

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)**CONNECT****Issue 3.0 January 2019**

Chairs Welcome

Welcome to CONNECT our regular monthly e-shot to keep you updated on all things related to AHECS. At the outset of 2019, we wanted to take time to wish all of our members a Happy New Year. If you have any comments or question please contact us on admin@ahecs.ie and we look forward to receiving your news items for distribution in the next edition.

Best wishes

Gavin Connell & Trevor Johnston

Heads of Service Meeting



The Executive Board met earlier this month and as is now customary the Heads of Service met in Limerick for its annual meeting. Mark Mitchell from GradIreland attended and provided an update on the partnership and progress over the last year and plans for the year ahead. Rather than undertake an annual training needs analysis survey, this year Mary McNulty and Yvonne McLoughlin facilitated a brain storming session with the Heads of Service around future training needs and as you can see in the photograph, all members were fully engaged in the process! So watch this space for an update in due course on future training for members.

Thank You and Goodbye - Seamus McEvoy

After 21 years in UCC Careers, Seamus McEvoy is moving to a new role as Head of Student Life which is a new unit within the student experience area and includes responsibilities for the Students Union, Student Societies, Student Accommodation and Community Relations. He will take up that role on 4th February 2019.

Seamus served on the AHECS Executive Board and as Chairman for many years and he will be greatly missed. On behalf of everyone at AHECS, we would like to wish Seamus well in his new role at UCC and thank him for all his hard work for AHECS over many years.



As part of its new initiative Development Weeks, Queen's partnered with Gradireland to offer an FYI Virtual Reality event for students. The event provided an opportunity for students to explore future career options through virtual reality headsets. This led to conversations with Careers Consultants who assisted students to explore the available resources and get on-the-spot careers advice. Students also had the opportunity to chat informally to recent graduates who are now commencing their careers in a vast range of sectors and roles. The event was exceptionally well received by students.

Here's what some students had to say...

"The VR experience was very immersive and a cool way to hear about different graduate opportunities. Good that I was able to talk to recent graduates."

"Fantastic event, enjoyed the conversations with careers staff and the lovely hub assistants."

"Very good event, good idea to use VR to engage with companies."

Task Group Updates

so far 21 have responded and 4 to follow up. A dissemination event will be organised in due course.

Continued Professional Development Task Group

A call for Bursaries will be issued April 2019 and the Employability Award as part of the Gradireland awards will now offer 2 awards for a large and small service and a training voucher worth €1000.

Labour Market Task Group

The group has new Co-Chairs, Emma Good and Paula Murray. The Labour Market training will take place on 25th April and the group are working on a range of issues related to new ways of working, future of work etc.

Research PG Task Group

The group has a new chair Ger Lardner and it will be taking on a slightly different approach going forward where they will work on developing the knowledge of the group and then impart that to other members.

Dates for your Diary

24 January: [Postgraduate Research Event](#) is being held in the Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast on Thursday 24 January with sessions at 1pm or 6pm.

30 January: [Discover IT](#). This **one-day recruiting event** is open to all final year and masters students who are studying or have completed an IT-based course. Please share with relevant academic colleagues in Schools/Departments of Technology and Engineering, there are still plenty of places available for students at this event (<https://gradireland.com/events/gradireland-discover-it-0>).

7 February: [gradireland Live](#) is an **experiential careers event for all students** where they can craft their skills, build confidence and find their career direction. There's loads of interactivity along with inspirational talks including 'Pursuing your Passion', 'Create your future: expert advice on navigating your future career path' and 'Managing your mental health - the transition from study to work' There are some exceptional '**Voice of this generation**' speakers on the day including James Kavanagh, Niamh Cullen, Ailbhe Keane, Philly McMahon plus more to be announced. There will of course also be the usual 'careers fair'

an unmissable event! See <https://gradireland.com/events/gradireland-live/582170-fine-tune-your-future-at-gradireland-live>

Congratulations

Congratulations to Eleanor Donoghue from UCC who graduated from the [University of Warwick](#) with an M.A. in Careers Education, Information and Guidance in H.E.

Software for Placements

CIT is interested in hearing from anyone that has experience of using software for managing the work placement process. Please reply directly to Treasa.Morgan@cit.ie if you are able to help.

Job Opportunities

If you have job opportunities to advertise in the next Connect, please email admin@ahecs.ie



Article Submissions

We are keen to receive your suggestions for content for the next edition.

Please email admin@ahecs.ie with your content and items for next edition by 15th February, 2019.

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