running of a large dairy farm.

Final Year Project

My project compares spring and winter calving systems to find out which is the more preferable

system both economically and sustainably. Information for this project was gathered by using 4 different dairy herds.

Future Ambitions

I would like to pursue a career in the agricultural sector as a sales representative or agriculture consultant as I believe the skills I have would suit this line of work.

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Pauric Dempsey

(Longford)

Personal Profile

I come from a small suckler farm in Co. Longford. I consider myself as a hard worker and a team player. I currently work on a dairy farm and with a local silage contractor. I completed

my work placement in grange in Teagasc beef research farm.

Work Experience

In 2020 to 2023 I worked on a local suckler farm, a dairy farm on weekends with a 1200 cow herd and with a local silage contractor. I milked cows, completed general farm duties such as vaccinating, dosing and feeding of

cattle. In 2024 I went on work placement to Teagasc Grange in county Meath. Here I worked on the suckler farm side. I gained great experience from doing tasks such as grass measuring, Lab work, daily cattle work, fat scanning cows, breeding season, intake runs.

Final Year Project

This project aims to determine if there is a cor-

relation with the performance of beef cattle and what ICBF indexes say. I hope to integrate results from this project to into my own farm.

Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to grow my own farm at home and work in the agriculture beef sector while gaining more experience.

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Ellen Doherty

(Kilkenny)

Personal Profile

Young and hardworking, determined to succeed, with several years of knowledge in the Irish agricultural sector. Growing up on a dairy and beef farm helped to carve my love and passion for agriculture. Both a team worker and an

independent worker, I strive for perfection in every aspect of my job.

Work Experience

I have worked on our home dairy and beef enterprise for many years. I've also worked I have worked several dairy farms over the course of my education carrying out a range of tasks such as milking, calf rearing, grass measuring and soil sampling. I have worked in my local Agri store,

Kilmacow Agri, over 6 years, carrying out various tasks including sales, admin, stock control, advising and assisting customers. I also assisted a vet for a season conducting herd tests, c-sections and farm calls.

Final Year Project

To investigate the effects that soil pH has on the application of ground limestone and the level of microbial activity such

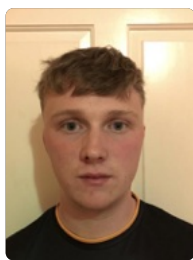
as the presence of earthworms, bacteria and fungi in the soil, and how these affect the level of Phosphorus losses from the soil.

Future Ambitions

I am keen to continue learning and to expand my knowledge further. I hope to complete the Level 8 Land Management course next year and after that I hope to gain employment in advisory or education.

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ellendoherty43@gmail.com ✉



James Duff

(Tipperary)

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Personal Profile

My name is James Duff and I'm from Toomevara Co. Tipperary. I'm 21 years of age. We farm a pedigree Suckler herd of Limousines and Herefords at home. Since I was young I've always had a great passion for

farming and I wouldn't be afraid of hard work.

Work Experience

I have great experience in both beef and dairy farming and I would have good experience with machinery as I've worked 5 seasons with a silage contractor. I've worked for a local dairy farmer the last 4 years at the weekends where I've learned a lot about looking after cows and

calving. I did my college work experience in New Zealand where I was on a 1100 dairy cow farm that was being milked through a 54 bale rotary parlor. I learned so much more about cows and grass management during my time.

Final Year Project

In this project we will discuss how a range of factors derogation (banding, nitrates, stocking rates), different cow

breeds and grass/feed and rations could all effect a farmers milk cheque. We look into milk recording and profit monitor results in both high and low input dairy farms.

Future Ambitions

I hope to further my knowledge in the agricultural sector while also I plan to expand and improve our own Suckler farm at home.



Ellen Feery

(WestMeath/Offaly)

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ellenfeery77@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a energetic, enthusiastic and passionate agricultural student with great time management and organisational skills. Coming from a beef and contracting enterprise in Westmeath, I have a keen interest in all things cattle and machinery. I

am a capable and dependable worker, alone or in a group.

Work Experience

Working at home with machinery and cattle from a young age sparked my passion in Agriculture. Completing 2 years in Gurteen college before transferring into SETU, my 1st year placement was on the 420 spring calving dairy farm, where I previously worked. I was then fortunate

enough to travel to New Zealand for my 2nd year 16 week placement, to work on a 1500 cow farm. The vast range of experience between sectors has allowed me to work alone as well as in groups setting.

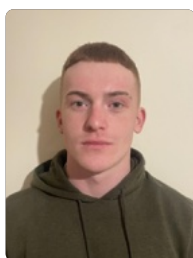
Final Year Project

To investigate the effects that soil pH has on the application of ground limestone as well as the level of microbial activity such as earthworm pres-

ence, bacteria and fungi within the soil and how these will have a knock on affect on the level of Phosphorus loss in the soil.

Future Ambitions

In the future, I hope to broaden my range of knowledge between by gaining on sight experience between all different sectors. As well as travel, to see how agriculture systems work abroad.



Mark Flaherty

(Meath)

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Personal Profile

My name is Mark Flaherty. I am 20 years old. I am from a beef farming background. I am a hard working and enthusiastic person who can work as a part of team as well as on my own. I have a great interest in

the Agricultural sector and in hurling.

Work Experience

I have a broad range of work experience in the Agricultural sector, working on local dairy, beef, and sheep farms as well as working for a large scale horticultural farm. I currently work for a local silage contractor and as a bartender. I have become well acquainted with working

with livestock, crops and machinery. I carried out my work placement at Teagasc Grange for 13 weeks where I aided researchers with their trails and was also heavily involved with the suckler herd calving season.

Final Year Project

The project focuses on investigating if suckler cows progeny is impacted by the sire breed by using Kildalton's ICBF

records to compare carcass weights, conformation, fat score and ADG of the progeny and then comparing them by breed.

Future Ambitions

I would like to travel abroad to experience agriculture in other countries. I would then like to get a job in Ireland in the agricultural sector as well as part time farming.



Cathal Flannery (Offaly)

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Personal Profile

I am a hard working and highly motivated individual. I work very well as part of a team or on my own. I come from a dairy background at home where we milk 70 cows. I've been involved in the farm at home from a young age and always

had a passion to develop a career in the agriculture sector.

Work Experience

I gained valuable experience about the Agriculture sector on farms over the years and especially at home. As part of my placement I worked on a 300 cow dairy farm where I gained great experience of working as part of a team but also gained valuable experience working using my

own initiative. I work for a local agriculture contractor in the summer and at weekends throughout the winter where I gained great experience communicating with local farmers.

Final Year Project

As part of the team, we are investigating the viability of the winter and spring calving systems with regards to the costs associated with producing a litre of milk. How

factors such as feed and housing may affect the profit a farmer may make from their litre of milk sold to the co op.

Future Ambitions

I am eager to progress my knowledge in the agriculture industry through employment both in Ireland and abroad. this will give me great foothold to be able come home to our own farm and progress it.



Jack Gleeson (Tipperary)

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Jackgleeson38@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I come from a farming background in North Tipperary and I am passionate about the agriculture sector and sport. I also have a background in the hospitality sector. I would describe myself as hardworking person who

loves a challenge and is willing to learn.

Work Experience

I worked on a 160 cow spring calving dairy herd as part of my farm placement. I enjoyed this placement as it allowed me to learn new skills. On placement I learned to work as a team and also to work off my own initiative. I also have experience working in family pub and I have

found this great for interacting with new people. Through working with a neighbour I have learned how to work on large scale operations on building sites.

Final Year Project

For my final year project we are investigating the financial impacts mastitis can have on the dairy herd, through collecting data we can analyse how mastitis can impact milk

production and quality. This data can then be used to gather the financial impacts mastitis has on the farmers profits.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are to work in the Agricultural Industry on part of completing my degree. I have a particular ambition to improve efficiency on home the farm.



Dara Gorman (WestMeath)

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Personal Profile

My name is Dara Gorman, I am 21 years old from Mullingar, Co. Westmeath with a strong interest in the Agriculture industry. With a keen interest to learn more about the Agriculture industry. I am a hard working individual and take

great pride in my work.

Work Experience

At home we have a tillage farm which I work on with my uncle, I have also worked with a local contractor over the last three years, driving tractors and shuttering. For my work experience, I worked for Country Crest in Dublin where I further expanded my knowledge working with modern technology in farming and different farming

techniques. From my experiences in the agriculture sector the past few years I have gained a great deal of skills performing well under pressure and communication skills.

Final Year Project

Our project is focused on the advantages and disadvantages of plough based systems and min-till based systems in tillage sector where look at the comparison of soil

structure, earthworm populations, slug damage and crop establishment from the two different plough and min-till systems.

Future Ambitions

For the future, I aim to travel the world to broaden my knowledge of the Agriculture industry. From that I would like to see myself pursue an advisory role in agriculture industry.



David Grehan
(Laois)

087 342 1422 📞
davidgrehan1@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

I'm 21 years old from Rosenallis, Co. Laois. We run a spring calving dairy enterprise which complements our calf to beef system. I'd describe myself as a hardworking, reliable individual and a person who takes great pride in my work, I can

also work on my own initiative or as a part of a team.

Work Experience

From a young age I gained a lot of experience working on the home farm. In 2019 I did my TY work placement in Tirlan's Mountmellick branch where I still work on weekends and summer holidays. Responsibilities include customer service, admin tasks in the shop. Operating forklifts, Teleporters

and the weighbridge in the yard and delivering goods to farmers. I also worked on a 330 cow spring calving herd since 2022 where I did my college work placement operating machinery and relief milking.

Final Year Project

The aim of our group project is to investigate the incorporation of clover into grassland swards by utilising both organic and inorganic fertilisers by improving soil

pH which in turn will hopefully improve silage quality, crude protein content and help with reducing negative environmental impacts.

Future Ambitions

Next year I hope to do my level 8 to expand my agricultural knowledge and after that I hope to travel abroad to new Zealand short term and return home and get a job in Agri Business or Advisory.



Colin Grennan
(Laois)

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Personal Profile

I'm a highly motivated hard working person, who works well on my own initiative & part as a team I always had a strong interest in the agriculture sector as coming from a 100 cow split

calving dairy herd. I'm currently a coordinator in the IHFA young members association & an active member of Macra.

Work Experience

I'm currently working for an award winning dairy farmer, since 2021 my duties entail of working part of a team managing 200 pedigree Holstein cows to a high & efficient standard. For

my work placement I decided to travel to New Zealand in Methven Dairies, where I enjoy working part of a team working with 1,500 cows grass based cows.

Final Year Project

The aim of the project is to investigate the incorporation of clover into grassland swards by utilising both organic and inorganic fertilisers by improving soil pH which in

turn will improve silage quality, crude protein content and help with reducing negative environmental impacts.

Future Ambitions

I hope to pursue a career in the agricultural industry, where I can display and develop my skills & previous experience, my main ambition is to work as a rumen nutritionist or in genetics.



Alo Hackett
(Kildare)

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Personal Profile

22 years of age from Rathangan County Kildare. I have a very keen interest in Agriculture. I currently farm at home with my uncle where we keep suckler cows. I have a very keen interest in animal genetics. I am a very hardworking

man and I love to work as part of a team and on my own initiative.

Work Experience

I would say I have a vast amount of experience for my age. I have been working in Agriculture sector since I was of small age on our family farm. I have done a summer working with Boherkill farms who are a large scale tillage farm. Prior to going to college I worked with local fenc-

ing contractor where I gained alot of experience. I am currently working with Ruanbeg farms the past 4 years where I have gained valuable experience that I feel I can carry forward in the future.

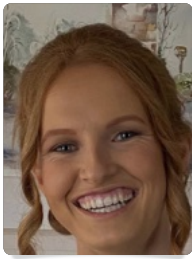
Final Year Project

In my final year project I will be looking into see if there is any correlation between the ICBF indexes and the performance of animals as I

feel that at the minute this is a very key topic that is in discussion due to breed societies removing these indexes from their sale catalogues.

Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to gain more experience in cattle genetics and to gain a vast experience into animal nutrition as I feel that this will be very important going forward in the agricultural sector.



Anna Harding (Tipperary)

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ahlisheen@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am from Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary. I come from a recently converted dairy farm which was previously a beef and sheep farm. This has provided me with a wide range of knowledge & experience in agriculture. I am enthusiastic,

honest and punctual. I play camogie and football with my club and college.

Work Experience

For my work placement in 2nd year I worked on a large scale dairy farm in Templederry, Co. Tipperary. I gained a vast amount of knowledge and experience and carried out a wide range of tasks such as grassland management, nutritional management and calf

rearing. I have carried out relief milking on multiple farms for the past number of years whilst working on my home farm. I also have experience working in the milk intake lab in Arrabawn creamery.

Final Year Project

For this project we compared three different breeds of pigs and two different diets in fattening pigs. We analysed the level of lysine in the

feed and then tested faecal samples to establish the amount of lysine that pigs excreted. We were then able to establish the difference in breeds and diets.

Future Ambitions

I would like to continue to grow my knowledge of agriculture and work in a job that would challenge my skills and allow me to utilise the knowledge I have gained in college.



Edward Hatton (Carlow)

083 159 8186 
edwardhatt@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Edward Hatton, I grew up and work with my father on our Tillage and Suckler farm in Carlow. I've been passionate about agriculture from an early age and I am always trying to progress and better my

knowledge in this field, whether it be through education or hard work on the ground.

Work Experience

Recently on my farm I have been involved in big decision making, whether it be genetics of the cows or crop rotations and fertiliser plans for the tillage aspect, and up to financial investments on the farm. From 16 I have been work-

ing part time with an Agri contractor, I have learned about work colleagues that are not family members and working in a team setting. In 2023 I travelled solo to NZ for 6 months where I gained independence along with great insight into different farming techniques.

Final Year Project

In this project I explored two different establishment methods of winter

wheat (Min-Till system and a plough based system). A plant count from each system was complete as well as exploring the soil structure and earthworm count to see if one system was superior over the other.

Future Ambitions

I wish to further expand my knowledge of various aspects of the agricultural sector as well as enjoy my work.



Carly Hayes (Limerick)

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Personal Profile

I am ambitious and hard working person keen to new challenges and arising opportunities. I am 21 years old and I come from a beef farming and livestock haulage background. I have always had a keen interest in farming and always

willing to improve my knowledge of the agriculture sector.

Work Experience

My work experience was on a dairy farm in county Tipperary comprising of 220 cows. The work I completed was varied between machinery work including feeding and handling livestock such as rearing calves and milking. I expanded my knowledge widely for

livestock health. I work part time in GVM Group Killmallock livestock centre this has improved my livestock handling skills along with my communication skills and team work skills.

Final Year Project

The aim of this project is determining how much lysine is used or excreted in three different group types in a commercial piggy farm. These results will determine cost

of production and percent of lysine used to gain daily live weight gain.

Future Ambitions

I aim to continue to improve and expand my knowledge in the agricultural sector in hope to create more opportunities in years to come. I hope to continue to grow the quality beef on my home farm.



Michael Holden (Kilkenny)

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Personal Profile

Hi, I am a hard-working, ambitious 21 year-old from south Kilkenny. I like hands on work and I'm not afraid to get my hands dirty. I have a big interest in farming (the dairy sector specifically)

and mechanics. I am a team player with a strong urge to learn something new everyday.

Work Experience

Most my life has been spent working on farms and driving tractors. I have a strong understanding of the agriculture sector through my hands on experience. I have a small bit of mechanical skills coming from fixing,

servicing and maintenance of cars and farm machinery/equipment. I come from a dairy farm and practically grew up around cows which has provided me with great knowledge of dairying.

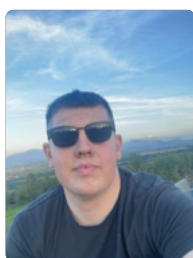
Final Year Project

This project is comparing the economics of milking all year round vs a spring calving system. This is a group project

and we chose to do it on this because we are all from dairy backgrounds are interested to see the difference in the two systems.

Future Ambitions

Ideally, I would like to become a milk manger for a co-op like Tirlán but I would be happy to work a job in the dairy sector.



Ciaran Kavanagh (Kilkenny)

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ciaranpkavanagh@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I come from a part time tillage and beef farm in Gowran Co. Kilkenny. I am very hard working, diligent and motivated. I enjoy working both independently and as part of a team. I have a keen interest in collecting and restoring vintage machin-

ery as well as a love for hurling and other sports.

Work Experience

In May 2019 I began working part time in Farm and Industrial Supplies Kilkenny selling parts for tractors and machinery. As part of my work I have learned how to do many repairs to machinery and learned how to use many engineering tools. It is a very busy environment and

so working under pressure and under my own initiative is nothing new. I still work in FIS part time now nearly six years later. As part of my college placement I worked on a tillage farm in Carlow.

Final Year Project

It is a study on plough based systems in comparison to the min-till system looking at it from a multi year and crop rotation stand point. we will

look at continues ploughing, short term min-till, medium term min-till and long term min-till. This will give us a wide rang of information the methods.

Future Ambitions

I would like a job I grow in, follow goals and feel a sense of achievement. I would also like to have time for farming on the side and retain my interest in the restoration of vintage tractors.



Oisín Keogh (Meath)

087 439 0308 
Oisinkeo@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I come from a suckler and vegetable background. I farm alongside my father and grandfather, we currently have a herd of continental cows and growing sprouts and

turnips throughout the year. My main passion in farming is Drystock, where I have recently started breeding pedigree Aberdeen Angus Cattle.

Work Experience

I completed a 16 week work placement in advanced drystock management while studying in Kildalton Agricultural college. My farm consisted

of 100 suckler cows a beef fattening unit 700 ewes and 150 acres of tillage. I gained lots of knowledge from my placement and learned lots of new animal husbandry and machinery skills.

Final Year Project

This project is to compare ICBF index's and figures to the performance

of our host farms. We aim to get both field and desk research from different herds throughout the group and compare them with the ICBF index's.

Future Ambitions

I would like to slowly wean out the continental herd and focus more on breeding pedigree Angus cattle.



Shauna Lynam
(Kildare/Meath)

086 233 5267 ☎
shaunalynam97@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am diligent, enthusiastic and self-motivated agricultural student, with a strong passion for the agricultural sector, originating from a beef and sheep farm in North Kildare. I aim to meet and exceed expectations in all tasks and situations,

whether working collaboratively or independently.

Work Experience

After completing 2 years in Kildalton Agricultural College, before gaining entry in SETU, I was fortunate to gain experience on a 900 spring lambing sheep farm for 8 weeks in my first year, and travelling to New Zealand for my 16 week placement in 2023, on a 750 cow dairy farm, located above Christchurch,

which was an unforgettable and insightful experience into other cultures and farming experiences. I am currently milking on a 110 dairy cow farm, along with helping my father on my home farm.

Final Year Project

The aim of our group project is to investigate the incorporation of clover into grassland swards by utilising both organic and inorganic fertilisers by improving

soil pH which in turn will improve silage quality, crude protein content and help with reducing negative environmental impacts.

Future Ambitions

Opportunities to work in the environmental sector of Irish agriculture to develop new initiatives. I have an interest in advisory and auditing roles to maintain high standards within agriculture.



Keith Maher
(Offaly)

087 210 5518 ☎
Keithmaher38@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I come from a tillage and beef farm, while also doing contracting work. I am highly motivated and a hard working person who is able to work as part of a team or on my own independently. My

interests are rugby and GAA.

Work Experience

In 2023 I went on work experience from the college. I went to a suckler and sheep farmer from Thurles co. Tipperary. During the summer of 2024 I went to England for the harvest. During my time there I did a variety of work from collecting bales to draw-

ing grain. We also are contractors at home so I have to have good social skills with our customers which also helps a lot.

Final Year Project

Our project is based on the difference in ploughing and using min-till on winter wheat fields. We are looking to find out how much of a difference there is in germination how many worms

and slugs are in the field. We are going to see how much of a difference there is in using min-till or ploughing.

Future Ambitions

I would like to run our farm at home whilst being part of a company in the agricultural sector where I can learn more about agricultural related topics.



Katie Malone
(Kilkenny)

085 721 7025 ☎
katiemalone02@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a hard working, ambitious and highly motivated person. I am a very positive person that takes new tasks and opportunities in my stride. Growing up on a dairy

farm I have had a great interest in Agriculture from a young age.

Work Experience

I have gained experience by living on a dairy farm. I also gained experience and completed 12 weeks placement working on a 150 cow dairy farm. I am currently working on a pig farm since 2019, I have gained experience

by working in the Artificial Insemination stud, Farrow to finish unit and in the genetics laboratory. This role has made me more confident working as part of a team and as an individual.

Final Year Project

To compare three different types breeds of pigs and the quantity of Lysine used in their diet,

by analysing the total amount of Lysine in the pigs feed and analysing the total amount of Lysine excreted by the pig.

Future Ambitions

I hope to enter a role in the agriculture sector preferably working with variety of both practical and in an office setting.



Liam Metcalfe (Wicklow)

083 345 0193 
liammetcalfe1@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I am a highly enthusiastic person who takes great interest in learning new things related to agriculture. I have a big interest in dairy farming, developing a good work ethic from growing up on a farm, I also have the abil-

ity to work long hours or work as part of a team as I work with a contractor.

Work Experience

I grew up on a dairy farm where I work part time. Last year, I carried out my placement on a large-scale dairy farm in south-east Tipperary where I learned a lot about cow health, maintenance and general herd management and also calf rearing. I work

for a contractor during the summer and at the weekends where I am now well integrated with tractor applications related to dairy and tillage such as spreading slurry and baling.

Final Year Project

This project is of interest to me because we are winter milking at home and I aim to find out if our system is viable or if we need to change the

system in future years. This project will hopefully give me an idea as to how we could improve the system.

Future Ambitions

I hope to go travelling after college and experience agriculture in different countries and take home ideas to the family farm to try and improve the efficiency and output of the farm.



Laura Miller (Laois)

087437751 
lauramiller21003@yahoo.com 

Personal Profile

I am a hard working enthusiastic and ambitious individual, who takes extreme care and pride in my work. Coming from a suckler and dairy farm, I have a great interest in the agricultural sector. I always want to broaden

my knowledge in agriculture.

Work Experience

I have been working on a farm from a very young age. In second year I went to New Zealand for placement, on a 1700 cow dairy farm. Out there I gained knowledge of milking with a large scale, calf rearing and farm maintenance. I have relief milked on many farms in Ireland. I have a wide experience

working with machinery and operating large machines. I also have experience working on a weighbridge for the harvest, testing and observing the grain quality.

