Dublin City University
Alumni Awards
26th November 2021
Welcome

Welcome to the 2021 DCU Alumni Awards ceremony.

Each year, these awards recognise the exceptional contribution that our alumni make to the DCU mission to ‘transform lives and societies’. Given the extraordinary times we live in, this year’s awards give particular recognition to those who have had a positive impact in response to the global challenge of COVID-19.

The awardees’ accomplishments, across so many aspects of society, are a source of great pride to DCU and an inspiration to present and future generations of DCU students. I am delighted that you can join us, as we applaud the recipients of these awards.

Professor Dáire Keogh, President,
Dublin City University
Welcome everybody and congratulations to our award winners on their fantastic achievements as we celebrate eight amazing graduates. Once again, we are recognising graduates from all five faculties of study at DCU. The year’s awards focus on members of our community who contributed greatly to society throughout the pandemic.

We have almost 90,000 graduates in 220 countries worldwide and our international chapters continue to grow in size. Earlier this year, we hosted virtual reunions in Washington, San Francisco, New York and Singapore. We are already looking forward to our events in 2022.

We were shortlisted in the finals again this year for IITD National Training Awards for the ‘Excellence in Mentoring’ category, thanks to the global effort of our graduates mentoring second year students in our biggest ever mentorship programme. Our commitment to excellence and impact is stronger than ever.

Congratulations to our friends in the DCU Educational Trust who continue to raise vital funds for our community, providing great assistance to our students and the development of the University.

Finally, our volunteering numbers continue to grow, if you would like to mentor, write articles, host events, provide INTRA work placements, assist our Emerging Leaders Programme, lead international chapters or Instagram takeovers and much more, please email us via alumni@dcu.ie.

As Alumni of DCU, we have a lot to be proud of, so please Keep in Touch!

Ross Munnelly
Director of Alumni Relations
Pat completed his PhD in DCU in 2020, having previously completed an Executive MBA at Smurfit UCD in 2005, followed by post grad studies at Harvard (21st Century Leadership, 2005), MIT (Strategy and Innovation, 2006), the IMI (Strategic HRM, 2008) and at UCD (Advanced Management – Police Leadership, 2008).

Pat spent 38 years policing in Ireland and abroad, having worked with the United Nations in Namibia (1989), Cambodia (1991), Bosnia (1996) and the Middle East (Beirut, 2002), where he investigated the assassination of former Prime Minister, Rafiq Hariri. He also worked for the Departments of Foreign Affairs in Uganda and Malawi. As the Chief Superintendent in Dublin’s North Inner City, Pat and his team were awarded European Best Practice in Community Oriented Policing in 2015.

Pat was promoted to Assistant Commissioner for the Dublin Region in 2017 and was appointed as the chair of ‘European Capitals Policing’ in the same year. During his term in office in his European portfolio, he focused on the European-wide development of ‘Community Oriented Policing’ and ‘Strategic Responses to Mass Casualty Events’.

Pat was to retire at the beginning of 2020, however, the COVID-19 pandemic struck and he was asked to delay his retirement pending a reduction of cases and a return to more normal living. Pat subsequently set up a COVID-19-specific, citywide strategic control centre in Dublin Castle where he and his team proactively managed COVID-19 operations, internal resilience (which was maintained at 93%), and the effects and response to COVID-19 across the Dublin Region. From this location, Pat chaired a multi-stakeholder taskforce on the reopening of the city which took place in stages facilitating a graduated, safe and successful return to the city centre in the summer of 2020. Pat subsequently retired on the 1st of July, when COVID-19 cases had been reduced to 4 new positive cases per day.

PhD, 2020
Julieanne Fleming is a Senior Manager in Deloitte Ireland’s Business Operations Consulting practice. Julieanne has achieved a significant number of personal and professional milestones in her career since graduating from DCU. Since joining Deloitte Ireland’s graduate programme in 2012 as a Technology Analyst, Julieanne has contributed significantly to both the technology consulting practice and the wider firm through her client work, corporate social responsibility efforts, and diversity and inclusion initiatives.

