



MTU

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University

TIPToP Conference

NStEP case study

Dr Lesley Cotter

9th May 2023

www.mtu.ie

Dr Lesley Cotter

Who am I?

Lecturer Department of Biological Sciences MTU

CORU registered medical scientist

Programme director BSc Biomedical Science

Clinical placement co-ordinator

First year class co-ordinator

Recent graduate of the MA in T&L in Higher Education



Background to TIPToP

Landscape

CORU and CPD



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh
Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Transition funding call
from ANSEO The Student
Engagement Office



Previous successful
student engagement
projects

Succeeding Together

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Why a student-led conference?

Rationale

Professionalism in
curriculum

Active learning

Real life
experiences

No prior
experience of
conference

CPD opportunities
for Biomedical
Scientists

Two Conferences: Themes



TIPToP 2019

Reflecting on the Cycle of
Professional Development for
Medical Scientists



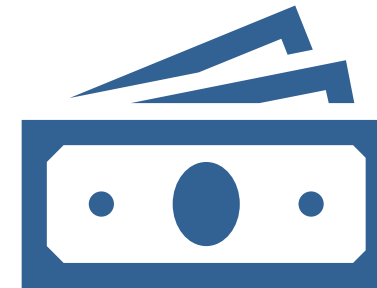
TIPToP 2023

Biomedical Science: The
Future is in our Hands

First Steps



Introduce idea to fourth year
Biomedical science students



Secure funding

Partnership Roles Established

Two academic
staff

Students
conference
committee

Student
conference
participants and
attendees

Leading by Example

First meeting



Academic staff: chair and secretary



Minutes of meeting circulated



Appointed student chair and secretary



Tasks outlined and committees established

Conference Name and Logo



Transition In Progress To Professionalism



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Three Student Led Committees



PROMOTION



POSTER COMPETITIONS



LOGISTICS

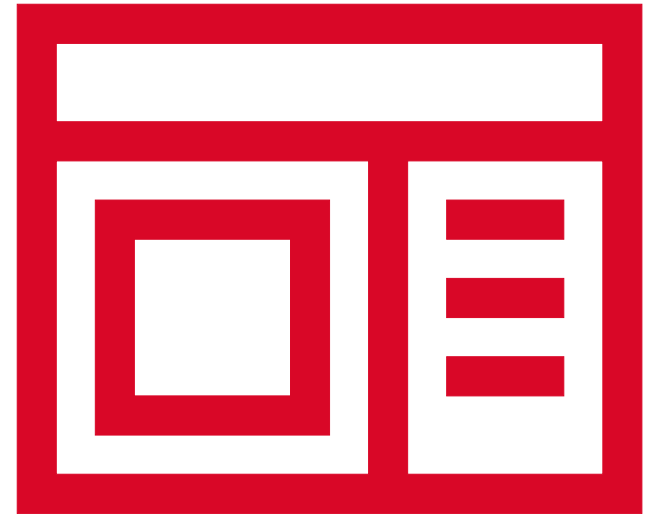
Promotion Committee

- Conference logo
- Promotional posters design
- Poster distribution
- Liaising with professional body



Poster Committee

- Two competitions
- Poster guidelines
- Liaise with promotion committee
- Recruit judges
- Develop marking criteria
- Organise poster display and prizes



Logistics Committee

- Organise speeches
- Co-ordinate keynote speaker
- Venue and H&S
- Catering
- Sponsorship



Skills

Organisation

Creativity

Communication

Teamwork

Trouble-
shooting

Networking

Posters

A STUDENT LED CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY TRANSITIONS TO CIT

REFLECTING ON THE CYCLE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR MEDICAL SCIENTISTS

14th November 2019
The Rory Gallagher Theatre, Cork Institute of Technology.
Registration: 6:30-7pm
To register: email: reg.tiptop@gmail.com or 

WITH KEY NOTE SPEAKER
MONICA FITZPATRICK
'BUILDING A CULTURE OF REFLECTION IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE'

Mutli-Disciplinary Scientific Poster Competition!

To enter, express interest at: poster.tiptop@gmail.com

This is an ACMLS PEP event!



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Technological University



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BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE : THE FUTURE IS IN OUR HANDS!