Final Year Project

My project consists of the financial aspects and strain on farms occurring while having mastitis in the herd. Taken milk records from two different types of herds in which one has high

inputs to reduce mastitis such as liming, milk recording and the use of antibiotics.

Future Ambitions

In the future I want to obtain and improve my knowledge in agriculture. I would like a job in the agricultural industry whilst part time farming at home and improving the efficiency on the farm.



Jack Moriarty (Limerick)

087 347 2201 
jackmoriarty292@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Jack Moriarty I am 22 years old. I come from Anglesboro Co. Limerick. We farm a pedigree and commercial suckler herd alongside finishing cattle. I have always had a keen interest in farming and have a passion for Agriculture.

Work Experience

I have worked on our family farm, alongside milking cows for neighboring dairy farms. For the past 6 years I have been working for a local Agri contractor and gained valuable experience. I traveled to New Zealand through the college for my work placement working with a 1200 cow herd where I learned new farm practices and animals hus-

bandry. In recent times I have worked with Ballybrien Installations, through them I got to work with companies such as, Lely, Censortec and Alfco.

Final Year Project

This project compares the effects of different dairy breeds to their milk yields under different factors such as grass land management, breeding programs and level of ration concentrates fed to

cows. As well as comparing high and low input herds determining which is more profitable and sustainable.


Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to work within the Agriculture industry alongside expanding and improving our farm at home. I hope the experience I gain within the agricultural sector will allow me to do this.



Oisín Mulqueen

(Limerick)

087 600 6417 
 Oisínmulqueen123@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

21 years of age hailing from a small town called Bruff in south Limerick, I have huge interest in GAA especially hurling with the local club and following Limerick hurling religiously, I grew up on my grandparents small dairy farm

which was run by my late grandfather and now uncle.

Work Experience

Decided completing my work placement in New Zealand on a 1300 cow dairy farm for 5 months last year, I work weekends in the local pub serving food and behind the bar. For the last 4 summers I have completed the busy silage season with a bailing contractor in Bruff as

well as doing relief milking locally and working on a 350 cow dairy farm in the neighbouring parish. Since starting college in Waterford I work evenings and weekends with an agricultural contractor and farmer in Piltown.

Final Year Project

Our project analyses and compares the differences in milk quality production, between high EBI cross bred herds and low

EBI herds using 4 different herds, analysing the differences in management and how different cows perform.

Future Ambitions

I hope to progress into the 4th year in this course and hopefully begin work in the agricultural industry, in time I would love to establish a partnership with my uncle on the family dairy farm.



Niamh O'Brien

(Tipperary)

087 686 2287 
 niamhob321@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am 21 years old who is currently studying Agriculture in the South East Technological University Waterford. I grew up on a Dairy farm outside Nenagh Co. Tipperary. I

am a hard-working dedicated and work very well with others. I'm very good at using my own initiative.

Work Experience

I have always worked on our farm at home. We currently have 170 cows we keep all our replacement heifers and sell our bull calves after 4 weeks. I also do relief milking

for a number of farmers. In 2024 I travelled to New Zealand as part of placement, I worked on a dairy farm with a 1600 cow herd. This dairy farm calved four times a year, so I experienced their calving and their AI programme.

Final Year Project

Comparing EBI'S between a herd of cross-bred cows with a Hol-

stein Friesian herd and evaluating the difference between solids and quantity of milk produced and see if management has a role to play or is it all got to do with their EBI.

Future Ambitions

I am hoping to get a job in the agriculture sector and am willing to work hard to realise this particular ambition.



Liam O'Dwyer

(Limerick)

087 356 9146 
 odwyerliam03@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I have always had an interest in all aspects of the agricultural sector having grown up on a dairy farm in County Limerick. I am a hard working, reliable and motivated person. I work well as part of a team and on my own. I also have great

communication skills from working with others.

Work Experience

I carried out my work experience on a dairy farm in Cashel, Co. Tipperary. I gained plenty of experience from this and learned a lot of new things, that I can now implement on the home farm. I gained great experience as working as part of a team and work-

ing on my own initiative. My knowledge of cow health and grassland management were greatly improved. I work mainly on the home farm but I also work with neighbouring farms in my free time.

Final Year Project

For my research project I have decided to do it on the comparison of milk yield, fertility and health between high EBI

cows and low EBI cows. In this project I aim to investigate whether improving EBI will be beneficial for dairy farmers and if so, how can this be done.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are to work in the agricultural industry after college with my main interest in the dairy sector along with all other livestock sectors.



Daragh O Reilly

(Meath)

083 823 3743 
doreillyabcd@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am an enthusiastic, energetic person who takes pride in their work. I am highly motivated and work well in teams and also individually. I am hard working with a

drive to succeed. I have a strong interest across all agricultural sectors.

Work Experience

As part of my 2nd year placement I went to Missouri in America as part of the Ohio state programme. I was working on a 1100 cow dairy farm. During my farm placement I gained a great insight into the

global agricultural sector. I have worked for local dairy farmers milking cows, grassland management and animal breeding. I also have worked on my family run farm my entire life.

Final Year Project

The aim of this research project is to identify the differences between a

high intensive dairy system compared to a low input dairy system. This project will compare production, fertility and overall profitability.

Future Ambitions

Upon completion of my degree, I hope to broaden my skill set and I hope to gain practical experience of the agricultural sector.



Conor Quinlan

(Tipperary)

087 349 9608 
conorquinlan6140@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Conor Quinlan and I'm from Cloughjordan which is outside Nenagh in North Tipperary. I am from dairy farming background which I am very interested in. I am 23 years old and I joined the Agricultural course

in SETU after transferring from gurteen college in September 2023.

Work Experience

Aside from being at home working, I work with a father and son who run different agricultural enterprises. Martin is a beef and tillage farmer which consists of finishing between 700-800 continental cattle annually and harvesting over 400 acres of crops consisting of winter and

spring barley, he also runs an agricultural contracting business with the main enterprise is harvesting pit silage between 2500-3000 acres, His son Tommy milks 220 cows and I also give a lot of time working with him.

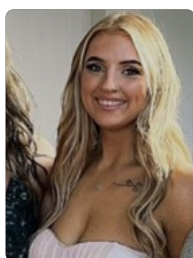
Final Year Project

We want to compare the inputs into high yields cows that are getting high levels of feed and the costs of producing

big liters and the inputs that are put into lower yielding herds and see which is best in terms of making money.

Future Ambitions

I hope to go abroad after completing my level 8 and also have the hopes of doing another bit of expansion at home, we're currently milking 200 cows and hope to do a new parlour and increase herd size.



Lisa Redmond

(Wicklow)

085 151 3222 
lisaredmond2003@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I am a motivated, ambitious, hard working individual who works well as part of a team or on my own initiative. Being around animals from a young age sparked an extreme interest in farming especially dairy farming.

Work Experience

I have a great variety of experience in the agricultural sector. I have milked cows on various farms and continue to do so while working on a dairy farm when not in college with great experience in calf rearing and machinery work including slurry spreading, fertiliser, baling, mowing and drawing etc. and continue to gain more

experience everyday. Also doing work experience on other dairy farms throughout college years giving a wider variety of how different farmers carry out tasks.

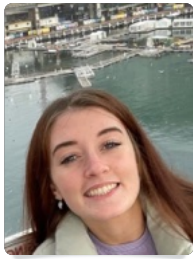
Final Year Project

To investigate the effects that soil pH has on the application on ground limestone and the level of microbial activity such as the presence

of earthworms, bacteria and fungi in the soil, and how these affect the level of Phosphorus losses from the soil.

Future Ambitions

I aspire to continue working in the agriculture sector after completion of the level 8 through either farming full time with options of partnership etc. or through agricultural advisory etc.



Ellen Russell Clarke (Tipperary)

eccabraghcastle@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am 22 years old from a sheep and beef farm in Co. Tipperary, with knowledge in the dairy sector. I am passionate about the agricultural industry and its future. I

am a hardworking and determined individual, who never shy's away from the job.

Work Experience

For my work experience I worked on a sheep farm with 600 sheep in Tipperary. This work came naturally to me having come from a sheep based background. I learned to work independently and to use my

own initiative when necessary. I also have years experience from working on the farm at home. This knowledge from the farm at home helped me immensely.

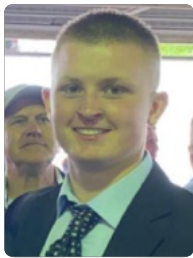
Final Year Project

We are looking into the financial aspect of mastitis in a dairy herd. Mastitis is a significant issue for dairy farmers, both

in terms of animal welfare and financial impact. The total cost of mastitis can vary widely.

Future Ambitions

I hope to further my knowledge within the agricultural industry by working with a company where my qualification will be beneficial whilst having the opportunity to personally progress.



Liam Shine (Tipperary)

087 449 5921 ☎
liamshine04@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

My name is Liam Shine, I am 22 years old from Cahir Co Tipperary. My hobbies include playing Rugby for Cashel rfc and represent them in the AIL and also play GAA. After school I took a gap year and played rugby

for Scone rugby club in Australia and got the opportunity to travel the East Coast.

Work Experience

Growing up on a Tillage farm in South Tipperary from a young age I was always involved in operating machinery. On our Farm at home we have also developed an animal feed business in which we mill the grain

grown on farm for local livestock farmers. On work Experience I got to work on a large scale cereal and potato grower and packaging unit in Kanturk. On placement I got a great education in growing crops and I got experience working in a large enterprise and with different machinery.

Final Year Project

Comparing the contrasting sowing methods used

in Ireland by analysing the pros and cons of each method. The project will be aimed at a sustainable future approach for the longevity of Irish crop production.

Future Ambitions

My ambitions are to work alongside my brother in the family farming business at home and hope for expansion in the future.



Adam Shirley (Laois)

087 453 0942 ☎
adam.g.shirley@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I live in Ballacolla Co. Laois, I work on my home farm with my family. I play rugby for Cashel RFC. I have one sister and two younger brothers, and two dogs.

I also play table tennis whenever I get a chance.

Work Experience

I work on my home farm, I also work with my uncle contracting and driving tractors over the summer months and some days during the year. I also milked cows in Mulinahone for my college work experience. I also done two weeks of work experience with

CMD Construction back in transition year which I really enjoyed.

Final Year Project

The summary of the project to see if there is an connection between using ICBF, Heardwatch, ag food etc., to manage and figure out the ratings of all the animals that are produced on farms. I have a good interest in

this project as it is interesting to see how well the animals on the farm are rated.

Future Ambitions

I hope to get through college and get a job along side working on my home farm. I hope to get a job along the lines of agriculture and work with my dad on the home farm also.



Isabelle Varley (Kilkenny)

089 488 2855 
Isabellevarley15@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I would like to think of myself as a very hard working, ambitious person. I did not grow up on a farm but grew a love for the life over the years being surrounded by animals. I'm very keen to learn and expand my knowledge within

agriculture. I love working amongst others along with individual tasks.

Work Experience

I am currently working on a Lely robot farm in Danesfort co.Kilkenny. The farm has two robots milking about 130 cows. Tasks I carry out regularly on the farm include grass measuring, grass allocation, fencing etc. I get a large amount of experience getting to work with many farm-

ers through relief milking around my local area through the FRS, getting to learn how each farmer does things differently. I have milked herd sizes from 100 cows to 560, whilst on placement in a farm in county Tipperary.

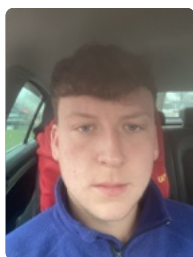
Final Year Project

In this project, specific areas are investigated including how the BCS of a cow affects her fertility, her milk yield, her health at calving and her dry

off period. The importance of observing and maintaining a good BCS throughout the year may improve overall herd performance significantly.

Future Ambitions

Once I complete this course, I hope to achieve opportunities to continue expanding my knowledge of animal health and the breeding of cows whilst also gaining great experience hands on in the field.



Conor Wall (Laois)

086 369 3143 
Conorcowall@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I grow up on a small suckler beef farm in county Laois where I gained most of my agricultural knowledge farming along side my father buying and selling cattle and dealing with other

farmers, managing grazing platforms and carrying out general cattle husbandry.

Work Experience

Being from a small suckler beef farm where I picked up most of my knowledge from helped me get a good understanding of the world of agriculture. I also have a lot of experience working

for dairy farmers carrying out vaccination and dosing programmes and general cattle husbandry. I also have a diy ai license with over a years experience.

Final Year Project

We investigated the major factors that affect suckler calves at slaughter in the kildalton herd looking at the difference between dam and sire

breeds and how that affects the offspring's carcass weights at finish or the offspring conformation or fat score.

Future Ambitions

In the next few years I'd like to see myself being a key role in the development of the world of agriculture researching and analysing data to promote modernisation in the sector.



Conor Walton (Kilkenny)

083 831 3060 
Conor1250@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I'm from Graigue ballycallan in county Kilkenny and I am 20 years of age. Play hurling with Graigue ballycallan and went to st.Kieran's college secondary school. Currently milking cows at home on a family run farm.

Work Experience

During transition year done work experience on different dairy farms in my area. Work on the dairy farm at home mostly while also doing relief milking for other farmers around. Also work with a contractor during the silage season. Managed a few farms for a month while the farmers were gone on long distant holidays so have

reasonable experience in the day to day running of a farm regarding grass measuring, milking, identifying mastitis cows and cows with health issues. Have an ai course completed.

Final Year Project

To analyse cows body condition score on how it effects yield, fertility, calving and drying cows off. I will be looking at body condition score at

calving time and how it can affect the cows and calves.

Future Ambitions

Expand herd at home and take on another farm to allow me and brother have our own herds. Travel to New Zealand and Australia. Get an advisory job for a few years until I'm ready to go milking.



Thomas Walton (Tipperary)

083 855 0245 📞

thomaswalton332@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

My name is Thomas Walton and I am from Ballingarry in co. Tipperary, I am 21 and come from a 230 cow dairy herd farm. We sell all of our calves besides replacement heifers. I've

played gas all of my life with the hurling club Ballingarry. I went to school in presentation school Ballingarry.

Work Experience

I've spent most of my life working at home on our home dairy farm. I spent 12 weeks work placement on a 160 cow dairy herd in co. Kilkenny. I've down ty work placement on an oil packing

and distributing business. I have also worked for numerous other farmers milking cows as well as driving tractors for contractors.

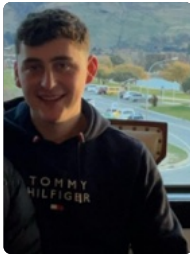
Final Year Project

To analyse the effects of body condition scores and how it affects the animals ability to go in calf on their first serve to save the farmer money

by not needing to inseminate the animal a second time and prevent the cow from having to be culled due to not being in calf.

Future Ambitions

Once I finish college I plan on going contract working in New Zealand. Once I return from this I will be taking control of our family farm at home.



Micheal Whyte (Offaly)

087 439 6749 📞

Michealwhyte09@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

I'm 20 years old, I'm from a small village in Barna county Offaly, I play hurling with Moneygall. We are currently running a dairy calf to beef system at home with hope to enter the dairy sector in the next few years.

Work Experience

I've spent many years working with dairy and beef farmers while also helping out on the home farm in my spare time, I'm currently milking a 240 cow herd while also working for an agricultural contractor who specialises in slurry spreading, baling, bale chassing and reseeding. I was lucky enough to carry out my college Place-

ment in New Zealand, I was based in Ashburton in South Island working on a 1400 cow herd. I gained great knowledge in the dairy sector while also getting to travel the country.

Final Year Project

For my final year project I investigated the importance of cows having the correct body condition score through the dry off period, I focused on the

impacts it can have if cows are not in the correct order and how it can add to extra costs to the farmer.

Future Ambitions

The dream would be to have my own dairy farm, while the chances of this are low, I hope to get a job in the agricultural sector while running a beef enterprise on the side.

Departmental Awards – Agriculture / Agricultural Science

Kelley Lyons of AIB presenting Katie Fallon with her AIB Land Management (Ag) Final Year Project award.



Jack Cody and Nadine Byrne, receiving their 3rd year BSc in Agriculture poster award from Chris McGrath of Comeragh Veterinary.



ITLUS (Irish Tillage and Land Use Society) award for best final year project in the tillage area, being presented to winner Matt Rossiter by Denis Dunne of Seedtech.



Four in a row for SETU! The SETU debating team who won the Great Agri Food Debate 2024. Pictured from left to right are Niall Browne, chief executive of Dawn Meats, Brittany Davis, Edward Hatton, Ellen Doherty (team captain), Alisha Flynn, Ellen Feery, Saoirse Cassidy, John Murray, director of meat, food and beverages at Bord Bia, and John Byrne, Franchisee at McDonald's.

BSc (Hons) in Land Management (in Agriculture)

The **BSc (Hons) in Land Management** is a one year add on course that prepares students for a professional career or postgraduate education in Agriculture. The course aims to increase the students' knowledge of their respective discipline while also improving the students' business acumen. For more information about this course, please contact Dr Nick McCarthy at Nick.McCarthy@setu.ie.

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Thomas Atkinson (Carlow)

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Personal Profile

22 year old land management in agriculture student after completing my level 7 degree in agriculture. I've a strong interest in the agri-sector. Other interests include playing rugby for Carlow rugby club and attending agri/car shows. I would consider myself to be

hard working and keen to learn.

Work Experience

Part time beef farm at home, which I have helped out on since I was young. Experience helping out on uncle's intensive dairy farm. I have worked part time for Tirlán Graiguecullen for 6 years. Duties here include: working in shop, loading customers with goods in store, storing grain, loading artics with grain during busy

harvest environment with loading shovel. 16 weeks work placement on 5000 cow dairy farm in North Canterbury, New Zealand. Duties included milking and tractor driving.

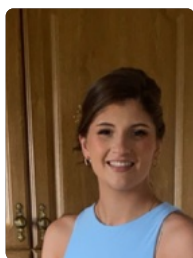
Final Year Project

The purpose of my project is to compare amino acid profiles of soybean and rapeseed meal samples, determining protein quality. The study will determine whether the difference in

quality between the two protein sources justifies importing soybean meal from untraceable South American farms.

Future Ambitions

In the future I intend on working in the agricultural industry, expanding my knowledge and experiences. I have a particular interest in animal nutrition, but am willing to take on new opportunities.



Nadine Byrne (Wicklow)

087 092 0543
nadinebyrne2002@icloud.com

Personal Profile

I am 23 years old, from county Wicklow. I have a great passion for agriculture and I'm looking forward to perusing it in the near future. I am hard working, ambitious and diligent. I am self

motivated and also enjoy working as part of a team.

Work Experience

I have a wide range of skills from working in various sectors in agriculture. I completed work experience on a large scale tillage enterprise where I developed skills with machinery and crop husbandry. I have previously worked on a potato

farm, as well as this I milk for numerous farmers in my locality. I have also worked part time in Gardiner Grain where I gained knowledge on animal feed and nutrition.

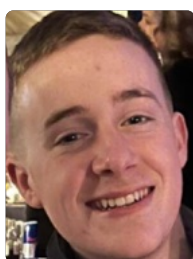
Final Year Project

This project was conducted with Seedtech on their trials ground in Co. Waterford. A visual analysis was done on 100 tussocks of wheat in

early breeding, including the severity of septoria, brown rust, yellow rust and mildew diseases.

Future Ambitions

I would like to broaden my experience in the agriculture industry both in Ireland and abroad. I would like to see myself pursue in a career doing crop advisory or agronomy.



Adam Connick O Neill (Wexford)

085 228 3887
acon1253@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am 24 years old and come from a mixed farm of sheep and double suckling from outside New Ross, Co. Wexford, which I am heavily involved on. I have a keen interest in livestock breeding and rearing which has lead me to study Land Management

as to hopefully secure a job in the agricultural sector.

Work Experience

I have extensive experience in the agricultural sector at farm level. My family operates a sheep shearing contracting firm which I have been involved with for several years. I have worked and helped manage several sheep and dairy farms both full time and part time. I have experience with dealing with the

public from working in Carnew Mart and in my family's pub. I feel that these experiences have led me to have an experienced view of most agricultural sectors and the challenges facing them.

Final Year Project

This project looks at the effect that winter shearing can have on both ewe and lamb performance. This is done by looking at ewe condition, behaviour lamb birth weight and liveweight

gain and time to slaughter. The project also looks at the effect of different sires and birth rate as factors.

Future Ambitions

I hope to use my knowledge to work in an advisory role or as an inspector in the agricultural sector whilst still gaining new knowledge and experiences to further improve the home farm and my employer.



Teresa Grady

(Laois)

085 761 8043 
 teresagrady2002@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a hard working, confident and enthusiastic person. I always look forward to taking on new challenges and opportunities. Growing up on a beef and tillage farm has given me great knowledge and practical

experience in the agriculture sector. I have a great interest in the dairy and tillage sector.

Work Experience

I spent 16 weeks on work placement on an 850 cow dairy farm in the Canterbury region in New Zealand. From this experience I learned about the different aspects of dairy farming in New Zealand, such

as the irrigation systems and larger herd numbers but also the similarities to Irish dairy farms. I am currently relief milking for various different dairy farmers in my locality.

Final Year Project

This project aims to investigate the difference between feeding a total mixed ration and straight silage to finishing cattle. Throughout

the study weight gain, animal health, and costs involved in both methods will all be recorded and compared.

Future Ambitions

I hope to continue to broaden my knowledge in agricultural related areas and gain a greater understanding of new challenges facing the Irish agricultural sector.



Michael Hally

(Ireland)

087 337 3786 
 mikehally1146@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Mike Hally, I am completing my degree in land management. I have previously completed my degree in agriculture. I am hard-working a good problem solver. I have a lot of experience working in

team environments as I play a lot of GAA and have worked in professional environments with a team.

Work Experience

In recent years I have spent time working with a local agricultural contractor, I also have extensive experience working in a dairy farm setting at home, in addition to this I have also spent time

working with a vet. For my college placement I completed 12 weeks on an intensive dairy farm in west Waterford in which I gained a lot of valuable experience from as it varied from systems on our home farm.

Final Year Project

In this project I am looking at the effects that different paddock closing dates will have on

the following spring time grass covers. In the project I am also looking at the effect that poaching in late season will have on springtime grass covers.

Future Ambitions

In the future I would like to further my career in the agricultural sector as I feel it is an area that has huge future potential.