Julieanne has held numerous roles and responsibilities with Deloitte’s leading clients, across a number of industries – public sector, pharmaceutical, manufacturing and construction. As part of Deloitte’s inclusion strategy, Julieanne leads the firm’s Women in STEM initiatives to inspire more girls into STEM careers and to promote an environment where her colleagues can achieve their career aspirations in technology roles. From a CR perspective, Julieanne is actively involved in Deloitte’s World Class agenda through her mentorship role with the iWish STEM programme. Julieanne currently leads a multi-disciplinary IT team on a large-scale digital transformation programme within the Irish public sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in unprecedented disruption to the Irish economy, and the lives of all citizens. In response to action taken by the Irish Government to provide emergency income support, Julieanne led and managed the rapid delivery of several customer-facing digital services to support her client’s digital response. This involved significant programme coordination and collaboration with client stakeholders and teams. The hard work and dedication of Julieanne, her client stakeholders and team ensured the successful delivery of a number of online services that provided rapid access to income support for citizens during a very challenging period for the country.

BSc Enterprise Computing, 2012
Criostóir completed his 3rd level education in Dublin City University. He studied Enterprise Computing, including an internship in Merrill Lynch. Specifically, what interested him the most about this course was the mixture of focus between business and IT. His final year project was particularly interesting, as it involved coming up with a real-world viable application. The project Criostóir worked on became the first startup he would work on. After college, Criostóir worked for IBM, but quickly realised that he wanted to go out on his own. After a year, he left to work on the startup from college, which was called wowit, an event discovery app that matched users with events. Criostóir then went on an accelerator program run by Enterprise Ireland called New Frontiers, where he would meet his Wellola Co-Founder, Sonia Neary, who was working on a physio booking platform called Physiolinked. Criostóir would end up working on Wellola together with Sonia’s Physiolinked Co-Founder, Greg Martin.

Wellola’s message is that only the sickest of the sick should be hospitalised. To support this mission, Criostóir and the team have developed communication tools that allow patients to be treated at home as much as possible. They offer users tools such as video consultation, secure messaging, and assessment forms to achieve this goal. Obviously, a major result of the pandemic has been the limiting of contact between people, which requires the use of online tools such as Wellola to allow healthcare providers to provide remote support to their patients. Criostóir and his team assisted the HSE during the pandemic by providing video consultation capabilities to GPs, which meant that they could quickly adapt to the new environment that had rapidly developed.

BSc Enterprise Computing, 2013
Dr Martin Stynes is a four-time graduate of DCU. He graduated in 1983 as a primary school teacher with a BEd degree and in 1995 with a Diploma in Special Educational Needs. Martin graduated in 2003 with a Master of Science degree and in 2014 as a Doctor of Education Studies.

Martin is the Principal of “The Happiest School in Ireland”, Scoil Fhursa, a DEIS band 1 boys’ primary school in Kilmore West in Dublin 5. He has worked part-time in adult education for 20 years and is currently a research associate with The Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection at DCU. Dr Stynes supervises Doctoral dissertations and he lectures in qualitative research and leadership on the EdD programme.

Martin’s interest in stakeholder advocacy, in community engagement, in positive discipline and in the use of information and communication technologies, harnessed the drive of the Kilmore West school community in a coordinated response during the pandemic. The response targeted remote learning and the distribution of family care packs, that reduced levels of isolation and that maintained a vibrant connectedness between school and home.

The heart-warming evidence of this vibrant connectedness was captured and published weekly on the school’s FURSA FILMS YouTube channel, with Martin leading as producer and director.

Bachelor of Education, 1983  
Diploma in Special Educational Needs, 1993  
MSc Education and Training Management, 2003  
PhD, 2014
Eve Kerton graduated with a BA in Communications Studies (2014), Certificate in Fundraising Management from the Charities Institute of Ireland (2018), and most recently secured a Certificate in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals from Trinity College Dublin (2020).

Elected Vice President of DCU Students’ Union, Eve was the Chair of DCU Yes Equality throughout the Marriage Equality referendum, kick-starting a career driven by a discerning sense of injustice. Working in non-profit organisations, Eve has focused on tackling the effects of LGBTQ+ discrimination and homelessness in Ireland through a wide range of fundraising streams, from developing programmes of legacy giving, managing philanthropic giving circles to engaging trusts and foundations and major, high value donors.

Eve has appeared as a panellist at events, on radio and podcasts to discuss her work in highlighting the significant impact of legacy giving, and establishing best practice in the workplace to ensure equality for LGBTQ+ people internationally.

