



AHECS
Association of Higher Education Careers Services
c/o UCC Careers Advisory and Placement Service
3-4 Brighton Villas, Western Road, Cork.
T. 021 490 3638
E. admin@ahecs.ie

www.ahecs.ie



AHECS Awards Directory 2013
Directory of Careers Services

**Association of Higher Education Careers Services (AHECS)
is the representative body for Careers Advisory and
Placement Professionals in Higher Education in Ireland.**

**Its mission is to lead, support and facilitate collaboration
among higher education careers services throughout Ireland
and be the recognised authority on graduate career
development, learning and employability.**

**Included among the members are 27 Universities, Higher Education
Institutes and Institutes of Technology.**

Each year AHECS presents a number of Awards for Excellence at the annual gradireland Awards event in the areas of Employability and Engagement



EMPLOYABILITY AWARD

The Employability Award recognises and showcases the very best in employability initiatives implemented by AHECS member careers services throughout the year. The number, variety and quality of nominations received over the years is testament to the creativity of careers services in addressing the area of employability and the continued importance attributed to this issue. The Employability Award is presented through three categories – Gold, Silver and Bronze



ENGAGEMENT AWARD

The Engagement Award recognises and acknowledges the very real and substantial engagement between employers and careers services and the beneficial results on undergraduate and graduate recruitment and employability. This is an opportunity for careers services to acknowledge and highlight the high level of participation with employers. There are two categories in this award – SME and Large Organisations.

THE JUDGING PANEL

The AHECS Employability and Engagement Awards were adjudicated by a team of three judges.

Dr. Sharon Milner, Employability Development Manager, University of Ulster
Mary Sweeney, Retired Head of Careers, University of Limerick
David Broderick, EOP Programme Manager, IBEC

A combined total of 22 nominations from nine Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) were received for the Employability and Engagement Awards.



LISTING OF ENTRIES FOR THE AHECS EMPLOYABILITY AWARDS 2013

* Shortlisted

1. The Placement Plan AC2119 *Aileen Waterman, UCC Careers*

A five credit module for second year BSc Finance students to gain exposure to key employers involved in the work placement programme while developing and enhancing crucial employability skills.

2. Diversity At Work: Start Getting Ahead of Yourself–Developing an Advertising Campaign for Enterprise Rent-A-Car Graduate Recruitment Programme *Angela Collins, WIT Careers*

Marketing students from WIT worked in groups to develop an innovative advertising strategy for Enterprise Rent-a-Car, aimed at attracting final year female students or students with disabilities to their Graduate Programme.

3. CIT Springboard & ICT Employability Event *Treasa McSweeney, Roisin O'Grady & Mary McCarthy, CIT Careers**

Following a student needs assessment, targeted Careers and Employability Education was provided to Springboard and ICT Skills students through a three-pronged approach; Careers & Employability Workshops; Careers Clinic; and Networking Opportunity.

4. Jobs Roadshows *Fiona Murray, UCC Careers*

New employability initiative to develop a high level of attendance at company presentations. Invite employers who are recruiting from the same sector to come on campus on the same evening. Each employer given the opportunity to make a short presentation & then meet students individually at their stands. The purpose of the evening is both to inform students about the sector and allow them to meet the employers on the same night.

5. LIT Careers Skills Development Day 2013 *Joanne Holland, LIT Careers*

The LIT Career Skills Development Day, attended by over 400 students and supported by local and national employers, aimed to provide students with the employability skills and insights for career success.

6. Creative Careers Sessions *Mary McCarthy & Shay Nolan, UCC Careers*

This event is an opportunity for students considering a career in the Creative arts to spend a day with ten working professionals. A chance to get up close to film directors and producers, journalists, publishers, actors, casting agents and gain insight into their career trajectory.

7. Rethinking, Reskilling, Reinventing *Caroline Kennedy & Kate Coughlan, NCI Careers**

Practical career management training collaboratively designed and delivered with industry and one to one tailored careers coaching aimed at job seekers seeking both employment and a career change. 81% now in employment.