Gavin Hayes

(Waterford)

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 gavinhayes08@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a 21 year old student in SETU Waterford currently in my final year, and am living not far from Carrick on Suir. Ever since I was young I've had a great love for farming and all things

agriculture. We are milking 230 cows at home through a robotic system and have a split calving herd.

Work Experience

In the summer I work for a local contractor, mainly hauling silage but also have a experience with a broad range of machinery operation. I did collage placement on a dairy farm that was

milking 150 cows in a spring calving herd. Whenever I'm not in collage I'm pretty much flat out on the farm at home as well.

Final Year Project

My project compares similar herds that are milked through both robotic milking system's and conventional parlors. It touches on multiple different topics but will

focus on somatic cell count differences and colostrum quality.

Future Ambitions

I hope to go on and complete my level 8 degree in land Management in SETU Waterford. I hope to one day take over the farm at home and further expand and improve efficiency and performance of the farm.



Sarah Jeffares

(Carlow)

085 182 6058 
 sjeffares2001@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I am 23 years of age and come from Bagenalstown Co. Carlow. I grew up on a tillage and suckler farm. I am extremely passionate about the agricultural sector especially the tillage and beef enter-

prises. I am a hardworking and efficient person with excellent communication and problem solving skills.

Work Experience

I have worked on my home farm all my life alongside my father. On the home farm I would be involved in calving and feeding management along with cultivation and harvesting. For my

farm placement I was placed on a dairy farm in Tullow Co. Carlow where I was responsible for milking, calf rearing and grassland management.

Final Year Project

The main aim of this study is to show the impact of earthworms on organic matter and how it can significantly benefit the soil. For this study

straw is used as the organic matter and over three months we will see how the earthworms can break it down and turn it into valuable nutrients.

Future Ambitions

After I qualify my aim is to either become an Agricultural Advisor or a lecturer in an Agricultural College.



Jack Kearney

(Cork)

087 432 4845 
 Jackkearney1999@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Jack Kearney and I come from a dairy farm in north cork. We are a spring calving herd of 75 cows. I have

always had a great interest in farming and can see myself working in the sector in the future.

Work Experience

Most of my work experience has come from working on the home farm from a young age. From this I know my way around stock and machinery. In second

year of college I went on placement at O'Shea farms in Piltown. Here I gained great experience on what it was like being involved in a large scale dairy farm.

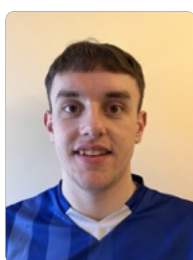
Final Year Project

In my project I am looking at colostrum quality in dairy cows. I am investigating the quality

amongst different breeds and if somatic cell count or previous cases of mastitis affect the quality of the colostrum.

Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to get a job in the agricultural sector that will also allow me to milk cows at home.



Jamie Kelly

(Laois)

085 213 1521 
 jkelly2624@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Hi, my name is Jamie Kelly and I am 22 from Co. Laois. I come from a small suckler farm in a village called The Swan. I have an keen interest in both the growing concerns around agriculture and how it is going to grow to combat these concerns. I also have

a very strong interest in GAA.

Work Experience

My first type of work experience I ever got, and one which I feel is very important is that of working on the home farm. Following on from this, as part of my transition year work experience I completed ten Mondays in Teagasc Oak Park working alongside various advisors. Three out of these Mondays I completed

in Moorepark alongside George Ramsbottom I also completed three months on a 800 cow dairy farm in Cheviot, New Zealand as part of my agricultural placement which was very educational.

Final Year Project

The purpose of this research journal is to study the importance, if any, that agroforestry has with regards to soil health and fertility. It is important to research this area as

agroforestry has many different benefits to offer. Looking at the effect of grazing a forest will be my main data.

Future Ambitions

Looking ahead to the future, I hope to be running the home farm and modernising it. I also hope to be working in an environment that is focusing on making Irish farming sustainable and profitable.



Harry Leech
(Wexford)

087 622 1313 ☎
harryleech2102@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I'm 23 years old, I was born and raised in the heart of tillage country in the south east. I love the work we do at home and love that there's always something new to learn or do. College has given me a real appreciation

for the science behind every day practices we carry out.

Work Experience

I've worked at home on the tillage side of our farm from a young age carrying out all manners of field work. We also conduct a small amount of agri trading at home where I would be involved in the running of the grain yard. I do some

truck driving for local hauliers mainly on week-ends or when I'm not in collage. I've worked on a range of veg, dairy, suckler and tillage farms over the years to.

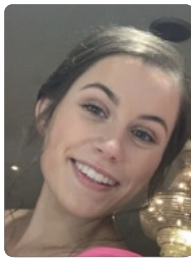
Final Year Project

My project looks at the effect seeding rate has on oilseed and beans. I tried to tease out the extent lower seeding rates cause plants to compensate

with increased branching and pods and if they can produce yield comparable to the current advised seeding rates.

Future Ambitions

I would like to complete my iasis qualification and do a few years working in agronomy. Eventually I'd like to end up at home and diversify our operations into new ventures.



Michelle Mc Donald
(Wicklow)

087 677 3785 ☎
Michellemcdonald15@icloud.com ✉

Personal Profile

Growing up on a mixed farm in Co. Wicklow, I have always loved working with animals. This has instilled in me a strong work ethic, attention to detail, willingness to learn and to not shy away from new jobs from a young age. I am very passionate about the

agricultural industry and its future.

Work Experience

I completed my work experience on a large scale sheep farm in Co. Kilkenny where I developed and improved on my lambing and grassland management skills. I also do seasonal lambing for Sheep Ireland and farmers in my locality. I have vast experience with soil sampling and map reading having worked with Tirlgas for

the ACRES programme. I also work part-time in Quinn's on the sales counter, this has given me invaluable knowledge with regards to animal health and dosing products.

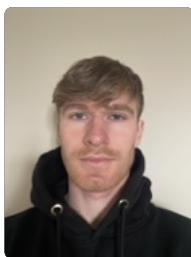
Final Year Project

This project is an investigation into whether multi species swards have the ability to improve nutrient acquisition of phosphorus due to the inclusion of plant varieties having a better

rooting morphology, in comparison to perennial grass. Herbage dry matter yields and root mass are also analysed.

Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to broaden my knowledge in the agricultural industry by working with a company where my qualifications will be beneficial whilst having the opportunity to personally progress.



Darragh Murray
(Tipperary)

085 781 3951 ☎
darragh_murray02@icloud.com ✉

Personal Profile

Hi, my name is Darragh Murray from Templederry in county Tipperary, I come from a dairy farm of 160 cows in a spring calving system, farming has always been a huge passion of mine from a young age along with

hurling and soccer. Looking at genetics and breeding would be my favorite job on the farm.

Work Experience

I worked on a larger scale dairy farm of 320 cows for placement 20 minutes from where I live, I learned how a bigger operation manages day to day jobs and learned many tricks and skills that I have incorpo-

rated into our own farm, I also worked for FRS for 4 years, mainly doing relief milkings and working with dairy farmers a few days a week.

Final Year Project

I want to see the differences in growth rates the difference in tones of dry matter between the 2 systems with and without chemical fertilizer and also to study the control

and germination of docks in both systems to see if they can be controlled any differently.

Future Ambitions

I would like to increase the efficiency of our current herd and try lower the costs on the farm by incorporating more clover in the milking platform and by improving the genetics within the herd.



Daniel Neale
(Kilkenny)

087 383 3223 
danielneale03@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a 22 year old hard-working and dedicated person. I grew up on a family run sheep and tillage farm based in North Kilkenny. I have a keen interest in the agriculture sector and sport.

I am currently completing my degree in Land Management.

Work Experience

I have grown up working on our home sheep and tillage farm. We also run a small contracting business which I have been involved in since I obtained my licence. For my college placement in 2023 I went to New Zealand and worked

on a 1200 cow dairy farm operating an 80 unit rotary milking parlour. Since 2021 I have worked on a local dairy and beef farm during off time from college.

Final Year Project

My thesis investigates the nutritional value of a variety of Irelands most commonly sown cover crops in terms of grazing livestock over winter

months. It also investigates the impacts these cover crops will have on soil health with regards to sustainability of Irish Agriculture.

Future Ambitions

In the future I aim to further develop my knowledge of the agriculture sector and gain experience from working in different aspects of agriculture and industry.



Padraig Nolan
(Kilkenny)

085 761 5596 
12pnolan@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am 25 years old and come from a small beef farm, located just outside of Kilkenny city. I've always had a strong interest in all things agriculture and GAA. I've previously completed the advanced dairy herd

management course in Kildalton college, which led me to the land management course in SETU.

Work Experience

I have a wide range of experience working on different dairy and beef farms from a young age. I completed my work placement on a progressive dairy farm that placed a lot of emphasis on sustainability. I've

also experience working in Mullinahone co-op where I enjoyed working in a busy environment. while I'm in college I've continued to work with the FRS relief milking as much as possible.

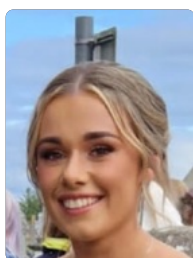
Final Year Project

The overall aim of my project was to examine what factors aided the successful rearing of a dairy beef calf. I ex-


amined a number of factors from labor efficiency, cost of rearing a calf to vaccination programs and feeding routines.

Future Ambitions

I hope to achieve a job that will allow me to continue developing my knowledge and skills within the agricultural sector along with focusing on improving sustainability in Irish farming.



Anna O Dea
(Limerick)

087 341 2595 
Annaodea1234@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a hard working, ambitious and highly motivated individual with a great passion for the agriculture industry. I have a vast knowledge of the industry, predominantly in the Dairy and Beef sector. I am eager to learn

and willing to complete any task given to me to the best of my ability.

Work Experience

Working on the home farm from a early age. My work experience is vast and varied. I completed my work placement on a progressive dairy farm where I gained a wide range of experiences working on my own and as part of

a team. Currently I am working for a local contractor driving machinery and also for various farmers in the locality milking cows, rearing calves, feeding cattle ect.

Final Year Project

For my final year project I am comparing the difference between Organic and Non Organic farming. For this project I will be focusing on two

beef suckling herds, comparing the Soil health, Animal health, management and performance of the two farms.

Future Ambitions

I am eager to gain more experience across all sectors over the coming years that is both challenging and rewarding with opportunities to grow and develop in the agriculture industry.



Harry O'Neill

(Kildare)

087 446 7812 ☎
Harryon52@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I'm a hard worker, respectful and eager to learn. I have worked in agriculture in stud farms and racing stables. I would say I have leader

characteristics and desire to get the best out of myself. I'm competitive and like a challenge.

Work Experience

I have worked in Tirlan for a year it is my current job. I am an ex amateur jockey having ridden out since I was 13. I have worked in stud farms and in sales rings. I have also

worked with cattle and I completed a summer working on a dairy farm where I gained valuable experience in that particular sector.

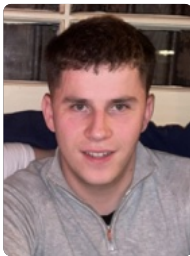
Final Year Project

In this project, we are investigating slurry and farm yard manure, and looking to control and test the soil and grass

characteristics between their applications and examine how they differ from each other.

Future Ambitions

I want a job that I'm interested in and from there I want to challenge myself to climb the ladder in work and do as best for the company as possible.



Daire O'Connell

(Tipperary)

087 333 8868 ☎
doconnell2002@icloud.com ✉

Personal Profile

I'm 22 years old and we are dairy farming at home in south Tipperary. I am very passionate about farming and what we can do at home to improve things and make

things more efficient. In the near future I would like to work in the dairy industry.

Work Experience

In second year I carried out my placement on a large scale dairy farm in south Tipperary. I gained vast experience on calving cows, calf rearing and also the management of dairy cows. I

also worked part time for 2 years in the Tirlan branch in Fethard Co. Tipperary where I gained extensive knowledge.

Final Year Project

In my project I am looking at the effect of selective dry cow therapy vs blanket dry cow therapy on udder health. I hope to find out the best practices that can be used to

successfully carry out to selective dry cow therapy to cut down on the use of antibiotics at drying off.

Future Ambitions

In the future I hope to get a job in the dairy sector where I can further my knowledge of farming and also enhance the productivity on the farm at home.



Sean Raftry

(Carlow)

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seanraftry2002@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

My name is Sean Raftry, I am 22 years old currently in my final year of agriculture SETU Waterford. I am from Leighlinbridge, Carlow. Growing up I always had a huge interest in agriculture with a willingness to learn and develop my

knowledge of the industry.

Work Experience

Experience in all agriculture sectors from tillage, beef and dairy. At the age of 16 I started milking cows through the FRS, I continued to work milking cows as I progressed through college. During the summer of 2022 I worked in Oak park for 16 weeks helping with a beans and

peas trial. Then in January 2023 I travelled to New Zealand for my college placement. In the summer of 2024 I then went to Lincolnshire in the UK to work during the harvest on a large scale tillage farm.

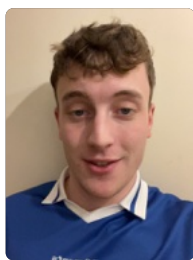
Final Year Project

The main objective of my project is to find a cost effective and sustainable method to removing Nitrate and Phosphate from water. The study will

be carried out in a lab to examine the absorption capacity of the straw and sawdust to retain different concentration of N and P over a 1 and 2 week period.

Future Ambitions

As I finish college this year I hope to obtain a job where I can develop my knowledge while also putting my skills to use in a job that I can be passionate about carry out.



Mark Ramsbottom (Laois)

087 189 7719 
Markramshot@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a hard working reliable person who takes pride in my work and have the ability to complete tasks both alone and as part of a team. I enjoy working within the agricultural sector especially completing jobs where I can see progress being made.

Work Experience

I worked for my local silage contractor once I got my provisional license here I gained experience on a wide variety of machinery including both grass and slurry equipment as well as working with livestock. Moved to a plant hire company to further expand my experienced areas into plant machinery and the mechanisation. Completed on farm

placement in second year on a suckler farm where I got a deeper understanding of suckler herd management. Also completed work with vegetable grower in Waterford.

fed a high protein but which were compared to another batch which received rolled barley. Both batches got the same grass silage.

Final Year Project

To get an insight into the benefits of feeding concentrates to young beef cattle to see how much of a difference is seen in live weight gains, some cattle were

Future Ambitions

I'd plan on travelling to Australia, New Zealand and possibly America to work in the agricultural and plant sectors before coming home to settle into a job while part time farming at home.



Keithlyn Tierney (Carlow)

085 108 0120 
kaitlyntierney02@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I come from a quiet area on the Carlow/Wicklow border. I am the youngest child from a big family. I grew up helping my father on the farm which peaked my interest in the farming sector. I grew up

participating in my local GAA club and helping out.

Work Experience

I am currently working part time as an Agri Sales Assistant in Quinn's of Baltinglass. I have been with Quinn's since June 2024. Previous to my job in Quinn's, I also completed a period of crop walking with Tirlán for their Gluten Free

Oats project. I have also completed my work placement for college on a Beef and Sheep farm in Castledermot for a 12 week period.

Final Year Project

I have carried out a literature review on the different qualities of meat along with farm practices and the effects on meat quality. I am currently


carrying out experiments in the labs on two samples of meat from each group to compare. I am also conducting interviews with farmers.

Future Ambitions

I hope to progress into the beef sector and the tillage sector as these two areas peak my interest.



Edmond Walsh (Waterford)

087 916 3589 
edmondwalsh99@hotmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am 25 years old and would describe myself as a hardworking and motivated person. I work well as an individual and as part of a team. I grew up on a beef farm in Co.

Waterford where I gained my passion for Agriculture.

Work Experience

I worked on a progressive dairy farm as part of my placement from Kildalton College where I carried out the diary herd management course. I then worked as a milking machine technician for two years before returning to college to further

my education by doing out this course. During this course, I work part time on a local diary farm to further my experience in Agriculture.

Final Year Project

As part of my final year project, I am investigating the role of Brassica forage crops in permanent grassland systems as an outwintering crop

for livestock and a break crop in grassland rejuvenation by looking at animal performance and soil health indicators.

Future Ambitions

My goal is to work in the Agricultural Industry and to continue to learn on the job, while also running a successful farming enterprise at home on the family farm.

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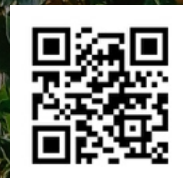
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For more information about this course, please contact Tom Kent at Tom.Kent@setu.ie.

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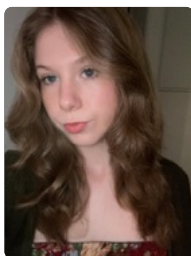
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Jessica Butfoy

(Waterford)

083 842 2478 ☎

jessiebutfoy4@icloud.com ✉

work in it, seeing and learning new things.

Work Experience

I carried out my College work experience with Teagasc in the Advisory sector, from January 10th to May 10th, 2024, Mullinivat Office, Co, Kilkenny. My role was to act as a Support Advisor. I was surprised to see how much I learned about forestry from an agricultural perspective. I adored the social as-

pect of meeting clients who were looking for advice and to be able to help whilst also being trusted. I developed my knowledge on legal Documentation and Software development CRM systems.

Final Year Project

Our final year project is carried out on The Lismore Estate, Co, Waterford over a 5 year plan. This project is done at an industry standard. Field-

trips over time have allowed us to gather extensive data on our inventory of the area and stand mapping, which have allowed us to build a GIS database.

Future Ambitions

I hope to complete an (Hons) in Land management, Forestry to broaden my knowledge. I hope to work in the forest, whether that be physically or alongside clients, giving advice.



Bram Bakema

089 602 5791 
bramb23@hotmail.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Bram Bakema, and I've lived in Ireland for over six years, working in IT and hospitality across Waterford, Cork, Dublin,

and Kildare. In 2022, I decided to pursue my passion for forestry and have been studying the SETU Forestry degree ever since.

Work Experience

I completed a 3-month work placement under Dr. Dheeraj Rathore at Oak Park, Carlow, assisting in research on devel-

oping ash tree genetic resources. My tasks included lab support, working in polytunnels, and fieldwork. The project focused on identifying ash trees resistant to ash dieback, assisting with building a gene bank, vegetative control for the following projects 'ExAl Project' 'AshforFuture'.

Final Year Project

Forest Management Plan for Ballysaggertbeghill and Deerpark 2025-2029

Future Ambitions

I would be open to any type of forestry employment but my interest is in research which aligns with what I did for my placement with Teagasc.



Rebecca Conway

(Waterford)

085 151 1373 

Personal Profile

My passion for forestry has stemmed from being a keen outdoors person that enjoys being challenged. I have a countryside background currently owning horses and working on farms since being a teenager. I have a particular interest in

the relationship between the forestry and agricultural sectors.

Work Experience

I have been a forestry worker for Lismore Castle Forestry, since 2023. The role entails a large variety of duties including planting, spraying, log felling, timber processing, marking, stand measurement, inventory taking, harvest plans, reforestation applications,

license applications, road applications, use of PDF editors and use of ArcGIS Pro. I have been fortunate to be able to experience and participate in a wide spectrum of the estates forest work from the ground up.

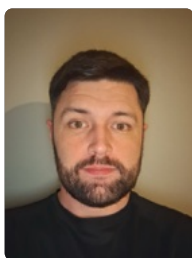
Final Year Project

5 Year Management Plan for a 155 hectare property. The management plan will include and not be limited to timber

growth forecasting, forest valuation, prescription and costings, owner objective considerations, a map series and environmental risk assessment.

Future Ambitions

I would like to continue to learn and grow my skill set in all aspects of forestry and I would also like to pursue my education and progress to doing research in agroforestry.



Kevin Cullen

(Wexford)

085 779 3125 
kevin.cullen18@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My initial interest in land management and more specifically forestry stemmed from the Christmas tree enterprise on the mixed enterprise farm as well as my father's huerley making business. I have gained transferable skills in manufacturing, engineering and

solar industries along the way.

Work Experience

Coillte Forest-Student Placement and Cengea. Student placement consisted of an even split between establishment and harvesting. I continued to work over the summer on the road rectification part of the Cengea project. Kent Stainless-CNC Programmer. I was part of a multi-disciplinary team

involved in the delivery of a large-scale project for a multi-national company. Energyserv Solar-Project Co-ordinator. Industry-specific administration and liaison between the business and client vendors.

Final Year Project

The management plan is the encompassing skills test for any forestry student covering every aspect from inventory and stand mapping to forecasting and planning.

Other practical projects undertaken this year include mock applications-afforestation and forest road, harvest plan and forest valuation.

Future Ambitions

My key ambition is to build on the core skills I have learned and refine them further, detailed industry knowledge and practical application of the forestry grant system will elevate my potential.



Henry Gregory-Smith

(Waterford)

089 422 4440 📞
20101311@mail.wit.ie ✉️

Personal Profile

I am a third year forestry student interested in starting a full time forestry career this summer. I enjoy working outdoors and am fascinated by the opportunities that forestry has

to offer to both individuals and organisations.

Work Experience

My previous work experience has been in the South East of Ireland in both arboriculture and horticulture. I am currently working in forest mensuration predominantly in West Waterford and South Tipperary. I

have also had some experience in forest establishment and planning during my work placement in Tyrone.

Final Year Project

Besides general management planning, this project involves forest inventory and stand volume estimation, forecasting, stand mapping, and an ERA report for an area

of roughly 150ha in the West of Waterford.

Future Ambitions

I hope to have a challenging and rewarding career in Irish forestry. As essential part of any job for me is continued learning. I enjoy a challenge and hate the thought of endless repetition.



Wendy Harrison

083 072 6232 📞
wendyharrison472@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

I gained my love for nature, and specifically forestry when my family moved to Ireland when I was 12. I am an independent and self motivated person and wish to

expand my knowledge and skills within the sector.

Work Experience

During 2024, I did 5 months of work placement with Coillte as part of the Log Optimisation Team. My work included providing timely and accurate reports of the amount of assortments and quality of timber on

various sites as well as recording machine specifications. This helped me to improve my communication and navigation skills.

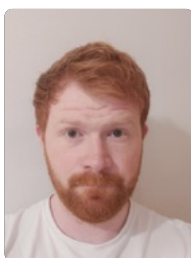
Final Year Project

In my current year I am making a 5 year management plan for two forest properties within Lismore Estate, Co. Waterford. This involves taking in-

ventory from these stands and using ArcGIS to map them. This project is industry standard, and will prepare me for further work in the sector.