7PM 12TH OF JANUARY 2023
MUNSTER TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
IT3 BISHOPSTOWN CAMPUS LIBRARY

WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER
PAT MULHARE
OTHER TALKS:
DR. JAMES O' CONNOR, RUTH DELAHUNTY
& MORE

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY SCIENTIFIC POSTER COMPETITONS FOR MEDICAL SCIENTISTS & STUDENTS

REGISTER <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/biomedical-science-tiptop-conferences-the-future-is-in-our-hands-tickets-466922757537>

POSTER COMPETITION
EMAIL: TIPTOPCONFERENCE@GMAIL.COM
OR SCAN:



REGISTRATION 6:15-7PM



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Students at the Conference



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Keynote Speakers

2019: Monica Fitzpatrick



2023: Patrick Mulhare

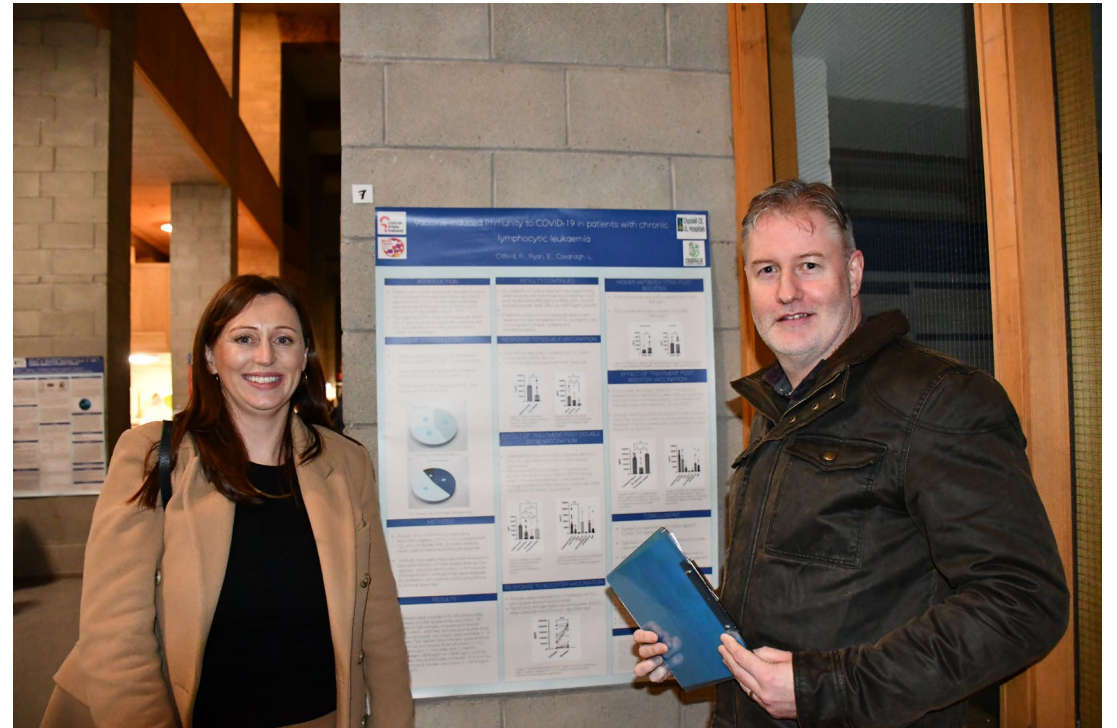


Poster Judging

2019: Dr Brendan O' Connell and Dr Fiona O' Halloran



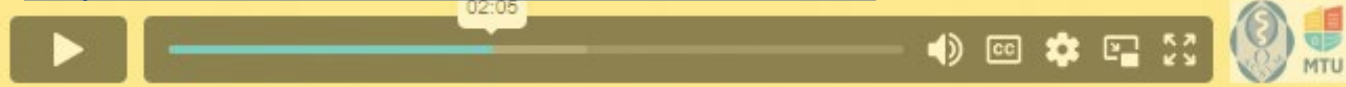
2023: Ms Sinead Creagh and Mr Padraig O' Sullivan



On the night....