8. Degree Plus *Maria Lee, Queens University Belfast Careers**

Degree plus, an award which allows Queen's students to gain accreditation for skills developed outside of their academic programme. It promotes engagement with opportunities for personal development and active learning.

9. UCC Works Internship Awards *Mary McNulty, Seamus McEvoy, UCC Careers, Eoghan Healy, President Students' Union UCC**

The UCC Works Award is a period of unpaid work experience in a UCC Campus organisation. The purpose is to give students valuable work experience and receive recognition for same.

10. Trinity College Gradlink Mentoring Programme–Developing Employability Through Learning Relationship *Orlaith Tunney & Sarah Ryan, TCD Careers*

GradLink Mentoring, a collaborative initiative between employers, academics and careers advisers, aims to develop current students' employability through nurturing career learning relationships between potential employers who are also graduates.

11. Professional Training for Research Students in the Humanities (PG7002) *Mary McNulty, Deirdre Parker, UCC Careers in association with Dr. Silvia Ross, Associate Dean, Graduate School, College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Studies, UCC*

This innovative, collaborative ECTS-accredited module prepares doctoral students for the challenges of academic and non-academic careers by drawing on the expertise of the Careers Service, Research Office and academic staff.

12. Putting Your Degree2Work *UCC Careers Advisory Team–Deirdre Parker, Mary McCarthy, Mary Coghlan, Ursula Burke, Elaine Browne, Shay Nolan, Brenda Nestor, Eleanor Donoghue, Mary O'Brien*

The D2W Online Employability Signpost Sheets provides an overview of the graduate labour market in many of the major degrees in UCC, including an outline of key skills acquired; key graduate employment trends and further study options.

13. Engineering in the Commercial World *Linda Lynch, UCC Careers & Dr. John Hayes, Academic Coordinator, School of Engineering, UCC*

Engineering in the Commercial World, an innovative module designed to introduce students to commerce and enhance employability skills through a combination of industry speakers, careers education, practical workshops and placement.

14. Engineer Your Career *Angela Collins, WIT Careers*

Engineer Your Career is a careers initiative which has been developed at WIT and delivered to the School of Engineering students to boost their employability and confidence in these challenging times.

15. The Vital Ingredient–Developing an Advertising Campaign to Promote the Jameson Graduate Programme *Angela Collins, WIT Careers*

WIT marketing students engaged in an Advertising Management module went head-to-head to develop a creative advertising strategy to raise awareness of the Jameson Graduate Programme among 3rd level college students.

LISTING OF ENTRIES FOR THE AHECS ENGAGEMENT AWARDS 2013

1. Belfast Exposed Photography

University of Ulster Professional Experience Programme

Nominated By:

Damien McGivern & Seamus McConomy, University of Ulster

A unique partnership between University of Ulster and Employers to provide Ulster graduates with a paid 6-month internship while gaining a Graduate Certificate in Professional Practice.

2. Business School Accounting and Finance, WIT, JBW White & Co. Waterford, Ernst & Young, Waterford

WIT Audit Simulation Exercise

Nominated By:

Angela Collins, WIT Careers

The Audit Simulation Exercise is an excellent opportunity for students to replicate real world environments for the purposes of demonstrating and assessing technical knowledge and employability skills.

3. Enterprise Rent-A-Car

“Diversity At Work: Start Getting Ahead of Yourself” –Developing an Advertising Campaign for the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Graduate Programme.

Nominated By:

Angela Collins, WIT Careers

Marketing students from WIT worked in groups to develop an innovative advertising strategy for Enterprise Rent-a-Car, aimed at attracting final year female students or students with disabilities to their Graduate Programme.

4. IAESTE

Global Traineeships (Internship) Programme –Students and Graduates

Nominated By:

Dr. David Foster, UCD Careers

IAESTE Ireland places Irish students into global traineeships, accepting international students into Irish internships in reciprocation. Through cross-cultural sharing of experiences, education, attitudes and skills, interns’ personal and professional development is significantly enhanced.

5. Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard

The Vital Ingredient –Developing an Advertising Campaign to Promote the Jameson Graduate Programme

Nominated By:

Angela Collins, WIT Careers

WIT marketing students engaged in an Advertising Management module went head-to-head to develop a creative advertising strategy to raise awareness of the Jameson Graduate Programme among 3rd level college students.

6. State Street Corporation

Working Together –Seizing an Opportunity –Raise the Limit

Nominated By:

Angela Collins, WIT Careers

An opportunity to get real work experience by engaging closely with an employer and in turn seizing the opportunity to increase one’s employability.

7. Grant Thornton

Grant Thornton Engagement on Campus

Nominated By:

Aileen Waterman, UCC Careers

Grant Thornton delivers to UCC students consistent, creative and informative support throughout the academic year – not just to final year students but across the four years, through its campus interactions.

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Seamus McEvoy, Chair of AHECS & Head of Career Services, UCC

T. 021 490 2349

E. s.mcevoy@ucc.ie

Dr. David Foster, Deputy Chair of AHECS & Director, Career Development Centre, UCD

T. 01 716 7678

E. david.foster@ucd.ie

Brian Marrinan, Company Secretary of AHECS & MBA Careers Service Manager UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School

T. 01 716 8926

E. brian.marrinan@ucd.ie

Treasa McSweeney, Treasurer of AHECS & Acting Careers Officer, CIT

T. 021 4335 774

E. treasa.mcsweeney@cit.ie

Mary McNulty, Director of AHECS & Deputy Head of Career Services, UCC

T. 021 490 2349

E. mmculty@ucc.ie

Joanne Holland, Director of AHECS & Careers Officer, LIT

T. 061 293 295

E. careers@lit.ie

Jill Barrett, Director of AHECS & Careers Advisor, DIT

T. 01 402 3859

E. careers@dit.ie

Phil Clarke, Director of AHECS & Senior Careers Advisor, Queens University Belfast

T. +44(0) 289 097 2727

E. p.clarke@qub.ac.uk

TASK GROUPS

AHECS mission is to lead, support and facilitate collaboration among higher education career services throughout Ireland and to be the recognised authority on graduate career development, learning and employability. This is achieved through the work of the following task groups:

Employability

Members: Elaine Browne, Chair (UCC), Joanne Holland–AHECS Executive (LIT), Deirdre Parker (UCC), Orlaith Tunney (TCD), Josephine Walsh (NUIG), Elaine Kiely (UL), Angela Collins (WIT), Shirley McCaugherty (QUB), Gavin Connell (UL).

This task group provides leadership in the development and promotion of student employability in conjunction with careers professionals and with some input from employers and academics to enhance the employability of students and graduates north and south.

This group's current priority is the development of best practice employability initiatives. The group is also developing a comprehensive employability pack which can be used by careers advisory professionals in Irish HEIs.

Labour Market

Members: Linda Lynch, Co-Chair (UCC), Catherine Timmins, Co-Chair (DCU), Treasa McSweeney–AHECS Executive (CIT), Bridie Killoran (GMIT), Catherine Lyster (LYIT), Angela Collins (WIT), Caroline Kennedy (NCIIRL), Linda Gaughran (TCD), Eleanor Donoghue (UCC).

This task group aims to create and sustain links with graduate employers and in doing so creates a forum for discussion and exchange of information and ideas which is of benefit to all parties–employers, academics, student and careers professionals alike. The Group monitors relevant information about the labour market and trends and patterns in graduate recruitment and employment. The group is also involved in the provision of labour market training events for AHECS members.

DIRECTORY OF CAREERS SERVICES

Products and Services

Chair: Dave Kilmartin, Chair (DIT), Seamus McEvoy–AHECS Executive (UCC), John Hannon (NUIG), Jerry Cronin (UL), Paul Murphy (IADT), Louise Nagle (ITT Tralee).