Future Ambitions

I am eager to develop both my skills and knowledge and would like to further my proficiency with ArcGIS as this is an area I am interested in.



Patrick Landers

(Waterford/Munster)

087 645 0140 📞

Personal Profile

My name is Patrick Landers, I am from Waterford, and I am currently in my 3rd year of the BSc. In Forestry course in SETU Waterford. Email: patricklanders.forestry@gmail.com.

Work Experience

I currently work for a general contractor based in Cappoquinn in Waterford. The contractor works closely with Coillte but also works with private forest owners. I have worked with this contractor for over 10 years and have gained valuable experience in many areas of

forestry. This job has allowed me to make great connections within the forestry sector.

Final Year Project

As part of 3rd year, we are required to produce a management plan for the Lismore estate in Waterford. My 5 year management plan will aim to increase species diversity,

enhance biodiversity, improve recreational use, and to practice sustainable forest management.

Future Ambitions

I feel like I would be happy in most roles within the forestry industry, I am very open-minded when it comes to future work opportunities.



Conor Lawless (Meath)

087 402 1616
conorlawless3108@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am an adventurous and hardworking individual with a strong passion for the outdoors, forestry, and nature conservation. Having travelled to over 20 countries, I

have gained a deep appreciation for different landscapes, ecosystems, and cultures.

Work Experience

Name: Veon Role: Forest worker Date: 1/6/2023 Duties: Completed a 12 week placement in tree planting and spraying with a private company called veon around slane castle: Jan-

uary 2023-May 2023 the role included managing the loreal planting hedge roes and spraying round up around trees Name: Coilte Role: Forest worker Date: 1/6/2022 Duties: Completed a 12 week placement in tree planting and spraying with a subcontractor of Coillte: March 2021-May 2021.

Final Year Project

Forest Management Plan for Ballysaggertbeghill and Deerpark 2025-2029

Future Ambitions

My goal is to gain expertise in areas such as timber harvesting, reforestation and ecological restoration while staying up to date with the latest industry advancements.



Ben Maguire (Cavan)

083 849 2111
ben12alexmaguire@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am 21 years old, and currently a 3rd year BSc Forestry student. Forestry and Arboriculture have always been passions of mine, which stemmed from my upbringing on our home farm. Sport plays a big part in my life, which instilled

qualities such as leadership, honesty and teamwork within me.

Work Experience

GreensKeeper: Crover House Hotel. (Jun-Sep2021) Mowing and general maintenance of the golf course & grounds. Forest Establishment Contractor: Greenbelt. (Oct2022-May2023) Planting, grass clearing, spraying, shaping, risk assessments. Tree Surgeon: The Big Tree Company.

(Jun2018-Present) Tree Feller & climber, safety statements, quotations. Operations Manager: GreenBreak LTD. (Jan2022-Present) Oversee intake & processing of green waste into woodchip, mulch & compost.

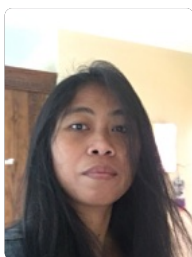
Final Year Project

I'm working on a 5 year plan for a 150ha parcel of forestry belonging to Lismore Estate. All data and inventory was recorded over numerous visits to the site.

Using GrowFor, I will estimate the ideal time to harvest each compartment for environmental and financial sustainability.

Future Ambitions

Graduate my BSc in Forestry, possibly continuing to complete a lvl 8 in Land Management. I would like a career in forestry possibly as a Harvesting Manager, or in timber processing and biomass.



Silvia (Ewie) Yekti (Waterford)

083 146 6314
silvia.yekti@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am passionate in creating sustainable and resilient community by enhancing green space within urban areas through nature-based and community-based approach. I studied horticulture in the past which

provided me with fundamental skill and is an additional value in my current forestry study in SETU.

Work Experience

I spent over 15 years working in Natural Hazards Emergency Response with various International NGOs, responsible for proposal writing, budgeting and program implementation, managing teams ranging from 10-50 people. During

my work experience in 2nd year, I participated in Erasmus program in Tuscia University, Italy, where I had the opportunities to take part in several researches related to pests management.

Final Year Project

I am currently working on a 5 year forest management plan in Lismore. This project requests us to use knowledge we learned for the past 2.5

years, creating a comprehensive management plan including inventory, budgeting, revenues and the use of ArcGIS, MS Excel and GrowFor.

Future Ambitions

I would love to work with governments and think thank organisations in creating more sustainable, greener and resilient cities using nature-based and community-driven approach.



Forestry Inspector

Careers at the Department of Agriculture

Are you passionate about Forestry and eager to contribute to the advancement of Ireland's Forest Industry?

Are you seeking a career that offers diversity, challenge, and the chance to make a meaningful impact in Forestry? If so, a career as a Forestry Inspector might be the perfect fit for you!

Our Department serves the Government and people of Ireland by leading, developing and regulating the Forestry Sector, protecting Irish Forests and optimising social, economic and environmental benefits.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is the oldest of all Government Departments and employs 4000 > people with a diverse range of skills.



Who are the Forestry inspectors?

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is responsible for ensuring the development of forestry within Ireland in a sustainable manner and to a scale that maximises its contribution to national socio-economic well-being and that is compatible with the protection of the environment. The entry grade for this career path is a Forestry Inspector Grade III.

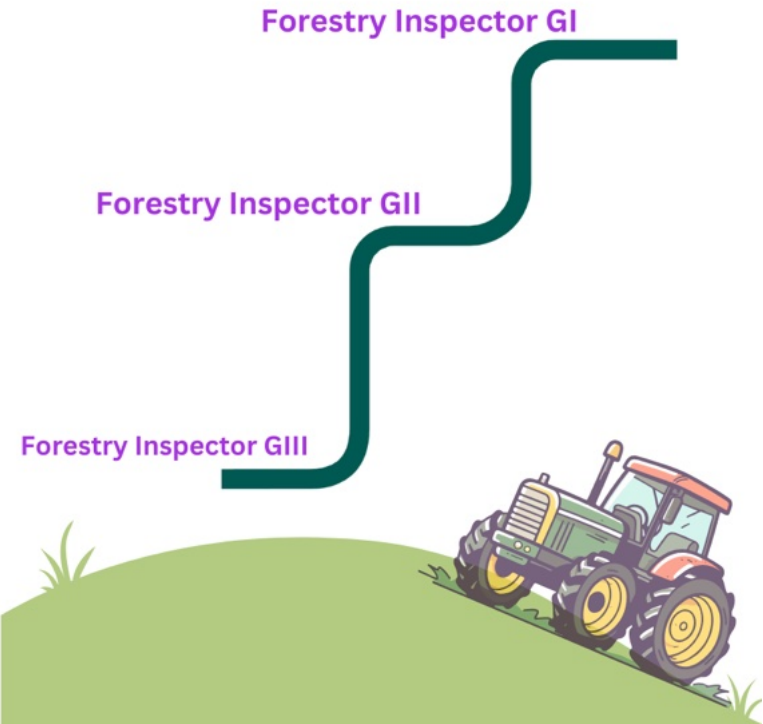
Register your interest, create a profile on www.publicjobs.ie and set up alerts for upcoming Forestry Inspector vacancies. We recruit periodically through Public jobs.

Career Overview

Key responsibilities:

 Forestry	Developing forest policy and implementation across a wide range of areas. Recognising the importance of forests for climate, wood, nature, people and the economy
 Surveying & Monitoring	Carry out assessments of forests to collect information to facilitate national and international reporting, including the health of our forests
 Schemes	Carry out field inspections on a range of grant aided schemes to support landowners to plant new forests, build forest roads and manage their existing forests.
 Licensing	License the establishment of new forests, harvesting and road construction, including controls for pests and diseases.
 National & International	Participate in national and international forums aimed at developing and protecting forests.

Join the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to embark on this rewarding career journey...





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BSc (Hons) in Land Management (in Forestry)

The **BSc (Hons) in Land Management (in Forestry)**, a level 8 degree course, is designed to give students additional business acumen and to increase their wide ranging practical, technical and professional skills obtained in their Level 7 degree course, the BSc in Forestry. Graduates will have the knowledge and skills to manage timber production, advise on sustainable forest management and other forest related businesses. The research project enables students to learn the rudiments of carrying out research and how to write up a scientific report.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Nick McCarthy at Nick.McCarthy@setu.ie.

Projects

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Saoirse Cassidy
(Dublin)

089 701 6601
saoirsenc@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am currently enrolled in (BSC) Land Management (Forestry). My main interests lie in nature and becoming more sustainable. These are the main reasons I chose Forestry to begin with. I am beyond excited to enter the workforce and bring

more diversification to the industry.

Work Experience

From this course, I gained essential skills and knowledge that helped me on my 9 month experience program. I enrolled into the Quality Control Laboratory department in Smartply, operating as a lab technician. Where I was exposed to R&D testing along with my own set of

tests.; measure fuel moisture regulation and particle testing of flake analysis production amongst the differentiating dry bins within the factory. During my time in Smartply, I was promoted to shift work. This was a great honour.

Final Year Project

Wood fuel has been an essential source of energy for centuries, primarily for heating and

industrial purposes. In my research project I discuss the calorific value of wood fuel as it is a critical parameter in determining its efficiency and effectiveness as a fuel source.

Future Ambitions

I would like to go abroad and explore forestry globally, I also would love to become a forest manager and help our world become more sustainable.



Natasha Curran (Kilkenny)

085 820 1473 
curran.natasha6@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I have always had an interest in nature and Climate change. I am currently completing a BSc (Honours) in Land Management in Forestry in SETU in Waterford. In

2024 I graduated with a BSc in Forestry (level 7).

Work Experience

In May 2023 till September 2023, I completed my work placement with Forestry Services Limited and Euroforest Ireland. This work placement helped me develop I.T skills and mapping skills. I visited harvesting sites

and general forestry sites. I learned how TFL and Road applications/forms are carried out.

Final Year Project

My project involved collecting 15 different wood fuel samples from Medite and collected 4 different samples from Smartply. Once the samples were collected I weighed each

of the wood fuel types individually and recorded the data. Then put the samples in the oven and recorded the moisture content.

Future Ambitions

I am hoping to work for a forestry company and hopefully become a forest manager. I am hoping to travel abroad.



Luke Gahan O'Brien (Waterford)

087 718 3576 
lukeobrien@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Luke Gahan O'Brien is a dedicated professional with a deep passion for sustainable forestry and land management. With a background in arboriculture dating back to age 18, Luke holds a degree in Forestry and is

currently pursuing further studies in Land Management.

Work Experience

Luke's career includes valuable work experience with Coillte, where he demonstrated his expertise in developing impactful forestry strategies. He was honored with an Award of Excellence for a management plan and completed an internship

with VEON Ireland, further honing his skills in the field.

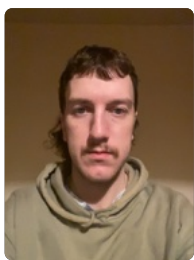
Final Year Project

Luke is engaged in a Deer Management project, applying his knowledge of forestry to environmental challenges. The project is a baseline of data, checking damage and population numbers at various

times of the year to provide knowledge which can provide an insight to the deer problem at hand.

Future Ambitions

Luke seeks to collaborate with like-minded organizations that are focused on making a positive environmental impact, while also gaining hands-on experience to further advance his career.



Declan Hennessy (Wicklow)

085 219 1694 
declanhennessy@yahoo.com 

Personal Profile

I am a very hard working and very motivated 27 year old from the South of Wicklow. I have always had a massive interest in forestry growing up in a very strong forestry oriented family. I was 24 years old when I decided that I wanted to

Further my education in the forestry sector.

Work Experience

When I finished school I went working planting trees for about 4 before deciding I wanted to further my education in forestry. In my second year of college I went on work placement with Purser Tarleton Russell LTD where I gained a great understanding in continuous cover forestry.

The last two years I have been doing plans for the Irish Wood Producers primarily my focus has been on Ash reconstitution plans.

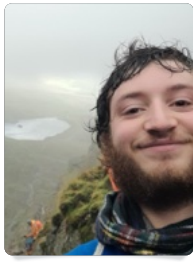
Final Year Project

For my final year project I will be going around mainly the South East of Ireland looking at the Ash trees that are growing there. My plan is put the trees in there own

classification groups between 1 and 4. My goal at the end is if I find enough healthy trees then maybe they might be immune.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions is to get a good forestry job in Ireland where I can gain a greater understanding and more knowledge on Irish Forests and try improve them to the best of my ability.



John Isaacs

(Cork)

083 150 2960 
john.isaacs083@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I have been a member of Scouting Ireland from a young age which has led to me having a deep connection with the outdoors. I enjoy hiking, swimming and kayaking. I believe this is one of the main reasons which led me to pursue a career in forestry.

Work Experience

Father's business - mobile tyre-fitting service, predominantly haulage and heavy machinery. During Transition Year in secondary school, completed a week long placement with Coillte. Labourer for Glas Engineering on construction projects such as the Clonmel Town Square and the New Ross Greenway. During second year of forestry degree, com-

pleted work placement with Forest Resource Management Services Ltd based in Cork - work included establishment, timber measurement and consulting clients.

Final Year Project

The primary objective of the project is to see whether there is a clear difference between form, shape and quality in a monoculture crop compared to a crop with more than one species

of tree. The project is based off of a 28 year old research trial located in Tallow.

Future Ambitions

I am currently in the process of completing my degree with the hopes of achieving a first class honours. From there I would like to work on the National Forest Inventory with the Forest Service.



Brian Mc Nally

(Wexford)

089 457 6079 
bmcnally80@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a 37 year-old mature student. I'm currently on track to receive my 1:1 honors degree in land management having successfully completed my BSc. in Forestry. I'm a married man of 16 years

and have 2 children. University has taught me that if you want to do very well there are no shortcuts!

Work Experience

Landscaping (Southeast Landscapes), Nursey work (None-So-Hardy), Concrete/general laborer (John Grey Construction), Painter (O'Grady Painting), Agroforestry (Research Field Trials). Any

or all references upon your request.

Final Year Project

With tree guards being mandatory for agroforestry I will correlate any issues between tree guard diameter and root collar diameter. I will investigate if competing vegetation effects mortality rates. I will try and correlate if any trends

appear in competing vegetation compared to tree height.

Future Ambitions

To provide the best life for my family while progressing my career. To manage large areas of forest sustainably so future generations have a renewable resource. To be a valuable member of the company!.



Jamie Rooney

(Carlow)

087 937 3685 
jamierooney11@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a career driven and reliable individual. I come from a forestry background constructing roads and bridges. My interest in forestry first came about from summer jobs planting in nurseries. I have always been passionate about nature

and conservation. Desire to explore more areas in forestry.

Work Experience

I completed work experience with Coillte for a period of 5 months. My role involved contacting foresters and contractors and carrying out log audits on harvest sites to ensure efficient harvesting as part of a Log Optimisation Team. My organisation, interpersonal and decision making

skills majorly improved. I possess a full clean Irish drivers license, Coillte ERA Cert and Safe Pass. Experience in forest road construction, maintenance and steel bridge installation for harvesting access.

Final Year Project

Birch has long been regarded as an inferior species compared to other broadleaves. Aim is to provide insightful research and data on an

improved and adapted stock of birch. Project involves visually assessing two birch stands, one as a control and conducting measurements on key growth parameters.

Future Ambitions

I hope to join a forestry company where I can showcase my skillset and further my own learning and development within the sector.



Alexander Troy

(Kildare)

080 6 445 2246 
alexanderwtroy@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am passionate about sustainable forest management. Having spent time abroad working in forests, I am eager to apply what I have learned to an Irish context. I am also eager to see the development of Ireland's

forests and help to continue the huge progress the nation has made in the sector.

Work Experience

I carried out my work experience in a forest located in Bavaria in southern Germany. The forest was comprised of circa 600 hectares of Continuous Cover Forestry of mixed conifer and broadleaf species.

During this time I assisted the both the state Forester and the forestry workers in carrying out the daily tasks necessary to ensure the sustained health of the forest.

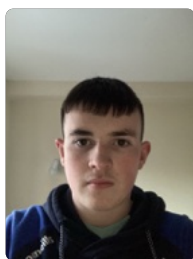
Final Year Project

My project aims to establish the viability of alternate growth media for *Picea sitchensis*, specifically Coco Coir (shredded coconut husk fibers). As the harvesting of peat

becomes less and less viable, it is essential to evaluate alternatives in order to protect the nursery industry.

Future Ambitions

I hope to apply my skills once graduated in a way that ensures the long term sustainability and health of Ireland's forests. Biodiversity and sustainability are key motivators for my future career.



Donagh Twomey

(Cork)

087 450 9555 
donaghotuama@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm from Renanirree, Macroom, Co Cork. Began studying in SETU in 2021. Come from a forestry background in forestry hence where the interest first came from.

Work Experience

Currently employed by Donnachadh O Tuama Iompair Teo in Cork mainly working around the timber yard or out on site operating forestry machinery. I spent my work experience in 2nd year with GP Woods. Mainly with the forestry department but also worked

along the production line in the sawmill itself also.

Final Year Project

Gauge the financial losses landowners experience due to windblow occurring. In terms of harvesting measuring productivity and harvest cost in windblow areas. This project has become even more relevant with Storm

Eowyn occurring causing huge damage to plantations across Ireland.

Future Ambitions

Firstly finish out this course with my level 8 degree. Improve my knowledge in this sector along with gaining permanent employment.



Veon, Ireland's premier forest management and ecology consultancy, is proud to continue sponsoring the Veon Excellence in Forest Management Scholarship, in association with South East Technological University (SETU). This annual scholarship is designed to foster academic and professional excellence and will be awarded to a third-year forestry under-graduate studying at SETU. This scholarship not only recognises academic achievement but also provides invaluable work experience within Ireland's leading forest management consultancy.

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Teagasc Forestry Services



Research

Our research covers many aspects of the life cycle of a forest from seedling to sawdust. Research is carried out in Teagasc research centres in state-of-the-art laboratories and growing facilities and on privately owned farm forests throughout Ireland.



Advice

Teagasc provides objective and independent advisory services to all private landowners on forestry related matters. Teagasc forestry advisors provide free, independent and objective advice on any technical or financial aspect regarding forestry.



Training

Teagasc offers a wide range of QQI certified practical courses. Topics can include formative shaping of broadleaves and timber measurement. A forestry qualification from Teagasc enables students to develop wide ranging and interesting careers.

Forestry

Donagh Twomey is receiving the Augustine Henry Memorial Medal for 2024 from Niall O'Toole (IForUT) representing the Society of Irish Foresters. This award is given to students of University College Dublin (UCD) and South East Technological University (SETU Waterford) that gain the highest marks in the final year's examination for the BSc in Forestry.



Luke Gahan O'Brien is receiving the inaugural Veon Excellence in Forest Management Award from Managing Director Forestry Daragh Little and Managing Director Commercial Trevor McHugh. The award is a scholarship designed to foster academic and professional excellence and will be awarded annually to a third-year forestry under-graduate studying at SETU.

Liam Connolly, BSc (H) in Land Management in Forestry is receiving the Rotary Ireland Third Level Student Wood Award (commendation) from Donal Magner. The title of Liam's project was "An Investigation into the Accuracy of Moisture Content Determination Methods". The project supervisor was Tom Kent (SETU).



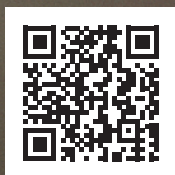


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BSc in Horticulture (Waterford–Kildalton)

South East Technological University combined with Teagasc's Kildalton College and The College of Amenity Horticulture in The National Botanic Gardens is one of Ireland's top Horticultural Colleges, providing level 7 and 8 degrees. The course offers a wide range of learning opportunities both practical and theoretical. Apart from the diverse set of horticultural and mechanical skills attained, other mandatory subjects include biology, chemistry and lab sciences along with accounting, taxation and other business managerial skills. This guarantees that students coming out of Waterford IT are able to professionally pursue any aspect of the horticultural industry.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Cara Daly at Cara.Daly@setu.ie.

Projects

Ben Cunningham

Effect of Mulches on Weed Growth in Protected and Unprotected Nursery Stock 59

Aoife Murphy

The Effect of No-Dig Mulching Methods on Soil Macrofauna and Soil Physical and Chemical Parameters 60

Christopher Woodhouse

Growing Mushrooms in a Variety of Different Substrates 60



Ben Cunningham
(Donegal)

benacunningham6@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I would describe myself as a friendly and driven person, i would say im goal oriented and unafraid of hard work. i tend to get on well with others and enjoy contributing to a team. i have good conversational

skills and experience in dealing with the public.

Work Experience

I have worked at the walled gardens at Kilmore Abby in galway for 15 weeks as a general worker where i leared how to deal with the public, learn practical garden duties and expanded my knoledge on horticulture in general. I have worked for kinnagar brewery for a week

in secondary school and Finaly i have done a little bit of volintering for a graveyard restoration project in Belfast.

Final Year Project

This project is intended to showcase how different mulches effect the growth of weeds and to show how effective the chosen mulches are at their intended use in nursery stock. This

project will use data to show weather or not using mulch is cost effective and all the pros and cons of using it.

Future Ambitions

I hope to develop my skill set in horticulture and someday become a expert in my field. i also hope progress my professional career and pass my knowledge to future generations.

Aoife Murphy

(Carlow)

087 150 3398 
 aoifemurphy381@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Previously cafe manager sparking a passion for food and baking with quality local organic ingredients. Availing of the opportunity to work with an organic farm that supplied the cafe where I was employed, where hardwork and creativity was seen from start to finish from growing, to plating up.

Work Experience

Carried out work placement as a horticulturalist in Arboretum Co. Carlow, where I still work a year later. The placement gave me the opportunity to see the scale of retail horticulture and the impostaying up to date on trends. Knowledge sharing with customers is a large part of the role. For two consecutive summers I have spent on an organic

farm carrying out day to day tasks such as harvestings, weed control, pruning and pest management practices.

Final Year Project

Looking at two gooseberry beds with different management styles. One bed with a wood mulch application and the other bed had a deep compost mulch applied in line with Charles Dowding No-Dig Method. The

aim of the project is to compare how the beds perform in relation to soil parameters and Earthworms.

Future Ambitions

Future ambitions in horticulture include further work in soil health and advocate for the importance of plants and nature for general wellbeing in society as part of social therapeutic horticulture.