Some Commentary on the Night's proceedings

<https://vimeo.com/790805451/c508cc0839>



**MTU - 2003 Transition in Progress to
Professionalism Conference**

Student Feedback

2019 Conference organising experience

“It was certainly a unique learning experience for all. It gave the students involved a chance to demonstrate their professional capabilities beyond the four walls of the classroom and the skills and experience attained will be useful in years to come”



Student Feedback

2023 Conference Content

“The conference was uplifting in illustrating the great resilience and determination of medical scientists to constantly improve from the beginnings of medical science and to deliver the best service possible to the patients”



Medical Scientist Attendee Feedback

“It takes courage to take on some responsibility like that and put yourself forward for a task but with hard work, the results can be very worthwhile and rewarding and can make a real difference. This principle applies to the workplace also and proactive people who do this can make things happen and make very positive and valuable contributions in healthcare”



Reflections

Post conference de-brief



Analysis of event



Documenting issues



Future planning



Project expansion:
mentoring: NTUTORR
funding secured

Outputs

Converse article: Quarterly Professional Body Publication



academy **STUDENTS**

Medical Science Students

MTU TIPToP Conference 2023: a TIPToP Success

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**BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE!
THE FUTURE IS IN OUR
HANDS!**

7PM 12TH OF JANUARY 2023
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**MULTI-DISCIPLINARY SCIENTIFIC POSTER COMPETITIONS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENTISTS & STUDENTS**

REGISTER **POSTER COMPETITION**

MTU **QA**

The planning of this event started back in October of 2022 when 14 eager students put their names forward to join the TIPToP organising committee. The committee was divided into three subcommittees: promotion, logistics and poster competition. Each subcommittee faced various challenges in the planning process and gained valuable insights into professional conduct and organisation of a CPD event. The promotion committee comprised of the lead, Aleksandra Janowicz, as well as Clare Curtin, Robyn Conway, Harry Tobin, and Sarah Williams. Their main goal was putting the word out about the conference and attracting attendees. This committee designed and released the official conference poster, conference leaflet and PowerPoint visuals used on the night. They contacted medical laboratories across Munster to spread the word and encourage professionals to save the date. The event was promoted online via LinkedIn, Instagram and other forms of social media and registration was on Eventbrite. Valuable communication skills were established by the committee by liaising with Laboratory Managers and Chief Medical Scientists. During the event promotion some minor logistical issues presented but were promptly rectified following feedback providing the students with opportunities for troubleshooting. The logistics committee led by our MC for the night, Emma Kelly and including Jacinta Murphy, Nicole Anderson, Grace McMahon, and Sarah Randles were heavily involved in the planning and development of the TIPToP conference. Together they carried out numerous action points such as liaising with speakers, catering services and our sponsors, Roche and AnSEO (The Student Engagement Office at MTU). Being part of the logistics committee provided insight into event planning and careful management of the resources available to the conference. The committee faced hurdles along the way involving the smooth running of the event on the night. Due to their hard work and fine attention to detail, everything went to plan and the night was a success. The poster committee, led by Rachel O'Carroll, and including Cliona Sutton, Conor Goggin, and Mairead Horan, took responsibility for the two poster competitions. Their role started with making a google form for poster entries, establishing the competition details and contacting MTU

The conference would not have been possible without the help of many, to whom we are very grateful but are too many to list. However, we would like to acknowledge the partnerships of Dr Lesley Cotter and Dr Fiona O'Halloran who secured the funding for the event from MTU AnSEO and supported us in our endeavours. As the night came to a close, the committee breathed a sigh of relief and left feeling proud of their accomplishment and motivated about their future career as medical scientists. The event was a fantastic opportunity to network and learn what it means to be a medical scientist in Ireland. **Clare Curtin on behalf of the TIPToP organising committee**

STUDENTS **academy**

and UCC lecturers to recruit judges. Roche and AnSEO kindly offered to sponsor prizes and tight communication with the logistics team was needed to control funding. On the night, they were stationed at the registration desk and accepted poster entries, displayed the posters around the venue, managed the judging process and calculated scoring. They encountered logistical challenges on the night to do with processing each poster as they arrived and scheduling time for judging to take place before the conference began. Timing and organisation skills were applied to make sure the scores were in on time for Dr Brigid Lucy to present the prizes to the top three posters of each category.

20 • converse • Spring 2023

TIPToP Organising Committee

Outputs

Biomedica Poster



Thanks

Where to start?

- Colleagues Dr Brigid Lucey and Dr Fiona O' Halloran
- MTU Student Engagement Office ANSEO
- ACSLM CPD officers
- Medical Scientists
- NSTeP

Thanks

But most importantly

- The students of conference 2019 and 2023



No group photo of 2019 committee



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