This task group, in partnership with AHECS publishing partner, GTI Media provides high quality services and products, paper and web based, that support and inform the delivery of careers education, guidance and information to students within higher education.

Professional Development

Members: John Hannon–Chair (NUIG), Mary McNulty–AHECS Executive (UCC), Phil Clarke–AHECS Executive (QUB), Fiona Hayes (TCD), Sarah Ryan (TCD), Angela Collins (WIT), Dave Kilmartin (DIT), Marie Kiely (ITT Dublin), Yvonne McLoughlin (DCU).

The group is committed to continuing professional development and the sharing of best practice and collaboration within the careers advisory profession. The group does this by delivering training courses and seminars to its members and the provision of bursaries to members who pursue additional qualifications related to their profession. The group delivers low cost but high impact training in a user friendly ways to members.

Work Placement

Members: Sheila Byrne–Chair (UCC), Dr. David Foster–AHECS Executive (UCD), Gavin Connell (UL), Cliona Hillery (TCD), Angela Collins (WIT), Catherine Jacque (DKIT), Paula Murray (NUIM), Tracy Murphy (WIT), Owen Doyle (UCD), Annette Dolan (NUIG).

This group is committed to developing best practice policy and guidelines for work placement learning and to creating a forum for the sharing of expertise and experience among work placement practitioners. The group is also interested in promoting and advocating the role of work placement to all groups concerned and does this by working closely with AHECS Executive on advocacy issues and by promoting work placement generally in the production of work placement publications dealing with topics of interest and relevance to internal and external stakeholders.



Athlone Institute of Technology

Denise Dolan, Careers Officer
Dublin Road, Athlone, Co. Westmeath
T. +353 90 646 8129 E. ddolan@ait.ie
www.ait.ie/informationforcurrentstudents/careersoffice



Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown

Maria Brown, Career Development Manager
Blanchardstown Road North, Dublin 15
T. +353 1 885 1025 E. maria.brown@itb.ie
www.itb.ie/currentstudents/careerservice.html



Cork Institute of Technology

Treasa McSweeney, Acting Careers Officer
Rossa Avenue, Bishopstown, Cork
T. +353 21 433 5774 E. treasa.mcsweeney@cit.ie
www.mycit.ie/careers



Dublin City University

Dr. Claire Bohan, Head of Student Support & Development
Dublin 9
T. +353 1 700 5163 E. careers@dcu.ie
www.dcu.ie/students/careers/careersinfo.shtml



Dublin Institute of Technology

Dave Kimartin, Head of DIT Careers Service
Room 2038, DIT Aungier Street, Dublin 2
T. +353 1 402 3082 E. careers@dit.ie
www.dit.ie/careers



Dundalk IT

Amanda Kirk, Careers Officer
Dublin Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth
T. +353 (0) 42 937 0243 E. careers@dkit.ie
<https://www.dkit.ie/careers>



Galway Mayo Institute of Technology

Bridie Killoran, Careers Officer
Dublin Road, Galway
T. +353 91 742 392 E. careers@gmit.ie
www.gmit.ie/life-at-GMIT/careers-development-centre

DIRECTORY OF CAREERS SERVICES



Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design & Technology (IADT)

Paul Murphy, Careers Officer
Kill Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin
T. +353 1 214 4670 **E.** paul.murphy@iadt.ie
www.iadt.ie/en/currentstudents/studentsservices/careers



Institute of Technology Carlow

Maria McRoberts, Careers Officer
Kilkenny Road, Carlow
T. +353 59 917 5085
web.itcarlow.ie/life-at-itc/career-service.htm



Institute of Technology Sligo

Adette Ring & Deborah Seddon, Careers Officers
Sligo, Ballinode, Sligo
T. +353 71 930 5403 **E.** careers@itsligo.ie
itsligo.ie/student-hub/student-services/



Institute of Technology Tralee

Louise Nagle, Careers Officer
Tralee, Co. Kerry
T. +353 66 719 1783 **E.** careers@list.ittralee.ie
www.ittralee.ie/en/informationfor/currentstudents/careersoffice