Christopher Woodhouse

(Waterford)

085 746 4493 
 Woodhousecas@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

My name is Christopher Woodhouse, a final-year Horticulture student. After earning IT certifications, I discovered a true calling for Horticulture, especially Ornamental and Amenity. I'm excited to deepen my knowledge and contribute to a garden or nursery, and apply the skills I've learned

so far.

Work Experience

I had a tremendous opportunity to complete my Work Placement at the very historic and prestigious Chelsea Physic Garden, where I learned about a variety of medicinal and useful plants. It spanned winter til spring so I experienced a bit of a few seasons. I gained

some valuable hands on experience, developed my attention to detail, and gained newfound inspiration for my future.

Final Year Project

My final year project involves the generating new research information on growing mushrooms, specifically Oyster, in a variety of different substrates and also the effect

of different additives on the growth of these Oyster mushrooms.

Future Ambitions

I am not closed off to any possibility, but I enjoyed my time at the Botanical Garden in Chelsea. I would like to be in a situation like a Nursery or a Botanical Garden where I can continue to learn.

BSc in Horticulture (National Botanic Gardens)

Students on the **BSc in Horticulture (National Botanic Gardens)** study both at Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture in the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin Dublin and at Teagasc facilities in Ashtown. Our collaboration with Teagasc, allows you to benefit from the skills and expertise of Teagasc staff who have trained horticulturists for over 30 years. With unrivalled access to the Botanic Gardens plant collection, opportunities to work on the grounds, and skilled staff to teach you, if you want to learn about plants from experts then this course is for you.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Yvonne Grace at Yvonne.Grace@setu.ie.

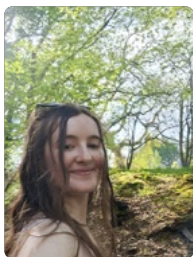
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Consumers Attitudes Towards Organic Fruit and Vegetables 61

Jonathan Molloy

An Investigation of Urban Green Space and Plant Selection: Exploring Ecological, Aesthetic, Cultural and Functional Benefits 61



Ciara Leonard

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ciara8leonard@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am 20 years old and I have a passion for restoring and conserving biodiversity. I would like to travel, not only to see the world, but also to gain

inspiration, knowledge and experience in the sector.

Work Experience

I have worked as a receptionist at a golf course for two summers. I have completed a four month placement in The Eden Project Cornwall. And I currently work part-time

at Mr Middleton Garden Shop.

Final Year Project

The project's aim is to understand consumers attitudes and beliefs towards organic fruit and vegetables. Understanding this is essential as it informs organic growers, how there produce is viewed and what can

be amended to increase consumer purchasing of organic fruit and vegetables.

Future Ambitions

I hope to pursue a career in conservation and restoration of biodiversity. I hope to travel to gain knowledge from others in the sector and gain experience.



Jonathan Molloy (Dublin)

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Personal Profile

I hold both Level 5 and 6 qualifications in horticulture, specialising in market gardening. At degree level my major electives have been in Nursery Stock Production and Sustainable Food Production. Returning as a mature student has

allowed me to excel in a subject that I'm truly passionate about.

Work Experience

I've gained hands-on experience with the OPW at the National Botanic Gardens, where I learned the importance of plant care and conservation. I completed a placement at Airfield Estate, focusing on sustainable organic food production, and was employed there

afterward. Additionally, I worked at Beechpark Eco Farm, enhancing my expertise in organic farming techniques and sustainable food systems.

These experiences have inspired me to pursue a career in organic food production.

Final Year Project

The research will contribute to bridging the gap between urban planting designs, public perceptions, and policy

frameworks, providing recommendations for creating more sustainable and valued urban green space for all.

Future Ambitions

I aim to complete my Level 8 qualification, start a market garden producing seasonal organic produce, open a farm shop and café, promoting sustainable horticulture, healthy living and community.

Departmental Awards – Horticulture

BSc in Horticulture (Kildalton) students install the family beds on the Cork Road Campus as part of the N-Tutor-funded project: Rooted in Education.



The SETU Gravel Garden installed by Horticulture (Kildalton) students as part of their Biodiversity Module.

1st year BSc in Horticulture (Kildalton) students take a break from a wild plant identification skills class.



Final Year students of both SETU Horticulture Programmes meet at their Joint poster Seminar Day in the Botanic Gardens.

Final year student winners of the 'Una McDermott Best Poster' prize at the joint poster seminar day: Liam Maher and Eileen Gahan, supported by lecturers Darren Reidy and Paul Fitters. Also pictured is Eva Crilly, representing the McDermott family who kindly sponsor the poster prize.



BSc in Food Science with Business

The **BSc in Food Science with Business** provides a range of skills and knowledge of the food industry. There are a range of modules covered, including food safety, regulatory affairs, food analysis, food processing methods as well as business and many more. For more information about this course, please contact Dr Elaine Duggan at Elaine.Duggan@setu.ie.

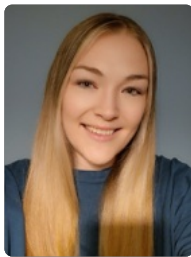
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HACCP Plan Development 63

Ellen Kirwan O'Brien

Biodegradable Packaging Films from Banana Peel Fibres 63



Katie Duffin
(Waterford)

type1katie@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a student at SETU Waterford studying a BSc in Food Science with Business. I would describe myself as an enthusiastic and engaging worker. I am eager to learn, and my strengths include teamwork, reliability

and a strong work ethic.

Work Experience

I completed my work placement program at Dawn Pork & Bacon. In the lab, I calibrated devices daily, maintained records, and conducted tests. I tested meat samples for trichinella using artificial digestion and microscopy. I also worked in Quality Control, which allowed me

to gain a solid understanding of each stage of production. I also monitored CCPs and updated SOPs regularly.

Final Year Project

To develop a HACCP plan for a raspberry-flavored cream rice dessert. The aim is to understand the principles of HACCP in food production. This will include a process flowchart, identifying hazards and CCPs,

establishing critical limits, monitoring procedures, corrective actions, and conducting SOPs.

Future Ambitions

In the future I see myself possibly working in food production, particularly QC. Gaining experience in this type of work has sparked my interest in this area and is something I would like to pursue.



Ellen Kirwan O'Brien

087 455 7895 ☎
Ellen.kirwan2003@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

Ellen Kirwan, 21, Fuelled by a lifelong passion for science, I am eager to make my mark in the food science industry. Pursuing this course has been a childhood dream, and seeing it come to life—learning in college labs and applying those

skills during my work placement—has been incredibly rewarding.

Work Experience

Accounting Assistant | Pembroke Dental I maintained patient ledgers, ensured payments were processed correctly, and upheld high data accuracy standards. This role enhanced my attention to detail and organizational skills in a fast-paced setting. Data Entry & Lab Assistant | APPETITE Research Project, UCD I en-

tered research data into databases and analyzed blood samples, ensuring accuracy and adherence to strict protocols. This experience strengthened my lab skills and data management expertise.

Final Year Project

This project explored using food waste, like peels, to create biodegradable food packaging. The goal was to assess its potential as a sustainable plastic alternative, reducing waste

and environmental impact. If viable, this could promote a circular economy by promoting eco-friendly packaging.

Future Ambitions

I aim to expand my knowledge while traveling more, possibly working internationally. Gaining global experience would allow me to bring valuable insights and innovations back to Ireland.

Departmental Awards – Food Science



Winners in the Food Science and Innovation 2024 award, kindly sponsored by Dawn Meats.
L to R: Brian Marginean (runner up), Lucy Skehan (winner), Carlos Sasaran (runner up), Paul Nolan (Dawn Meats).

BSc (Hons) in Food Science and Innovation

The **BSc (Hons) in Food Science and Innovation** is an add-on course from the BSc in Food Science with Business. This course has a combination of science, business and food modules. A food innovation project is carried out throughout the year, market research, manufacturing, scientific research, entrepreneurship and many other skills that can be applied for the food industry.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Elaine Duggan at Elaine.Duggan@setu.ie.

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Production of a Flavoured Gel with the Benefits of Reducing Inflammation for People with Rheumatoid Arthritis 65

Alan Crotty

JUCEBOX, a Ready-to-drink Product for the Alcohol Sector 66

Tara Hudson

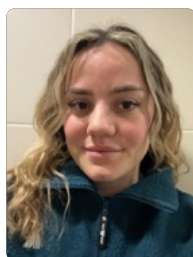
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Eoghan Martin

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David Sheehan

Date, Nut and Chocolate Spread 67



Katie Cole
(Wexford)

087 164 6505
katie4321cole@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and hardworking individual with a strong commitment to excellence. I thrive in challenging environments and consistently go the extra mile to achieve goals. I am a valued team member who always strives to

support my colleagues and contribute positively to our shared goals.

Work Experience

I have five years of experience in two hotels, working as a Pastry Chef and Chef de Partie. I gained valuable skills such a meeting deadlines, teamwork, organisation, and leadership skills. I also completed a work placement at Tirlán in Co. Wexford as a laboratory technician, where

I tested the composition of dairy samples, conducted hygiene audits, performed environmental swabbing, managed stock, used Excel for data analysis, and conducted water testing.

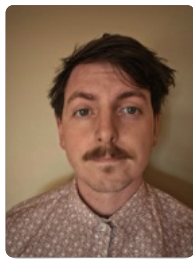
Final Year Project

This product is an edible fluid gel used to reduce inflammation for people with rheumatoid arthritis using components from food products. Certain

food products have anti-inflammatory properties to them along with the addition of prebiotics and vitamin D.

Future Ambitions

I wish to utilise my newfound knowledge and skills upon entering the food industry, additionally I aim to make advancements to my food product, whilst learning what the food industry has to offer.



Alan Crotty

(Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am a 34 year old student in my final year of Food Science (Hons) at SETU. Before returning to education, I worked as a chef in Cork and Dublin. My culinary background and interest in science

lead me to choose this undergrad.

Work Experience

I worked in Eurofins Food Testing Dungarvan as part of my work placement for college, where I still work part-time, as a lab technician. My roles include sample preparation and analysis via culturing as well as molecular techniques such as ELISA, for the

detection and enumeration of pathogens and food spoilage organisms. I also have experience with testing *E. coli* O:157 while working in a BSL2 environment.

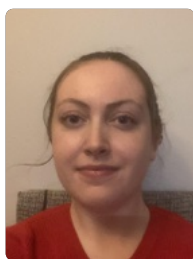
Final Year Project

In recent years, premixed drinks have started taking up more space on supermarket and off-license shelves. I wanted to address issues surrounding

these products with a focus on improving both sustainability and sensory qualities, developing a product to rival more established brands.

Future Ambitions

As someone with an interest in science broadly, I am open to new learning experiences and exploring the life science sector in Ireland.



Tara Hudson

(Wexford)

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20097800@mail.wit.ie 

Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and motivated student in food science and innovation. I have skills in organisation, communication, teamwork and working as an individual. I would say I am extremely passionate about food innovation and I am looking forward to making my

own contribution to the industry in the future.

Work Experience

For my work placement, I worked for Tirlan in Gain animal feeds mill in Clonroche, Co. Wexford. During my 8 months there I was part of the quality assurance and quality control team, whilst also performing the harvest assistant role during the summer months. I gained a lot of experience in quality systems, sample col-

lection, preparation and testing, customer complaints, computer skills, organisational skills etc. I acquired a greater understanding of the industry and really enjoyed the work.

Final Year Project

For my FYP, I am designing a functional snack food that is sensitive to and supportive of the sensory and nutritional needs of children that are on the autism spectrum. This product will

be the first of a range of products with a variety of textures and flavours catered towards the target market.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions include doing further education and receiving a masters degree and/or a PHD. After that I would like to impart my knowledge and skills to provide innovation to the food industry.



Eoghan Martin
(Cork)

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eoghan.martin2001@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

My name is Eoghan Martin. I am a student in SETU Waterford studying Food Science and Innovation, where I am developing a strong foundation in the science behind food production, safety and innovation. I play GAA with Castle-martyr where being part

of a team has taught me valuable skills in teamwork.

Work Experience

I completed a six month work placement in Kerrygold as an R&D Technologist, where I was involved in conducting a variety of quality and compositional tests on products being tested in new production methods. I was able to apply my knowledge of food science to real world challenges. I also gained

valuable insight into what it is like to work as a part of a team. Currently, I work with Southern Fuel and Farm supplies where I work in the quality lab during the harvest testing barley.

Final Year Project

My final year project is an innovative ready to eat acai bowl. Where the acai bowl offers convenience for consumers with a busy lifestyle to have a quick and easy meal option to eat on the

go. The acai bowl will also have high nutritional value and is healthy alternative to traditional snack foods.

Future Ambitions

I aspire to gain as much experience as I can within the food industry for the coming years before going abroad to either work or travel. I hope my future work can contribute to sustainability.



David Sheehan
(Waterford)

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sheehandavid02@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I'm deeply enthusiastic about food and currently in my fourth and final year of my bachelors degree. I chose to do food science in SETU because of my interests in nutrition, new product development and since it was close to home in Dungarvan. I'm also interested

in sports, and a strong team worker.

Work Experience

My most relevant work experience to food science came from my 3rd year work placement at Legacy Irish Cider. My role was to oversee cider fermentation during the production period, which involved yeast preparation, inoculation and required clear documentation, precise timing of nutrient addition, aeration control and frequent

specific gravity testing to ensure ideal fermentation conditions for over 100,000 litres of cider. My other food related experience is in retail, in SuperValu Dungarvan.

Final Year Project

My food product is a chocolate spread that uses dates as the primary sweetener, along with a selection of nuts to create a healthy, nutritious alternative to conventional high sugar, palm

oil-based spreads. The goal is to create a balanced choice of health and enjoyment for the consumer.

Future Ambitions

I'm open to all directions, but intrigued by nutrition, product development and food sustainability. My main focus for my next career step is to gain valuable experience and specific technical skills.



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BSc in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science

The aim of the **BSc in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science** is to provide students with the scientific skills, theoretical and current practical skills, to work in areas such as biopharmaceutical, food and environmental sectors. The programme also aims to qualify students for progression to an honours degree programme.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Nabla Kennedy at Nabla.Kennedy@setu.ie.

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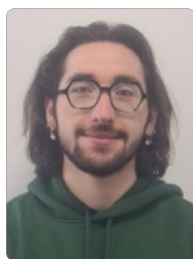
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Raphael Bonnin

(France)

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Personal Profile

Passionate about the interface between biotechnology and chemistry, I'm a French Erasmus student with a passion for learning. Always looking for new experiences, I thrive on discovery and teamwork. Adaptable and precise, I enjoy solving scientific challenges

while continually expanding my knowledge.

Work Experience

I did an internship at the LIENSs laboratory (CNRS) on cancerology and ecology, using atomic absorption spectroscopy. A work placement in a hospital gave me an insight into pharmacy. I also worked as a cleaner in a psychiatric hospital, which enabled me to adapt to sensitive environments. My experi-

ence extends to industrial cleaning and production, reinforcing my rigour, efficiency and teamwork skills. These various roles have strengthened my ability to work in multidisciplinary environments.

Final Year Project

This project aims to develop a reliable method for detecting GMOs in three food products using qPCR. The goal is to establish a precise protocol

for effective GMO identification, thus contributing to enhanced food safety and quality control.

Future Ambitions

I aim to become a researcher, starting as an engineer at the chemistry-biotechnology interface to explore fields like pharmaceuticals, agri-food, and ecology, contributing to scientific innovation.



David Diez (Dublin)

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davidfortdiez01@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a highly dependable individual who can adapt to new environments and highly skilled in multiple laboratory techniques while maintaining a calm and collected demeanor under stressful situations

making me an asset to any team I will work for.

Work Experience

I have extensive supervisor/managerial experience acquired during my time working for some of the busiest Insomnia Coffee Company cafes in the country while being able to balance my college education. Being a supervisor/manager has allowed to gain and

hone my leadership qualities, problem-solving skills, and communication skills as I was responsible for delegating tasks, coordinating staff timetables, and maintaining a smooth workflow during peak hours.

Final Year Project

I conducted air quality monitoring using particle counters, settle plates, and microbial air sam-

plers. This aimed to enhance my understanding of aseptic techniques, environmental monitoring, and compliance with clean room standards, essential in pharmaceutical settings.

Future Ambitions

In the future, I would like a future career in quality control/analysis for a pharmaceutical company.



David Ibitoye (Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am a 21 year old college student that is studying BSc in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science. This course allows me to showcase my ability to work in a team and enhance my adaptability skills. Outside of college,

I play football and go to the gym.

Work Experience

I have work in different sectors, I have worked in Shaws Department Stores, Bookstation, Eurogiant and I'm currently working in Odeon Cinema. I have also worked in TM blinds which involved working in a warehouse carrying goods and also being involved in making curtains and blinds. I've done work experience in

Connaughton Auctioneers and Jacqueline McManus Solicitors. These jobs helped me gain many skills like IT, Team working, People skills, Adaptability and Leadership skills.

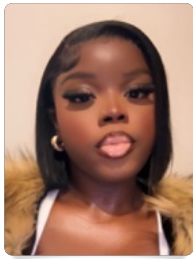
Final Year Project

My project involves comparing different DNA based methods for seafood species authentication by observing the purity of DNA gained from using different methods and see-

ing if the sequence of the DNA matches to known species containing the DNA that's been obtained from each method.

Future Ambitions

I want to be working in the Biopharmaceutical sector when I get my Bachelors degree and I also want to get my Masters Degree. These ambitions will involve hard work but I know it will be all worth it.



Aaliyah Onog Ponnle

(Cork/Dublin)

089 943 3678 📞

aaliyahonog052@gmail.com ✉️

Personal Profile

My name is Aaliyah Onog and I am an ambitious science student at SETU. With my academic background and hands-on laboratory experience, I can't wait to contribute to the world and make a meaningful impact in my career. I am excited to explore

opportunities that align with my skills and goals in life.

Work Experience

I have completed a few summer internships at Citco and Lloyds pharmacy where I gained skills such as data analysing etc. I have also worked a few part time jobs balancing responsibilities from university and work. I am currently applying to companies for more internships in order to build my skills

in the science industry. I'm also a Teen-Turn alumni and a campus ambassador for Teen-Turn. I run my own successful small business providing hair services for the black community in Ireland.

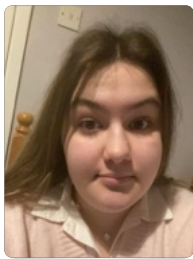
Final Year Project

My project addresses a real-world challenge in environmental monitoring and microbiology, ensuring that disinfectant residue does not interfere with microbial samples.

It's relevant for industries like healthcare, biopharmaceutical, and food production, where precise microbial analysis occurs.

Future Ambitions

I aspire to build a successful career in the science and business industry while making a positive impact through my achievements and building a legacy for myself as a woman.



Wiktoria Wreczycka

(Meath, Waterford)

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wiktoria.wreczycka@wp.pl ✉️

Personal Profile

I am a hard-working and enthusiastic individual with a passion for science. I discovered this passion in secondary school, doing Biology for my leaving certificate. I am a fast learner and I work well as part of a

team. I look forward to going out into industry and apply what I learned in college.

Work Experience

During my time as an undergraduate, I work as a Banqueting Waitress in a hotel. In this role I have development a number of skills including communication skills, team-working skills, quick decision making and problem solving skills. I can

work in a fast-paced environment while also delivering excellent quality of service. I am aiming to keep improving these skills for my future job.

Final Year Project

This research project involves isolating and identifying Lactic Acid Bacteria from animal feed. These LAB strains will be cultured, purified and tested using biochemical tests. Their growth

in liquid feed will be monitored by measuring changes in pH, assessing their potential as feed inoculants.

Future Ambitions

My future career goal is to gain experience in the pharmaceutical industry and expand my laboratory skills and knowledge, while also applying the skills that I have already learned in college.



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BSc (Hons) in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science

The aim of **BSc (Hons) in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science** is to provide graduates with current advanced scientific skills in areas such as DNA technology and bioinformatics, molecular biology and pharmaceutical biotechnology as well as cell culturing and pharmacology. The programme will provide graduates with the relevant expertise in biological and analytical sciences in preparation for careers in biopharmaceutical, biomedical and/or food related industries. The programme also aims to qualify students for progression to further study such as postgraduate research and/or the H Dip in Education for secondary teaching.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Nabla Kennedy at Nabla.Kennedy@setu.ie.

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**Nabeel Asam**
(Waterford)087 130 3327 📞
nabeelasam@icloud.com ✉️**Personal Profile**

I am a friendly, hard-working, highly motivated, person with a desire to gain new experiences and work as a part of team. My ability to adapt to fast paced work environment, allows me

to adjust quickly. I love going to gym to stay fit. My passion for cars keep me up to date with the latest models.

Work Experience

I have worked in UPMC Whitfield lab where I carried out day to day tasks that involved maintaining patient's blood samples, reports and equipment's maintenance and maintaining a clean and

organised lab environment, through these experience I developed a strong technical skills and ability to problem solving in a high pressure setting.

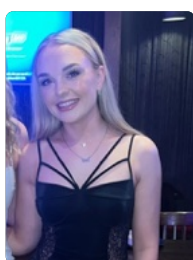
Final Year Project

My final project is based on tracing botanical origin of monofloral and polyfloral honey that I sourced from the local beekeeper. It serves to

authenticate honey for quality control, helps link the honey to its health-related properties, enhance its appeal through unique flavours.

Future Ambitions

In future, I would like to apply and enhance my knowledge and experience in biopharmaceutical sector that is inline with my education.

**Georgia Black**
(Kildare)087 441 5444 📞
georgiab613@gmail.com ✉️**Personal Profile**

I pride myself as a hard-working, ambitious individual with a love for science. Throughout the duration of this course and my 12 months of work experience, I have acquired and developed invaluable skills and knowledge which I look

forward to expanding further in the future.

Work Experience

I carried out work placement in 3rd year as a laboratory analyst in Enfer Group in Naas, testing bovine tissue for Bovine Viral Disease (BVD). I gained experience using equipment like multi-well pipettes and PCR machines such as QI-Agen and Rotor-Gene. I also took a year out before 4th year where I spent time working as a

laboratory assistant in the sample preparation department in Weatherby's in Naas, utilizing LIMS systems and preparing bovine tissue and equine hair samples for genomic testing.

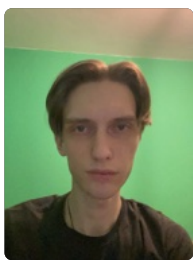
Final Year Project

For my project, I will focus on the hyperaccumulation and hypertolerance mechanisms of various plants towards copper. This project will involve RNA extractions, various PCR procedures,

screening for metallothionein proteins, followed by the use of bioinformatic applications such as BLASTn and MEGA.

Future Ambitions

Following graduation, I hope to enter a role in the industry that I can incorporate the many skills that I acquired and developed over my combined year of experience in veterinary testing and college.



Ilja Bukovskis
(Wexford)

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iljabukovskis@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I originally gained interest in the course and the associated industries through their ability to both improve and save lives and still hold that ideal. My interests mainly lie within both microbiology and environmental work.

Work Experience

University Hospital Waterford as part of 3rd year work placement: the semester consisted of work in a variety of different environments within the hospital laboratories, namely Public Health, Category 3 labs, Virology laboratory, and Microbiology laboratories. This experience has aided in understanding professional workflows, techniques, safety mea-

asures and confidentiality practices while also allowing myself to get accustomed to a variety of commonly used machines in this sector.

Final Year Project

My project revolves around the collection of water samples I thought would be interesting to research along the Slaney river in Wexford town which is local to me. These samples will be

processed through a variety of microbial techniques to determine the presence of antibiotic resistance in the water.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are varied and flexible, with stable employment being the main interest of mine. Additionally night hours are an interest of mine alongside regular working hours.



Chloe Butler
(Waterford)

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chloe.butler.14@outlook.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a hard-working individual always striving for excellence in both my academic and personal life. I enjoy collaborating with others and I am a capable learner and listener who can interact both in a group setting and with individuals.

Work Experience

I completed my work experience in the Quality Control (QC) Microbiology Laboratory at Bausch + Lomb in Waterford, where I gained hands-on experience in microbiological testing and analysis. This reinforced my theoretical knowledge and practical skills. I developed strong communication abilities through collaboration with colleagues

and supervisors, ensuring tasks were completed efficiently. Working in a team-based environment enhanced my teamwork skills.

Final Year Project

The focus of my final year project My project aims to investigate enzyme production in *Bacillus* species. To achieve this, I am conducting a series of qualitative assays to assess enzyme

production across various *Bacillus* species, identifying which enzymes are present and their relative activity levels.

Future Ambitions

After earning my degree, I aim to work in research or quality control, applying my skills and knowledge. I aspire to join a dynamic team contributing to innovative projects and solutions.



Erin Canning
(Waterford)

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ericann355@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a hard working and dedicated individual who has an interest in all things biological. I am a friendly person who has no issues in working in a team, and have the capabilities to learn quickly and reliably execute tasks at high efficiency. I always strive to

produce the highest quality of work.

Work Experience

In the 7 months of placement I worked at Haleon, I worked as an operational quality coordinator. This involved reviewal of batch documents where I would carry out a preliminary approval before the products could be released to their respective markets. From this placement I have vastly improved my analytical

skills and my capabilities in learning new technological systems. I am used to the responsibility in ensuring that my work is good quality and carried out efficiently.

Final Year Project

My project focuses on determining whether commercially available probiotics possess genes that grant them resistance to certain antibiotics. It has also been proposed that probiotic

bacteria can possibly transfer resistance genes to pathogens, so I am investigating this as part of my project.

Future Ambitions

After completing my degree in SETU, I intend to start working using my laboratory skills that I have picked up during my course. Additionally I would be interested in returning to operational quality.



Aaron Ebhonuaye

(Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am a dedicated molecular biology student with a strong interest in biopharmaceutical research. Skilled in genetic engineering, PCR, and media preparation, I am passionate about advancing drug discovery and precision medicine. Eager to

apply my lab experience and analytical skills in research.

Work Experience

I worked as a microbiology lab technician in Teva, preparing various types of microbiological media, including agar plates and broths, ensuring timely availability for lab personnel. I also performed data analysis, trend evaluation, and analytical reporting, and

maintained compliance with GMP regulations in all laboratory procedures.

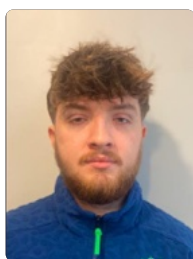
Final Year Project

My project focuses on introducing the L812M mutation into GRIN2A, a gene encoding an NMDAR subunit, to model NMDAR-linked neuropathologies. This study aims to understand how this mutation affects receptor function, providing insights into neuro-

logical disorders and potential therapeutic targets.

Future Ambitions

I aim to advance molecular biology research, focusing on neuropharmacology and biopharmaceuticals. My goal is to explore drug interactions and develop new therapies for unmet medical needs.



Kieran Ennett

(Republic of Ireland)

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 Kierane05@icloud.com 

Personal Profile

I'm an enthusiastic 4th year student from Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny with a love for DNA technology and particularly PCR! Outside of college, I like to go the gym, watch football and hang-out with my family including 3 sheepdogs!

I've recently finished my placement in Bausch & Lomb.

Work Experience

-Reddys Off- Licence Ballybricken -Glanbia Glenmore -Mean Bean Coffee experience Waterford -Bausch and Lomb Waterford I also completed work experience in SuperValu, New Ross when I was in secondary school. By

working in a range of different types of businesses I think I have learned a large amount of skills ranging from technical lab skills to people skills which are both very important.

Final Year Project

I have isolated genomic DNA from *E. coli*, then designed a PCR run in order to amplify and detect the gene so it can be used in a qPCR method

which I will design later in my project. By isolating this gene, I can then sequence it and learn more about how it is used to treat cancer such as ALL.

Future Ambitions

I would love to pursue a career in industry where I could research different methods and potential products in order to design new treatments and drugs to help people.



Dylan House

(Wexford)

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 dhouse1207@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am an ambitious, self-motivated individual that thrives on tackling challenges of all varieties ultimately with the goal of devising the best solution for that problem. I additionally like reading and playing tabletop role-playing games. I was a

member of the Irish Taekwondo national team in 2019.

Work Experience

In summer of 2024, I worked as a process intern for Celtic Anglican Waters in the Waterford wastewater treatment plant. During my time there, I was provided extensive insights in off-line water testing during various parts of the water treatment process. In addition, I gained experience compiling

monthly status reports that would be issued to Uisce Éirean and performing statistical analysis on influent trends that were used to optimize processes by driving efficient use of power and chemicals.

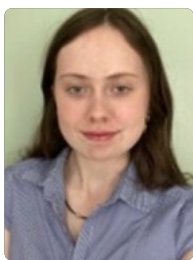
Final Year Project

HCC1954 cells are treated with neratinib and lapatinib for set time-points and gene expression will be measured by extracting RNA and converting it to cDNA,

followed by amplification with PCR. The change in expression will be recorded. Cell migration and invasion assays will also be performed.

Future Ambitions

I am dedicated to pursue novel drug design and development in the biopharmaceutical sector with emphasis on collaborating with industry leaders to elucidate my professional development in the industry.



Caitlin Hutchinson (Waterford)

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Personal Profile

My name is Caitlin Hutchinson, I am a 4th year Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science student located in Waterford. I chose this course after 6 years of studying biology in secondary school as it was my favourite and most enjoyable subject.

In particular I enjoy microbiology.

Work Experience

I volunteered as a retail assistant in Liberty Recycling-freedom from addiction charity shop (Sept 21 - Dec 21) to gain work experience while also giving back to the community. I worked in Camile Thai Waterford Kitchen (Jan 22 - Dec 23) as a front counter staff where I learned the importance of communication and teamwork. My

most recent employment was an 8-month placement (Jan 24- Aug 24) as a compliance intern in Teva Pharmaceuticals Ireland. While working there I completed document updates.

Final Year Project

Subjecting red seaweed to a 1mg of copper to examine the change in gene expression that comes with the accumulation of toxic heavy metals. RNA is extracted

from red seaweed and converted to cDNA by RT-PCR. Once converted they are evaluated by conventional PCR and furthermore by gel electrophoresis.

Future Ambitions

As I really enjoyed my work placement, I would like to work in industry whether in the lab or an office before potentially returning to education to complete a masters in microbiology or teaching.



Sarah Kareem (Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am a hard working individual that works well in a group as well as individually. I have always had a passion for learning from others, as I believe constant development is a fundamental part of life. Due to my curiosity I work well in

new environments, with an attention to detail.

Work Experience

I had the privilege to do my work experience at Jabil healthcare as a student quality engineer which gave me a hands-on experience in quality. I had the opportunity to collaborate with cross functional teams from supply chain to operations and process engineering. In this role I

developed skills in communication, problem solving and teamwork. I have also worked as a catering assistant in Teva where I learned how to work under pressure and the importance of putting the customer first.

Final Year Project

My project came about from looking at the importance of the skin microbiome and the products that claim to help its

dysbiosis. My project involves directly detecting probiotics from cosmetics that claim to have probiotics. I'm doing this using techniques like PCR and gel electrophoresis.

Future Ambitions

I see myself continuing to learn by hopefully pursuing a my masters. I also see myself learning in industry and making a positive contribution to wherever I work in the future.



Kevan Lawless (Galway)

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kevanlawless99@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I grew up in the Galway countryside on a dairy farm, I enjoyed raising chickens, geese and ducks as pets and I think growing up around animals lead to an interest in biology and ecology.

I enjoy learning and researching into the mechanics of how things work, both in biological fields and technology.

Work Experience

I have worked as a lab tech in the parasite research lab Paralabs Ltd. in Portumna, Galway. The job involved doing lab work to analyse samples and desk work that involved speaking to

clients and working in the company database. I have performed labourer work in multiple businesses, including a pastry factory, a pig farm and a bird feed warehouse.

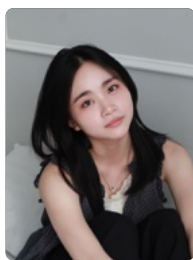
Final Year Project

The project highlights the methods involved in the traceability of beef, particularly how DNA microsatellites can be compared to validate that

the beef sold as a product matches the DNA it is stated to originate from.

Future Ambitions

I am hoping to settle into a role shortly after graduation, aiming for a job that has consistent workloads that I can learn and repeat to get comfortable with the routine.



Cheryl Loh

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Personal Profile

Cheryl Loh is a dedicated molecular biologist passionate about genetics and disease research. Studying Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science at SETU Waterford, she has expertise in molecular biology, bioinformatics, and lab

techniques like qPCR, Sanger sequencing, and cell culturing.

Work Experience

Beyond academics, Cheryl's industry experience as a Quality Officer at Teva Pharmaceuticals during placement exposed her to the regulatory frameworks and compliance processes that govern pharmaceutical development. Her work with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

and internal audits enhanced her attention to detail and reinforced her understanding of research integrity and quality standards in medical advancements.

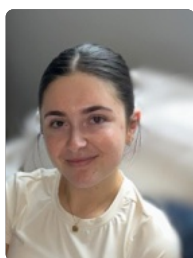
Final Year Project

This project explores alternatives to fetal bovine serum (FBS) in cell culture, assessing plant-based extracts, cosmic calf and chemically-defined serum, evaluating their impact on cell

proliferation, morphology and growth to identify ethical and effective replacements for FBS in biomedical research.

Future Ambitions

She aims to advance in medical sciences through research in molecular or genomic medicine, or translational oncology, aspiring to contribute to disease understanding and developing targeted therapies.



Olivia O'Donoghue (Limerick)

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Personal Profile

I am a hardworking and ambitious student who loves to take on new challenges. I studied Biology and Chemistry for my leaving cert where I found my love for science, particularly Biology.

Work Experience

I completed a 9 month work placement in Teva Waterford where I worked in QA alongside quality analysts and QP's. I gained experience in updating and writing SOP's and I also spent a lot of time doing retains of samples and batch records. I also gained experience in communicating with other departments like Doc Services and QC.

While in college I have a part time job where I'm a food and beverage supervisor which has given me experience in leading teams and working with the general public.

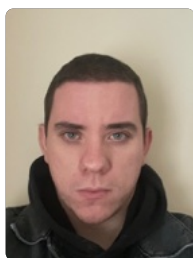
Final Year Project

For my final year project I'm testing DNA samples from brown rats from California for genetic resistance to anticoagulant rodenticides. I plan to use conventional PCR to amplify the DNA and

then send them off for sequencing of the *Vkorc1* gene to identify mutations and carry out bioinformatics.

Future Ambitions

I look forward to seeing what the world has to offer. I am very open minded as to what type of career path I will go down whether that be research, working in industry or furthering my education.



Jack O'Neill (Wexford/Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am an ambitious student, with a strong work ethic and a drive for continuous learning that fuels my ability to approach projects and challenges with undoubted tenacity.

Work Experience

In Year 3, I undertook a 15 week placement at the microbiology labs at the University Hospital Waterford, in which I got to contribute to the operations of a suite of laboratories in the department. I have previously worked in Costa Coffee locations in both Wexford and New Ross from 2019 - 2022 as a team leader/supervisor. In this

role I was responsible for various tasks such as the management of a team, meeting and exceeding customer service and needs, as well as cash handling.

Final Year Project

The project involves the use of various extraction kits and methodologies for the extraction of amplifiable DNA from milk. The project focuses on the optimisation of both

conventional and qPCR approaches for the detection of *Coxiella burnetii*, the causative agent of Q fever.

Future Ambitions

In the future, I plan to attend a MSc in Biological and Biomolecular Sciences, with hopes to continue with a PhD in public health and infectious diseases, primarily focusing on zoonotic agents.



Daniel Oglesby

(Kilkenny)

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Personal Profile

I am an enthusiastic, determined student with a passion for all things science particularly molecular biology. I am a fast learner and can adapt to new environments quickly. I've spent all my life playing team sports

building qualities and skills such as leadership and punctuality.

Work Experience

During my time as an undergraduate I work part-time as a lifeguard and swim teacher where I have developed a diverse skills set encompassing swift decision making, effective communication, Possessing up-to-date certifications as well as effectively identifying and

resolving issues or potential hazards to ensure a safe environment for patrons.

Final Year Project

This examines how drug-resistant breast cancer cells promote metastasis and how immune cells influence this process. Co-culturing HCC 1954 and THP-1 cells directly and indirectly may reveal changes in invasiveness,

gene expression, or immune responses that either enhance or suppress cancer spread.

Future Ambitions

I'm looking forward to gaining experience in the biopharmaceutical industry and expanding my knowledge. I'm also interested in helping others and would love to use my skills to improve people's lives.



Olamide Racheal Olabode

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Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and detail-oriented biopharmaceutical science student with a strong foundation in molecular biology and pharmaceutical science. I am currently studying a degree in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical

Science at SETU, and currently have a degree in Pharmaceutical Science in DKIT.

Work Experience

I gained teamwork, adaptability, and regulatory awareness through roles at Supermac's Waterford and Gateway Hotel Dundalk, where I maintained hygiene standards, followed & wrote SOPs, and managed stock. I also worked as a student representative

and student ambassador at Dundalk Institute of Technology, Co Louth, enhancing student engagement and resource accessibility. These experiences strengthened my problem-solving, leadership, and compliance skills, essential for biopharmaceutical science.

Final Year Project

My research investigated the genetic variations in the κ -casein gene and their effect on milk

composition Two genes A1/A2 were analysed using PCR and RFLP -PCR. The gDNA was extracted from bovine hair sample.

Future Ambitions

With a strong interest in biopharmaceutical innovation, molecular diagnostics, I would love to work in a biopharmaceutical industry. At some point, I would also love to do study a course on Pathology.



Jessica Shibu

(Dublin)

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Personal Profile

I am an enthusiastic and hardworking person and I have always had an interest in biology. I have recently found that I really enjoy working with microbes in labs. I have an interest in how different microorganisms

impact the world around us.

Work Experience

I have worked as a door to door sales assistant with some charities and have helped raise awareness on different disabilities. I was able to recruit people to sign up to monthly donations towards these charities. I was able to interact with many different people

and get to know them on a personal level. I am currently working a part-time job to support my undergraduate studies.

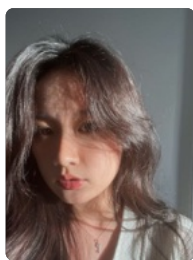
Final Year Project

I am currently studying yeasts that were isolated from a marine environment and screening for their ability to produce any enzymes that are relevant to industry. Marine microorganisms are less

explored compared to terrestrial microorganisms so it will be interesting to see what enzymes are produced.

Future Ambitions

After this year I am hoping to work in a microbiology lab in industry. I would like to gain some experience working before I pursue a masters degree, hopefully in biomolecular science.



Kai Zhen Phua (Dublin)

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Personal Profile

I am ambitious and hard-working, with deep passion for science and innovation. Beyond academics, serving as the Vice President of the Malaysian Society and a peer mentor has enhanced my teamwork, communication, and organisational skills, learn-

ing the values of collaboration and adaptability.

Work Experience

During my six-month placement at Amgen, I worked in the Quality Control (QC) department, conducting quality testing of components to ensure compliance with industry standards and strict protocols. This experience enhanced my attention to detail, precision, and ability to work in a regulated environment.

Additionally, volunteering as a high school chemistry teacher helped me simplify complex concepts, adapt to diverse learning styles, and strengthen my communication and problem-solving skills.

Final Year Project

This project focuses on optimizing a directed evolution protocol to enhance gene therapy for Canavan Disease. By refining PCR-based random

mutagenesis, it aims to improve the efficacy and stability of therapeutic gene variants, ultimately contributing to more effective treatments for the disease.

Future Ambitions

I aim to be a researcher in molecular medicine, advancing therapeutics to improve patient care. I hope to pursue this passion further and make a meaningful impact in the field.



Robin Power (Tipperary)

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robinpower38@hotmail.com

Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and creative individual with a strong passion for biology, particularly microbiology. I enjoy working in a team but can also work well on my own. I have enjoyed my time at

SETU and look forward to furthering my career.

Work Experience

During my time as an undergraduate, I have worked as a sales assistant and a cleaner. Through both jobs, I have developed a varied skillset. Working as a sales assistant allowed me to greatly improve my communication skills,

both in listening and articulating product information clearly to customers. Working as a cleaner, attention to detail and time management were skills I greatly improved on.

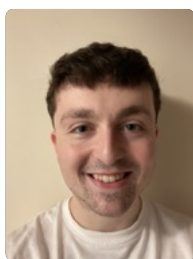
Final Year Project

My project involves analyzing the performance of various filamentous fungi to produce the enzyme, α -amylase, under

different fermentation conditions. The project also involves optimizing two different enzyme assays.

Future Ambitions

Once I've completed my degree in SETU, I am eager to begin my career in industry, hopefully in the area of microbiology. I am interested in eventually pursuing post-graduate education.



Scott Power (Waterford)

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Personal Profile

I am a passionate and dedicated student, with a strong interest in biology. I have gained valuable knowledge in the area of molecular biology, as well as developing a wide range of techniques

in my 4 years of being a SETU student.

Work Experience

During my third year work placement I spent 8 months in Haleon Dungarvan, where I worked on multiple teams, primarily operational quality in which I archived documents and helped with the integration of a new archiving system. I also spent time working

as part of an audit team where I gained valuable insight on how industrial audits run.

Final Year Project

My project involves investigating how genotype and phenotype affect caffeine metabolism. The project involves extracting DNA from 10 volunteers' cheek cell and saliva samples, using PCR and ELISA to

evaluate the volunteers' genotype and rate of caffeine metabolism.

Future Ambitions

I would like to gain further experience in industry especially in the quality area, together with further education to expand on the skills and knowledge that I have gained so far.



Kathryn Quinn

(Kilkenny)

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 kathrynq29@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Driven molecular biology student with lab and quality engineering experience. skilled in PCR, data analysis and problem solving. Passionate about biotech eager to contribute and grow in the industry.

Work Experience

I have previous work experience of working as a quality engineer in Abbott Vascular where I led projects to improve GMP compliance and increase yield monitoring. My experience here strengthened my problem solving, teamwork and communication skills. Additionally my customer service roles in the Urlingford Arms and Newpark Hotel Kilkenny

helped me to develop my adaptability, time management and ability to work in high pressure environments.

Final Year Project

My project focuses on culturing HCC1954 cells low attachment plates and hanging drop method. Cells are then treated with PBS and neratinib to compare cytotoxic responses between 2D and 3D culture methods. This project aims

to aims to contribute to cancer research by optimizing 3D culture techniques.


Future Ambitions

A goal of mine is to contribute to impactful research and continuously develop my technical & leadership skills, while striving to establish my career in the medical device & biotechnology industry.



Anna Richardson

(Waterford)

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 annarichardson0912@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a hardworking and resilient individual with a passion for biology, particularly in molecular and microbiology. I thrive in high-pressure environments, staying focused and achieving reliable results. Throughout my studies, I have

acquired a wide array of skills, and analytical abilities.

Work Experience

During my studies I am currently employed as a senior receptionist in a hotel. Working in this position has allowed me to gain in problem solving and dealing with difficulties which may arise on a day-to-day basis. In my position I completed tasks such as implementing new training procedures and other tasks

which benefit day to day operations. During my studies, I completed a 5-month placement abroad in ENIL, Mammirolle, France where I studied lactic acid bacteria during fermentation.

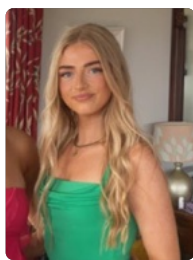
Final Year Project

The investigation and application of fluorescent proteins in mammalian cells, specifically HEK293 cells to visualise protein interactions through the use

of Biomolecular fluorescence complementation assay (BiFC assay) utilising mutant constructs of yellow fluorescent protein.

Future Ambitions

My future ambition is to pursue a career in embryology, applying the molecular and microbiological skills I have developed over four years of study. I am eager to contribute to this field of science.



Jessica Ryan

(Wexford)

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Personal Profile

I am a hardworking, self-motivated individual with excellent teamwork skills and a strong ability to learn quickly. I am outgoing and enjoy taking on new challenges. From a young age, I had interest in science, particularly Biology, which fostered my enthusiasm

for fields such as Microbiology.

Work Experience

I completed an eight-month work placement at TEVA Pharmaceuticals, where I worked in R&D. I had a variety of daily tasks that kept my role dynamic and engaging. Additionally, I was assigned a project in Sample Management, where I attended meetings to discuss implementing a more efficient inventory system to benefit lab

analysts and reduce overall waste. This initiative was recognized by the Head of EHS. I was also an active member of the 5S team, participating in weekly activities and meetings.

Final Year Project

My final-year project is Bioinformatics-based. It involves analyzing quantitative data from anonymous samples to examine correlations between gut microbiota

and inflammatory diseases, deepening our understanding of the role gut microbes can play in health.