ITT Dublin

Marie Kiely, Careers Officer
Tallaght, Dublin 24
T. +353 1 404 2561 **E.** careers@ittdublin.ie
www.it-tallaght.ie/careers



Letterkenny Institute of Technology

Catherine Lyster, Careers Officer
Port Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal
T. +353 74 918 6812 **E.** catherine.lyster@lyit.ie
www.lyit.ie/studentlife/studentsservices/careers



Limerick Institute of Technology

Joanne Holland, Careers Officer
Moylish Park, Limerick
T. +353 61 293 295 **E.** careers@lit.ie
www.lit.ie/careers/default.aspx

DIRECTORY OF CAREERS SERVICES



The National College of Art and Design

Jacyntha McManus Cleary, Careers Adviser
100 Thomas Street, Dublin 8
T. +353 1 636 4313 **E.** mcmanusj@ncad.ie
www.ncad.ie/students/support-services



National College of Ireland

Caroline Kennedy, Careers & Opportunities Officer
Mayor Street, IFSC, Dublin 1
T. +353 1 449 8526 **E.** careers@ncirl.ie
www.ncirl.ie/careers



National University of Ireland Galway

John Hannon, Head of Careers Service
Careers Development Centre, University Road, Galway
T. +353 91 493 589 **E.** careers@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/careers



National University of Ireland Maynooth

Brendan Baker, Head of Career Development
Arts Building North Campus, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
T. +353 1 708 3592 **E.** careers@nuim.ie
<http://careers.nuim.ie>



The Open University in Ireland

Marina J. Lennon, Student Services Manager (Advice and Guidance)
Enquiry and Advice Centre, Holbrook House, Holles. Street, Dublin 2
T. +353 1 6785399 **E.** m.j.lennon@open.ac.uk
www.open.ac.uk/careers



Queens University Belfast

Maria Lee, Head of Centre for Educational Development
Careers, Employability and Skills, Queens University, Belfast
T. +44 28 9097 2727 **E.** careers@qub.ac.uk
www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/sgc/careers



St. Patrick's College

Maura Fallon, Careers Officer
Drumcondra, Dublin 9
T. +353 1 884 2280 **E.** maura.fallon@spd.dcu.ie
www.spd.dcu.ie/site/careers/index.shtml

DIRECTORY OF CAREERS SERVICES



Trinity College Dublin

Sean Gannon, Head of Service, Careers Advisory Service
2nd Floor, 7–9 South Leinster Street, Trinity College, Dublin 2.
T. +353 1 896 1721 /1705 **E.** careers@tcd.ie
www.tcd.ie/careers



University College Cork

Seamus McEvoy, Head of Careers Services
UCC Careers Services, 3–4 Brighton Villas, Western Road, Cork
T. +353 21 490 2349 **E.** careers@ucc.ie
www.ucc.ie/careers



University of Limerick

Patrice Twomey, Director, Cooperative Education and Careers Division &
Gavin Connell, Head of Careers, Cooperative Education & Careers Division
Limerick
T. +353 61 202 476 **E.** gavin.connell@ul.ie
www.ul.ie/careers



University College Dublin

Dr. David Foster, Director, UCD Career Development Centre
T. +353 1 716 7574 **E.** careers@ucd.ie
Main Library Building, Belfield, Dublin 4.
www.ucd.ie/careers



University of Ulster

Damien McGivern, Director of Employability and Marketing
Jordanstown Campus, Shore Road, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim BT37 0QB
T. +44 28 903 66247 **E.** careers@ulster.ac.uk
www.careers.ulster.ac.uk



Waterford Institute of Technology

Waterford Institute of Technology

Angela Collins, Head of Careers
Main Building, Cork Road Campus, Waterford
T. +353 51 302038 **E.** careers@wit.ie
www.wit.ie/current_students/student_life_and_learning/the_careers_centre