Future Ambitions

I hope to pursue a career where I can apply the knowledge and skills I gained during my studies. I am particularly interested in continuing my education in Molecular Biology or a related discipline.



Aziel Zafar

(Waterford)

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azielzafar29@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

As a Molecular Biology student at SETU, I gained expertise in lab techniques and problem-solving. My roles as a Peer Mentor and Science Officer enhanced my leadership and communication skills. I am eager to apply my knowledge

and analytical thinking to innovative research and development projects.

Work Experience

I developed strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills through diverse experiences. As a Youth Camp Leader at Faith Mission, I organized activities for children and young adults, promoting teamwork and leadership. At SETU, I guided peers as a Mentor and later

connected students and faculty as the Science & Computing Officer. Additionally, as a Brand Ambassador for Generation Y, I boosted brand visibility through strategic events and social media engagement.

Final Year Project

My final year dissertation investigates ionotropic AMPA receptors and their link to neurological diseases. I am using molecular cloning techniques, including PCR

and bacterial transformation, to express AMPA receptors in HEK-293 cells and study their impact on cell viability, enhancing my skills.

Future Ambitions

I am passionate about contributing to research in neuroscience, molecular biology and genetics. My goal is to advance my knowledge in biopharma R&D and leverage my skills to drive innovation.

Departmental Awards – Biology

Winners of Excellence in Undergraduate Biology research awards 2024, sponsored by Eurofins. L to R: Paul Morrissey, Senior Manger in the Molecular Biology Department, Eurofins; Amie Menton, 1st place; Caleb Cullen, 3rd place; Megan Delaney, 2nd place.



‘Excellence in Level 7 Undergraduate Biology Research’ awards 2024, kindly sponsored by BioEnz Technologies Ltd. Project supervisors accepted the certificates on behalf of their students. L to R: Prof Gillian Gardiner (Marie Royer, 1st place); Dr Audrey Hearne (Maylis Martin, 2nd place); Dr David Scanlon (Jessica Shibu, Certificate of Merit); Tim Roche, CEO BioEnz.

Lecturing staff with Winners of Excellence in Undergraduate Biology research awards 2024. L to R: Dr Sweta Rani, Prof Gillian Gardiner, Dr Edel McNeela, Dr David Scanlon, Amie Menton, Megan Delaney, Paul Morrissey (Eurofins), Caleb Cullen, Dr Lee Coffey, Dr Nabla Kennedy.





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BSc in Pharmaceutical Science

The **BSc in Pharmaceutical Science** combines a broad range of scientific subjects that are important for the discovery, development and manufacture of drugs and therapies. This is a three year (Level 7) degree. Students will cover areas of chemical, biological and analytical sciences of particular relevance to the pharmaceutical industry. Quality management is also covered which is very important for this area. For more information about this course, please contact Dr Kathleen Grennan at Kathleen.Grennan@setu.ie.

Projects

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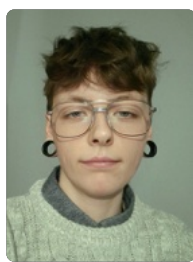
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Harrison Donnellan
(Kilkenny)

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Personal Profile

I am Harry Donnellan, an undergraduate BSc (O) Pharmaceutical Science student in my final year. I enjoy laboratory work such as the analysis of samples and synthesising drugs & other compounds. I am keen to use the skills I have learned from both the-

oretical and practical lessons within industry.

Work Experience

I have 2 years of experience as a general operative in a distillery. I learned the importance and efficiency in maintaining/ensuring quality of materials/product from bottling through to shipping. I learned how to properly comply within the FSAI, follow SOP's and keep within required quality parameters. I enjoyed working

as part of a team and coming up with a plan-of-action with my fellow colleagues. I found a lot of personal reward when I was given responsibility within tasks and projects.

Final Year Project

My project takes a look at the alternative use of wastewater management on a small scale. I am using spent coffee waste to determine if there is a greener method to purifying wastewater without

the need of harsh chemicals or producing secondary waste. I aim to utilise green chemistry in industry.

Future Ambitions

In 5 years I see myself helping to make changes within the pharmaceutical industry. I aim to do this by aiding in and being an asset to the research and development of new methods and drug synthesis.



Laurence Ho (Carlow)

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Personal Profile

My name is Laurence Ho and I am a pharmaceutical science student currently studying in SETU Waterford. I consider myself to be adaptable, organised and a reliable team player. I am highly passionate about working

in a lab and I am eager to learn more about the pharmaceutical industry.

Work Experience

I have worked as a kitchen hand and my role was to communicate with the chefs about customers orders and to organise which orders were to be prioritised in order to maximise customer satisfaction and minimise customer wait times. This job has

taught me how to thrive in a fast-paced busy environment, how to manage my time as well as other people's time, and has given invaluable communication skills.

Final Year Project

My research project involves measuring absorption in the UVA and UVB ranges by using UV spectroscopy in order to analyse various brands of sunscreen and compare

their SPF factors. Time permitting I will also be synthesising a sunscreen and analysing its absorptive properties.

Future Ambitions

My future ambitions are to pursue a career in the pharmaceutical industry expanding and gaining new experiences within various sectors of the industry.



Thet Maw (Waterford)

089 489 0456
nadiethetmaung@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am a diligent, hard-working and organised student, qualities that I feel will be invaluable in helping me pursue a career in the pharmaceutical industry. In my spare time I enjoy reading and

walking, which gives me the time to recharge and reflect. The mantra that I live by is 'trust the process'.

Work Experience

I work part-time as a server at my family-owned café/restaurant. This experience has given me the ability to deal effectively with customers, work in a fast-paced environment and

to keep calm in stressful situations. I also understand how a business operates and the economic concerns that can impact a company.

Final Year Project

My project involves analysing the levels of polyphenols and ergosterols in multispecies swards. I am focusing mainly on using HPLC in my project in order to

analyse various chemicals such as tannic acid, catechin, quercetin hydrate, etc.

Future Ambitions

I plan on gaining employment in the pharmaceutical industry where I can implement the skills and knowledge I have garnered from studying my course. I am also open to moving to different countries.



Maryna Nadieieva (Waterford)

083 022 7148
mnadieieva@yahoo.com

Personal Profile

I am a final student of pharmaceutical science with a strong academic background. I also possess practical medical and laboratory experience, which I have gained over years of working in both areas. My strongest qualities are

industriousness, willingness to learn and adaptability.

Work Experience

I have 8 years work experience as an ENT nurse, during which time I assisted in various procedures and operations. I also sterilised instruments, prepared disinfectants, organised outpatient reception hours using the Medcard24 program, and have used

ICD-10 for coding of diseases and related health problems. While working as a laboratory assistant for 8 years at a Chemical Fibre Plant, I prepared samples, examined raw materials and outputs and wrote up reports.

Final Year Project

The main excipients that I am studying in this project are lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline

cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, starch 1500, sodium starch glycolate and magnesium stearate.

Future Ambitions

My aim is to gain practical experience in any area of the pharmaceutical industry. I firmly believe that my communication skills and determination will help me to achieve success in my future career.

Imène Ouadi (Waterford)

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imxne.ouadi@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am an ERASMUS student studying Pharmaceutical Science. Originally from France, I always expressed an interest for english (I had extra hours which allowed me to study in Ireland) and science because I was always curious on how drugs worked when we were sick, what explained their effects etc...

Work Experience

I never worked before but I volunteered for certain events where I had to guide people for open days in college. I wasn't on my own, we were a group of students some were in my course (chemistry-biology) and others didn't. Visitors had to be redirected to have the information they were looking for

especially since we are in an international course we were very busy.

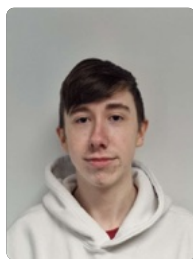
Final Year Project

While developing a technique of derivatization for two lipids of different sizes and testing base catalysis as well as acid catalysis, my goal is to determine the reaction time of each to see if the size of the lipid influences the reaction time.


I analyse the lipids by Gas Chromatography.

Future Ambitions

I plan to in masters next year, either in drugs synthesis, quality control or neuroscience. I will either do research or work in a quality control lab, I would love to explore all the roles in a lab.



Aaron Power (Waterford)

089 498 2121 
aaronpower2014@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am an ambitious and results-driven individual with a love for science. During my degree I have gained a strong proficiency in a range of analytical techniques such as spectroscopy and chromatography, and am motivated to apply the skills and knowledge that

I have learned into practical settings.

Work Experience

I have been working part-time in Bausch + Lomb as a general operator since April 2023. I am responsible for operating moulding machines to produce contact lens moulds. This experience has taught me essential skills such as how to follow SOPs and work to strict deadlines in order to meet work quotas, all

while adhering to GMP, GLP and Health & Safety standards. I have also gained work experience in the R & D Department, which has given me an invaluable insight into the medical devices sector.

Final Year Project

My research project focused on the fabrication, design and effectiveness of microneedle arrays. This was carried out by producing microneedle

arrays using PVP 360k and PVP 40k, and then comparing them using a range of characterisation techniques such as SEM, texture analysis, DSC, TGA and HPLC.

Future Ambitions

I hope to gain first hand experience in the pharmaceutical or medical devices sector to further develop the skills I have learned with the possibility of furthering my education.

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The **BSc (Hons) in Pharmaceutical Science** is a four year full-time honours degree aimed at preparing graduates for the pharmaceutical industry. Students will be exposed to a broad range of subjects and laboratory instrumentation relevant to the pharmaceutical industry. A research project is also carried out in year 4. The course also provides graduates with a range of transferable skills so that graduates are qualified for a wide range of science-based industries.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Eleanor Owens at Eleanor.Owens@setu.ie.

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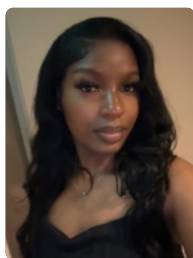
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Esther Adebisi
 (Cork)

 085 133 8506 📞
 Esther.adebisi112@gmail.com ✉️
Personal Profile

I'm Esther Adebisi, a diligent and ambitious 21 year old pharmaceutical science student. Driven with excellent communication and interpersonal skills. I am motivated to apply the knowledge

gained from my degree into practical settings.

Work Experience

Through academic projects and lab work, I have gained valuable experience in the pharmaceutical field, developing strong organisational and analytical skills. I have focused on drug formulation, data analysis, and research techniques, while also demonstrating

the ability to work under pressure, collaborate in teams, and solve problems effectively.

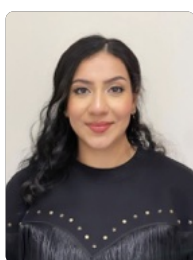
Final Year Project

This project focuses on formulating a modified-release Aspirin solid dosage to enhance effectiveness and patient compliance. It optimises various materials to achieve sustained release. Different materials

are tested to find the best formula for steady and long-lasting relief.

Future Ambitions

After completing my degree, I aim to pursue a career in the pharmaceutical industry. I'm also open to furthering my education with a master's degree to enhance my skills and knowledge.


Randa Angali
 (Tipperary)

 089 457 0419 📞
 Randaangali3@gmail.com ✉️
Personal Profile

Diligent and driven pharmaceutical science student with a passion for exploring drug development and innovation. Motivated individual with strong work ethic and working both independently or collaboratively.

Work Experience

I gained valuable experience as a pharmacy assistant, enhancing my communication skills by effectively addressing patient queries. I developed accuracy in counting and labelling medications and remained composed in high-stress and emergency situations. My role involved dispensing prescriptions efficiently and staying

updated on new medications and healthcare trends. This experience strengthened my ability to work in a fast-paced environment while ensuring patient care and safety.

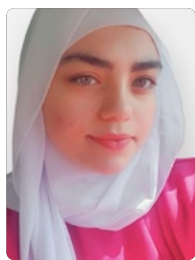
Final Year Project

My final year project, provided by Teva, focuses on characterising phase transformations in an API used in dry powder inhalers. Using tech-

niques like DSC, TGA, XRPD, and DVS, I analyse how processing conditions influence phase changes, helping optimise formulation stability and performance.

Future Ambitions

I aim to advance in pharmaceutical research, focusing on drug formulation and analysis. My goal is to contribute to safer, more effective medication.



Sara Askar
(Tipperary)

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20099325@mail.wit.ie ✉

Personal Profile

I am a dedicated and detail-oriented fourth-year pharmaceutical science student with a strong background in analytical techniques. Passionate about pharmaceutical research, particularly in solid-state

chemistry and drug formulation, with hands-on experience in laboratory analysis and quality control.

Work Experience

During my work experience, I gained extensive experience on analytical techniques, focusing on solid-state chemistry and analytical techniques. I have developed strong technical and analytical skills in pharma-

ceutical quality control through laboratory-based coursework and research projects.

Final Year Project

Investigates the elemental composition of infant powdered milk formula, focusing on essential and non-essential metals to assess the safety and nutritional quality of Irish infant formula. The findings contribute to regulatory compliance, con-

sumer safety, and quality assurance in infant nutrition.

Future Ambitions

I aim to build a career in the pharmaceutical industry focusing on drug formulation and solid-state chemistry. My goal is to contribute to innovative drug delivery systems while gaining industry experience.

Taseer Aslam
(Kilkenny & Cork)

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taseer.aslam17@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a quick learner and eager to take on challenges. As a Pharmaceutical Science student with experience in quality assurance, I adapt easily and work well in fast-paced environments. I am detail-oriented, proactive, and always looking for ways to improve processes and expand my skills.

Work Experience

Bausch + Lomb (Quality Engineering Placement, Jan–Aug 2024) Assisted in quality assurance, data analysis, and GMP compliance. Monitored non-conformances, conducted product inspections, and helped with Six Sigma initiatives. Collected and analyzed data for investigations and collaborated with cross-functional teams. Used

systems like CATSWeb and Kintana for quality and change management, ensuring regulatory compliance.

Final Year Project

I researched microplastics occurrence, environmental impact, and removal from water, along with degradation technologies in WWTPs. I also studied their presence in the medical field, analyzing health effects

and mitigation strategies, with a focus on hospital wastewater treatment (HWWTPs).

Future Ambitions

I aspire to work in various pharmaceutical departments, including R&D, QC, and QA. I aim to expand my expertise, contribute to innovation, acquire new skills and help create high quality products.



Nursyazana Radhiah Binti Mohamad Zakkuan
(Cork, Dublin) syazana.radhiah018@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a detail-oriented final-year Pharmaceutical Science student with 8 months of Quality Assurance experience in GMP, regulatory compliance, and quality management, with hands-on expertise in analytical techniques.

Work Experience

During my internship at Teva Pharmaceuticals, I gained 8 months of hands-on Quality Assurance experience, including temperature mapping, SOP reviews, and PQR documentation to ensure GMP compliance. I worked with SAP, TrackWise, and Glorya systems, developing exper-

tise in risk management, Pharmacovigilance, and regulatory processes.

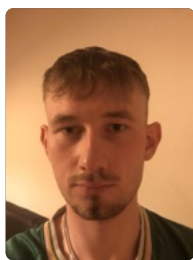
Final Year Project

My project explores advanced analytical techniques for identifying unknown individuals from latent fingerprints, assessing sensitivity, accuracy, and forensic reliability. It aims to enhance crime

investigation methodologies by evaluating cutting-edge qualitative analysis tools.

Future Ambitions

Aspiring to excel in quality assurance and regulatory compliance, ensuring safe, effective pharmaceuticals. Passionate about innovation, continuous improvement, and industry best practices.



Aaron Corcoran

Personal Profile

My name is Aaron Corcoran and I am a 4th year student on the pharmaceutical science program at SETU. I would describe myself as a hardworking, determined

and creative person. My main hobbies involve playing sports such as football and golf.

Work Experience

I did my 3rd year 9 month work placement at TEVA Pharmaceuticals. I spent my placement in the QC lab where I observed the testing of API and excipients, dealt with incoming batches of inhaler components

that needed to be tested and helped in sampling API and excipients. Skills that I developed during my time were networking, time management and planning skills.

Final Year Project

For my project, I am to prepare calcium oxide (CaO) from waste seashells to act as a green catalyst in an aldol reaction. This project

aims to place emphasis on the move towards greener chemistry and the circular economy by using shells which would be considered waste.

Future Ambitions

In the future, I hope to work in a QC or R&D lab and use the skills that I have learned over my time studying pharmaceutical science.



Damiana Gabrielli (Waterford)

Personal Profile

I am an organised, reliable and ambitious individual, eager to learn and improve my skills. I balance my studies with hobbies and I have been involved as treasurer and secretary in the kayaking club for the past two years. Additionally, I

have completed a 10-credit module in Peer-to-Peer Mentoring.

Work Experience

I completed my work placement at Connolly's RED MILLS in the QC lab, gaining hands-on experience testing raw materials and finished products and using SAP to perform various tasks. Other duties included calibrations, checking temperatures and mouse traps, collecting and filing product retains,

checking production paperwork and carrying out checks during products packaging. Other experience includes being a student ambassador, working at summer camps and being a kitchen assistant/chef in a hotel.

Final Year Project

DPIs would allow for the targeted delivery of antibiotics to the site of infection in the lungs, but their development presents challenges. I am

preparing various spray-dried formulations of isoniazid and characterizing them in order to determine their suitability for pulmonary drug delivery.

Future Ambitions

To gain experience in research and development to contribute to innovation and advance my career. I hope to learn new skills while working in a productive environment with the opportunity to progress.

083 885 3744

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Natchanon Jutisooksan (Waterford)

Personal Profile

I am a social and outgoing individual who thrives in group based activities and proficient in various Microsoft Office applications. Outside of my studies, I have various hobbies with particular interests in snow sports.

Work Experience

During my studies I've completed an eight months work placement at West Pharma where I was responsible for various essential tasks such as reagent prep, balance and pipette calibration, stock check, pre-test prep, glassware, and paperwork archiving. Upon returning to college, I continued to provide part-time support

work within the lab after college hours. Previous work experience as elected student council representative tasked with decision making and also experiences in hospitality industry.

Final Year Project

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing global health concern that threatens not only human health, but also worldwide economy.

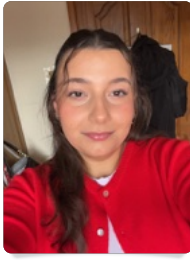
This study aims to investigate various seaweed species and its antimicrobial properties as both a potential source of natural antimicrobial agent to combat AMR.

Future Ambitions

I hope to expand my professional experiences within the pharmaceutical industry all while making meaningful connections.

089 250 7507

natchanonjutisooksan@gmail.com



Tia Kearns
(Waterford)

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Personal Profile

As someone who has always been fascinated by science and found it to be quite magical, I cannot wait to pursue a career in it. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time learning in SETU and I am excited to further my

knowledge once working in industry.

Work Experience

My first job at 16-18 was running the pass in a restaurant. This allowed me to gain skills for working under pressure, as well as team work and time management. Later jobs included a house-keeping assistant in a hotel and working in Tesco. Both these jobs allowed me to further my people

skills. I completed my third year work placement in Eurofins, where I was able to improve my lab skills, gain an understanding of various equipment and learn how a lab needs to be run.

Final Year Project

The aim of my research project is to design a green tea-incorporated wound dressing and determine its antimicrobial properties. This research

project will help further my skills for techniques such as HPLC and microbial testing as well as my basic lab skills.

Future Ambitions

I hope to further develop the skills I have learned during my time in SETU and gain a hands-on experience in R&D. My aim is to contribute to groundbreaking pharmaceutical innovations.



Elray Ng
(Waterford)

elrayng888@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a determined and meticulous individual who is constantly seeking opportunities to expand my knowledge and skills. I am highly adaptable to my surroundings, and I have flexibility in team environments or when working independently toward a common goal.

Work Experience

I have 8 months experience as an R&D Technician Assistant at Kersia, Wexford, where I contributed to projects both independently and as part of a team. My responsibilities included compiling reports and SOPs, conducting data analysis, and carrying out a wide range of experimental work. Additionally, I served two years in the Singapore Army

(October 2018 to 2020), where I developed my teamwork, communication and collaboration skills.

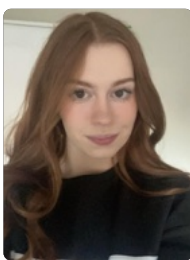
Final Year Project

I am testing the use of cellulose nanocrystals as part of a formulation in nasal sprays. Nasal sprays are becoming increasingly common as a method of drug delivery due to the high bioavailability in the nasal cavity. In brief, this project

includes analysing rheology, spray patterns and plumes.

Future Ambitions

My short-term goal is to broaden my horizons by gaining further hands-on experience in the pharmaceutical industry, allowing me to face challenges effectively and thrive in my professional ambitions.



Kaitlin O'Keefe Pepper

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Personal Profile

I am a detail-orientated and ambitious final year student with a keen interest in the pharmaceutical and chemical industries. I thrive in team-based environments, and hope to contribute to the workplace with my skill set,

kindness and a positive attitude.

Work Experience

During my valuable internship with Shorla Oncology, I had the opportunity to gain insight into the regulatory affairs, quality and R&D sectors of the pharmaceutical industry. I would partake in projects with the R&D pipeline development team. I observed and aided the regulatory affairs team with

multiple submissions to prepare for product market release. I also aided the quality management team with the implementation of an eQMS software for the company to use.

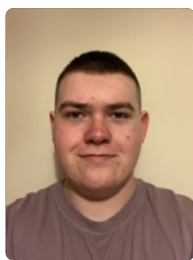
Final Year Project

I'm developing a HPLC method to extract and quantify methylxanthines, such as caffeine, from food sources across my local SETU campus. I aim to develop a green

HPLC method by minimising the use of organic solvents and investigate the usage of mobile phase recycling to reduce waste.

Future Ambitions

I look forward to implementing the skills I have learned over the years into a hands-on, challenging work environment, particularly in analytical science or regulatory affairs.



Connor O'Riordan (Waterford)

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ooriordanconnor@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a motivated and detail orientated person who's passionate about analytical science. I work well in lab environments enjoying the precision based work. I'm a dependable team player who enjoys building strong relationships

with team members. I'm excited to apply my skills and grow in the industry.

Work Experience

During my work placement in Eurofins, I helped preparing analytical solutions and supported method setup in a GMP environment. I gained valuable experience in team work, efficient time management and learning to independently work and prioritise urgent tasks. I observed many analytical

tests including training on many instruments further expanding my knowledge. I have further experience working independently from my time with the Waterford County Council assisting people on the greenway.

Final Year Project

My project focuses on developing an HPLC method, validating the method and using it to test Irish estuarine water samples for pharmaceuticals which may be

present. This area of research is particularly important due to the significant presence of pharmaceutical companies in Waterford.

Future Ambitions

In the future I aim to work in quality control or R&D as both areas I find interesting and rewarding. I am also eager to pursue a masters degree in analytical science to further expand my knowledge.



Idaresit Okono (Waterford/Limerick)

089 955 9898 
idaraokono110@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

An individual with a strong academic background in Pharma science and hands-on laboratory experience, eager to begin a career in the pharmaceutical workforce. My expertise includes formulation, regulatory, analytical fields and many more!

Above all, a proactive team player who takes the initiative.

Work Experience

I have gained extensive experience in customer service, teamwork, and time management through various roles in the retail and hospitality sectors. My positions as a barista, deli, sales assistant, and retail worker have strengthened my ability to handle fast-paced environments while maintaining

excellent service. Additionally, my volunteering experience at St. Vincent de Paul enhanced my interpersonal problem-solving skills and my background in laboratory work, demonstrating attention to detail.

Final Year Project

My project focused on enhancing the solubility of NSAIDs using two key techniques: Antisolvent crystallisation and Cyclodextrins complexation. The project

involved crystallization, phase solubility studies, particle size analysis, dissolution studies, and SEM/DSC analysis for a complete assessment.

Future Ambitions

Pursuing a career in the pharmaceutical field, I intend to gain more experience in different sectors for a start and commit immersely to my everyday growth personally, socially, and professionally.



Hannah Olaitan (England)

089 242 2934 ☎
HOLaitan11@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a young and ambitious 21 year old who is eager to make her mark in the pharmaceutical industry. I am a fast learner and able to adapt quickly to new environments. I enjoy going on walks

and listening to music or going to the gym.

Work Experience

I did my placement in Bausch + Lomb Waterford. I worked in the Quality systems department and also got a bit of experience in R&D too. I was trained on how to update different ISO certs, Power BI and Excel. I was taught how to handle requests from different countries about

certificates of conformance/analysis. I was in charge of sending out a weekly scorecard to every department on the Waterford site in regards to team performance.

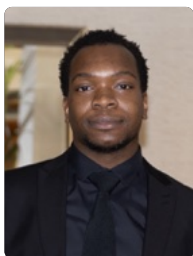
Final Year Project

Various formulations will be prepared by wet granulation using Quercetin as the main active ingredient because of its anti-inflammatory properties. The hardness, friability,

floating lag time, and total buoyancy time of the tablets will be studied. In-vitro dissolution studies will be carried out.

Future Ambitions

I want to work in pharmaceutical research after receiving my degree in pharmaceutical science, creating novel treatments to meet unmet medical needs and enhancing public health.



Lenny Omoijade (Laois)

089 486 2596 ☎
lennyomoijade14@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am an ambitious, hard-working and well mannered young man who enjoys new challenges. through the duration off my course I have developed, a long set of practical skills to prepare me for the pharmaceutical industry. I have found

a passion of trying new things. In my free time I go on long runs.

Work Experience

I spent nine months working in the quality assurance (QA) department of Teva Waterford. My main tasks consisted of ensuring the products made on site followed regulatory requirements, company GMP, GLP, company policy and procedures. Working in the the QA department

showed me the importance of teamwork and collaboration in the pharmaceutical industry. I was also given the opportunity to assist analysts in the quality control lab with disposal of waste produced from tests.

Final Year Project

My final year project focuses on pressurised hot water extraction as a green extraction technique. I would be testing

its capability of extracting bioactive compounds from passion fruit peels and contrasting it to a conventional well established extraction technique.

Future Ambitions

My hope for the future is to expand my knowledge by working in the lab and the office. I also have a strong desire of becoming a qualified person at some point of my life.



Kate Phelan (Waterford)

083 313 2877 ☎
kate7@live.ie ✉

Personal Profile

A diligent and passionate final-year student with a strong interest in chemistry and problem-solving. At the end of my first year, I was honoured to receive the Phillip Kelly Teva Excellence Scholarship in recognition of my achievements.

Work Experience

Throughout secondary school and college, I worked at McDonald's Waterford for four years, where I progressed to a crew trainer role and took on office administration responsibilities. Additionally, I served as an academic student champion for N-Tutorr SETU, where I piloted a student digital backpack of on-line courses. I also com-

pleted an eight-month placement at Teva Waterford's R&D department, gaining hands-on experience testing innovative inhalation products.

Final Year Project

My research aims to develop identification methods of antioxidant degradation products. I will be using both HPLC-UV and HPLC-MS. As part of this work, I will be

contributing to an LC-MS elucidation database, which will be used by an industry partner for future identification studies.

Future Ambitions

I am eager to pursue a career in research, where I can expand my knowledge in the field of pharmaceutical science. My passion for learning drives me to seek new challenges and develop expertise.



Emily Power

(Waterford)

089 228 0259 
emily.power32@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a responsible, approachable and adaptable individual with an excellent eye for detail. I would describe myself as an energetic and ambitious person with a mature and professional approach to any task that I undertake, or situation that I am presented with.

Work Experience

During my work-placement at Jabil Healthcare I undertook the role of a student quality engineer working alongside the operational quality team. This role gave me the opportunity to work with various other teams across the company giving me great insight into the medical device industry. The main focus of my role was to examine any defects found

in the medical devices and get to the root of the problem in order for a CAPA to be put in place which would enhance the product quality going forward.

can be used on site in industry when combined with chemometrics, NIR has provided the most promising results.

Final Year Project

Counterfeit drugs are a growing global issue posing significant risk to public health. The detection and quantification of these drugs is complex, NIR is a rapid, non-destructive method that

Future Ambitions

I enjoy learning and developing my knowledge and skills, as a pharmaceutical science student I hope to travel to Australia when I graduate to gain some experience in the pharmaceutical industry there.



Jana Ramadan

(Waterford)

083 130 8103 
janamina93@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a compassionate and understanding individual who values empathy and personal growth. I have a strong passion for baking, reading, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. My caring nature and my dedication to continuous

self-improvement lets me connect with others meaningfully.

Work Experience

Name : West Pharmaceuticals location: Waterford City Role Position: Student support Lab Analyst Date: 08 January 2024 – 28 June 2024 Name: Student Life and Learning location: SETU Waterford City Role Position: Student ambassador Date: September 2022

and continuing. Name: HD Keane Solicitors location: Waterford City Role Position: shadow work Date: Spring 2017.

Final Year Project

My project focuses on developing an efficient method for simultaneously extracting water-soluble vitamins from animal feed. This enhances quality control, ensuring proper nutrition while meeting industry

regulations. By streamlining analysis, it supports innovation in feed formulation and health.

Future Ambitions

My future ambition is to work in the pharmaceutical industry, with a particular interest in regulatory affairs, policy-making, and marketing, where I can contribute to innovation and compliance.



Ellen Roche (Waterford)

087 708 7032 ☎
ellenroche62@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

Hello, My name is Ellen, I'm 22 years old. I'm a disciplined and thorough individual with a strong passion in the pharmaceutical and medical device industry. I practice competitive taekwondo, as a second degree black belt with two European

titles and have learned to work well under pressure.

Work Experience

I completed three months work experience in quality control in Sanofi Waterford during the summer in 2022. I worked abroad in America for three months working with children in a summer camp in 2023. I did my third year work placement in 2024 at Jabil Healthcare Waterford

for nine months working cross-departmentally from quality management systems to batch release and I shadowed quality engineers assisting with their day to day tasks also.

Final Year Project

Counterfeit drugs are drugs that contain, little to no API or too much API, little to no excipients as advertised, or aren't made with the right regulatory standards

that have big impacts on human health. Finding the best device to find these on-site will help everyone, especially the third world.

Future Ambitions

I am passionate about pursuing a career in quality within the pharmaceutical/medical device industry, with a focus on compliance and auditing to uphold current regulatory standards to the highest.

Caleb Shortiss-Day (Waterford)

cshortissday02@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am a curious and thorough analytical scientist with a drive to understand and measure chemical and biological properties of different substances. I am an active listener and good communicator, enabling me to learn new tasks and be an effective and inclusive member of any team.

Work Experience

I completed my Pharmaceutical Science work placement at the Environmental Protection Agency in Kilkenny. While I was there I spent my time in the water labs testing samples for biological/chemical oxygen demand, pH and conductivity. Overall, I enjoyed my work placement experience as it showed

me what it was like to work in a high-quality, professional laboratory environment.

Final Year Project

The aim of my project is to analyse pesticides in wine. This involves developing and validating a gas chromatography method to test for pesticides in wine samples and the development of a Dispersive Liquid

Liquid Microextraction method for the extraction and pre-concentration of pesticides.

Future Ambitions

In the future I would like to work in the lab of a pharmaceutical company. While I am not yet certain which aspect I would like most, I did enjoy the analytical aspects during my work placement.



Olamide Sogbesan (Cork)

089 491 2372 ☎
Olamidesogbesan30@gmail.com ✉

Personal Profile

I am an ambitious, focused, hardworking and talented young woman. I would describe myself as someone who is eager to always learn and develop new skills and put them into practice to the best of my ability. I have always had a keen interest

in chemistry and helping people.

Work Experience

As part of my 3rd year placement, I gained insightful experience as a Quality Assurance officer at Teva Pharmaceuticals Waterford for 9 months. My role as a QA intern was to update SOP's, carry out temperature mapping, periodic reviews, audits and create training records. I managed data using softwares

like Glorya, Trackwise and Wisdom. Working at Teva gave me the opportunity to put the skills that I've learned in over the years into practice such as teamwork, communication and IT skills.

Final Year Project

The aim of my final year project was to formulate a polymer based, drug loaded micro particle to aid sustained release of the drug. The polymer used is PLGA &

the drug encapsulated is Polymixin B. Factors affecting degradation rates and sustained release was studied. SEM is used for characterisation.

Future Ambitions

I aim to make a positive impact by working as a quality analyst in a Pharma industry where I can apply my skills I have developed. I aim to expand my knowledge and skills with a masters in the future.



Ulla Uspele

(Laois)

083 046 4967 
 uspeleulla@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a friendly, hard-working, and driven individual with a strong work ethic. I thrive both in team environments and when working independently, always striving to achieve the best possible results. I am highly adaptable, eager to learn

new skills, and committed to personal and professional growth.

Work Experience

I've worked in a range of industries including hospitality, retail and manufacturing. For my college placement I worked in the Quality Control Department at Teva Pharmaceuticals. My responsibilities included creating, updating and obsoleting documents within different document manage-

ment systems. I also assisted analysts in the lab by prepping diluent, calibrating instruments and disposing of waste. This experience enhanced my technical skills but also developed my ability to work independently.

Final Year Project

For my final year project, I am studying particles produced using different microemulsions and cosurfactants. My research focuses on assessing how

the type and concentration of surfactants, as well as the presence of cosurfactants, affect the particles' type, size, and UV absorption capability.

Future Ambitions

I enjoyed my experience in the Quality Control department and would like to pursue a career in this field. However, I am open to exploring other departments to expand my knowledge and skills.



Michael Williams

(Wexford/Waterford)

087 959 5493 
 m.williams1985ie@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am a hard-working, self-motivated student that enjoys taking on new challenges. I enjoy problem solving, particularly as a way of furthering understanding of a situation or process. Outside of work I enjoy playing mu-

sic or spending time with friends and family.

Work Experience

I completed my work experience in Bausch + Lomb in the R&D department as an analytical chemist. The role included preparing and testing monomer formulations for use in product development protocols, and preparing documentation including SOPs and BMRs. I previously ran a wholesale business

across 5 counties for 10+ years, requiring strong organisational and interpersonal skills, business strategy, and the ability to work well under pressure.

Final Year Project

My final year project involved a literature review of the recent LC-MS methods of analysis of pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and marine toxins in aqueous environments. Lab

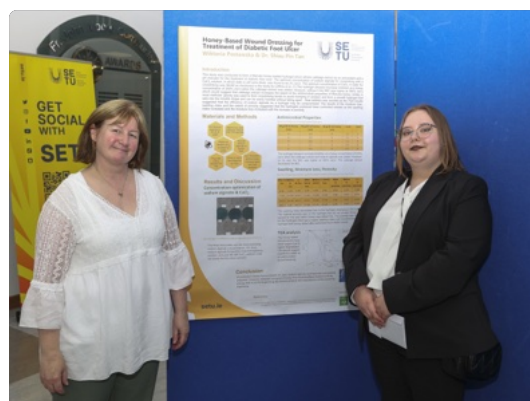
research will focus on development of a validated LC-MS method for the analysis of marine toxins.

Future Ambitions

I aim to continue to develop and broaden my skills and knowledge base, while making a meaningful contribution to any team I can be a part of. I look forward to new opportunities and challenges.

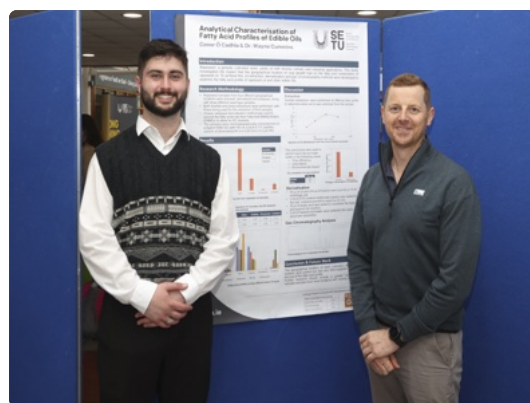
Departmental Awards – Pharmaceutical Science

Wiktorija Postawska, Student Spirit Award. Sponsored by Haleon and presented by Marie Duffy, Haleon.



Hannah Burke, Research Poster Presentation Award with her supervisor, Dr Richie Ryan. Sponsored by Sanofi.

Conor O Cadhla, Research Poster Presentation Award with her supervisor, Dr Wayne Cummins. Sponsored by Sanofi.



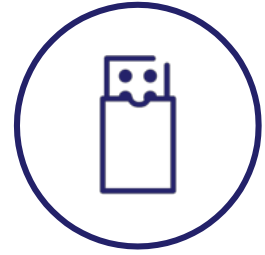
BSc (Hons) Pharmaceutical Science, Class 2024.

Fatima Ehsan and Jessica Howard recipients of the Literature Review Awards, sponsored by Sofrimar. Presented by Dr Claire Lennon, SETU Waterford.





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Servier (Ireland) Industries Ltd.
Gorey Road - Arklow Co. Wicklow Y14E284 - Ireland

BSc (Hons) in Physics for Modern Technology

The **BSc (Hons) in Physics for Modern Technology** is a four-year honours degree course, which includes a six-month work placement in industry. This is an inter-disciplinary course and provides students with an understanding of the physics underlying modern technologies such as semiconductors, optics/photonics, alternative energy, and sensor systems. It provides students with complementary skills in the areas of physics, engineering, mathematics and programming. Graduates will develop a range of transferable skills that are valued and much sought after by industry.

For more information about this course, please contact Dr Joe Murphy at Joe.Murphy@setu.ie.

Projects

Roland Ardill

A Historical Analysis and Reproduction of Foote's Experiment on the Absorption of Heat by Atmospheric Gases 101

David Duggan

Inkjet Printing of Silver Nanoparticle Thin Films for Transparent Conductive Material Applications 102

Sade Hegazi

To Design and Build a System to Characterise the State of Health of Used Li-Batteries 102

Grace Power

Calibration of a High-Resolution Gamma Ray Spectrometer 102

Orla Rothwell

An Investigation of Quantum Algorithms 103

Roisin Torpey

Examination of the Surface Plasmon Resonance of Nano-structured Thin Films 103

Roland Ardill (Waterford)

083 409 9965 
ardillroland@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Hi, I'm Roland, a 4th-year student in the Physics for Modern Technology program at SETU. I'm deeply involved in all aspects of kayaking and have a strong interest in outdoor activities like swimming, hiking, and climbing.

Work Experience

In my 3rd year, I completed an 8-month place-

ment at Teva Pharmaceuticals in Waterford, working in the R&D department. I focused on assessing contaminant levels that could leak into drug products from delivery systems, closures, and packaging, and exploring methods to test for these contaminants. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained valuable insight into in-

dustry operations, from colleague communication to product manufacturing.

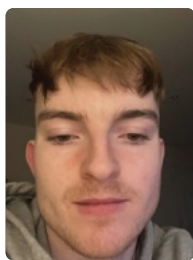
Final Year Project

My final year project aims to recreate an experiment first performed in 1856 which examines the temperature increase of air when there's an increase in CO₂ concentration. This project is historically significant

as it showcases one of the first climate change studies, which is very relevant today.

Future Ambitions

In the next few years my hopes are to find employment in an engineering or pharmaceutical field and to spend as much free time as I have travelling Europe, until I have means to travel further afield.



David Duggan

(Waterford)

089 236 5086 
 davidduggan314@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I'm a final-year Physics student at SETU Waterford, balancing a busy academic life with fatherhood. My studies have given me strong analytical, problem-solving, and technical skills, while being a Dad keeps me motivated and gives my work a true purpose (and

a valid excuse to skip nights out!).

Work Experience

I have three years of hands-on experience in pharma, manufacturing, and engineering. At TEVA, I calibrated GMP-critical instruments and led a process improvement project that saved over 60 hours annually. At Waters, I worked with mass spectrometry and managed technical documentation, while also

installing complex cooling systems nationwide. My expertise in calibration, troubleshooting, and technical problem-solving makes me highly adaptable to regulated industries.

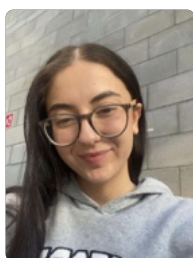
Final Year Project

My final-year project explores inkjet printing of silver nanoparticle thin films for transparent conductive materials. This research aims to develop scalable, cost-effective

alternatives to traditional materials, improving performance in flexible electronics, displays, and solar cells.

Future Ambitions

I'm eager to launch my career in manufacturing, R&D, metrology, or instrumentation/controls engineering. In the future, I plan to pursue a master's degree to explore medical applications of physics.



Sade Hegazi

(Waterford)

083 818 6504 
 Sade78985@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

I am an enthusiastic, self-motivated, and driven student with a passion for physics and engineering that began at a young age. My academic journey has provided me with a strong foundation in modern physics

applications and has fueled my determination to pursue a career in the industry.

Work Experience

I completed an 8-month work experience at Schivo Medical as a Continuous Improvement Technician, gaining extensive experience in process improvement, data analysis, and equipment validation testing. Additionally, I gained

exposure to project management by leading cost reduction initiatives, optimising part inspection frequency, and automating the dry-ice deburring process to enhance efficiency and reduce costs.

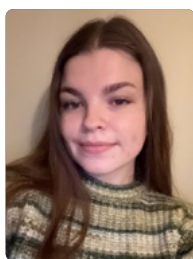
Final Year Project

My project involves developing and constructing a low-cost, Arduino-based potentiostat for Li-battery testing. This device will be used to

perform electrochemical tests for battery characterisation, with a focus on cyclic voltammetry, state-of-charge analysis, and charge-discharge testing.

Future Ambitions

After graduation, I aim to gain industry experience to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during my degree while also planning to pursue a Master's in Medical Physics.



Grace Power

(Waterford)

083 813 9163 
 gracepower0430@gmail.com 

Personal Profile

Enthusiastic and dedicated physics student with a strong passion for problem-solving and data analysis. I have experience in various areas of physics, including optics, electronic systems, and

computational physics using Python.

Work Experience

I completed an eight-month work placement at Bausch + Lomb as an R&D Student Metrology Engineer, where I operated various measurement systems, attended weekly metrology meetings, assisted in setting up Gauge R&Rs, and performed initial calibrations.

From October 2021 to December 2023, I worked as a retail sales assistant at Next, gaining valuable customer service and teamwork experience.

Final Year Project

This project involves calibration of a gamma ray spectrometer used for the analysis of environmental samples. The activity of a range of natural and artificial radionuclides

will be determined for a number of soil samples. The project is being undertaken in collaboration with the EPA.

Future Ambitions

I aim to apply my physics knowledge in local pharmaceutical companies and gain industry experience. In the future, I plan to pursue a master's degree in a physics-related field.



Orla Rothwell

(Waterford)

087 180 7802

orla.rothwell2002@gmail.com

Personal Profile

My name is Orla Rothwell, and I'm a final year student of the BSc (H) in Physics For Modern Technology degree program. I have a deep passion for physics and all of its various applications, and I am interested in many different fields. I am flexible, hard work-

ing and a good team player.

Work Experience

I have rich experience in management related roles. I worked my way up to become area leader in McDonald's after working there for two and half years. I have been employed as a program management intern for a leading medical device company for the past year and a half, which I greatly enjoy. This role has given

me exposure to a rich blend of different engineering disciplines, such as program / project management, lean six sigma, automation, and I have also dabbled in systems engineering.

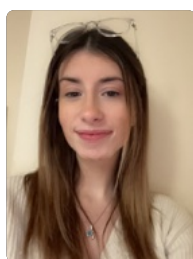
Final Year Project

This project explores the theoretical foundations of quantum computing, and examines a range of quantum algorithms through mathematics and coding. Additionally, it

evaluates the accessibility of real quantum systems, such as the IBM Quantum Platform, by implementing and simulating these algorithms.

Future Ambitions

Pursuing physics through further education, particularly along the route of computational or quantum physics. I greatly enjoy engineering also, and would be delighted to pursue a graduate program.



Roisin Torpey

(Tipperary)

083 814 8381

roisintorpey@gmail.com

Personal Profile

I am a motivated and detail-oriented fourth-year science student with a strong background in physics and engineering. I am skilled in problem-solving, communication, and teamwork. My practical experience across

operational areas has prepared me to excel in dynamic work environments.

Work Experience

I am currently working as a Programs Engineer at Jabil Healthcare, where I support projects across engineering, operations, and quality teams to achieve key objectives. In this fast-paced manufacturing environment, I

have honed my problem-solving and decision-making skills. My responsibilities also include authoring work instructions for medical devices and providing project support through travel.

Final Year Project

My project explores the Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) of nano-thin films composed of copper nanoparticles. These films are engineered as

biosensors, leveraging SPR for highly sensitive biomolecule detection. This research has potential applications in diagnostics and healthcare.

Future Ambitions

I aspire to work in the medical device industry, utilising my physics and engineering background, and to pursue a master's in medical physics to advance my expertise in healthcare technology.



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