In 2020, Eve played a key role in securing in excess of €4 million for Focus Ireland. Keeping human impact at the forefront, she secured €45,000 to provide laptops to maintain connection between customers and support workers. Outside of office hours, Eve co-founded Certified Proud, a membership accreditation body that strives towards the safety of LGBTQ+ people, with fellow DCU Alumnus, Liam Redmond. With 20 members including Brown Thomas Arnotts, Leman Solicitors, Chupi and sign-ups across the UK and Europe, 40% of membership fees will return to the LGBTQ+ community through the Certified Proud Fund. She was nominated for a Network Ireland Businesswoman of the Year Award 2021.

BA Communication Studies, 2014
Rob received a dual First Class Honours, BA in Humanities (English and History) from St Patrick’s College DCU in 2013, before completing a postgraduate degree in Education. He worked as a secondary school teacher for six years, alongside work as a writer/actor with RTÉ and as a Sports/News broadcaster for FM104, before leaving education to work full time in media with JOE and SportsJOE in 2019. In that time, he worked as a producer and presenter of multiple projects, including coverage of the 2019 Rugby World Cup, the 2020 General Election and spearheading their coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as presenting a number of live Premier League games for Premier Sports. Rob joined Virgin Media News as a reporter in November of 2020, where he has continued his work on COVID-19, as well as on wide range of news stories, both national and international.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rob has attended NPHET and government briefings, and in his time with JOE focused on delivering key messages of the public health response to a younger demographic. His work on specific difficulties for those in Direct Provision was referenced in the Dáil, and by residents of a Centre in County Kerry, after an outbreak and subsequent hunger strike by residents led to the closure of the site. Since joining Virgin Media News, he has continued working on the pandemic, covering the vaccine rollout and COVID in education settings, as well as the gradual reopening of society.

BA Joint Honours, 2013
Karen was appointed as Deputy Chief Nursing Officer in the Department of Health in September 2020. Her policy focus is the development of a Framework for Safe Staffing and Skill Mix across various care settings.

For five years prior to this, Karen held the position of Director of Nursing in Beaumont Hospital with responsibility for c1700 staff to leading nursing services to deliver excellence in quality patient care whilst developing a dynamic nursing workforce. Karen’s career in Beaumont commenced as a DCU undergraduate student in 1996, following which she specialised in Neurosurgery. She held various nursing management positions between 2004 and 2015 including Deputy Director of Nursing.

Karen holds a degree in Nursing (DCU), MSc in Organisational Change and Leadership Development (DCU and RCSI), an Advanced Diploma in Personal and Executive Coaching, a Diploma in Quality and Leadership (RCPI) and she recently became a scholar of the International Council of Nurses 2020 Global Nursing Leadership Institute.

Karen led the nursing workforce in Beaumont Hospital in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic as Director of Nursing. This required redesigning clinical pathways, upskilling the workforce to respond to critical care requirements, creating new ways to communicate with patients and families as well as caring for and responding to the needs of the workforce due to the exceptional and new clinical demands of the pandemic. In her role as Deputy CNO, Karen is a member of the national oversight team implementing the recommendations from the COVID-19 Nursing Home Expert Panel and is leading policy development of a Framework for safe nurse staffing and skill mix across long-term residential care settings nationally due to the significant challenges faced during the pandemic.

Diploma in Nursing, 1999
MSc Organisational Change and Leadership Development, 2014
Anne-Marie Ryan (PhD, RGN, RNT, BNS, MSc, FFNMRCI) recently retired as the Director of Professional Standards and Education with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI). With a practice speciality in oncology, she moved to education when she achieved her BNS from UCD. On obtaining her MSc in Education Studies from DCU, she was appointed Principal Tutor in the School of Nursing, Beaumont Hospital. Anne-Marie completed her PhD studies in DCU in 2006. In her 20 years of working with policy and regulation, she oversaw the successful transition of quality education into the higher education sector and the safe expansion of the role of the nurse to meet regulatory standards including prescribing of medicinal products, referral for x-ray, the development of specialist and advanced practice. She has led and developed many national policy projects to support the developing role of the nurse to address patient and service need, maximise the potential of the nursing/midwifery resource, and guide professional practice through the NMBI and her role as Deputy Chief Nurse in the Department of Health.

Anne-Marie actively engaged in the modernisation of education policy in the European Union. She is a TAIEX expert for the European Commission, conducting a review of nursing in Croatia prior to its accession and recently she was invited to conduct a mission with Armenia to develop their nursing strategy.

COVID-19 set particular challenges for providers of education programmes, services and the regulator. Anne-Marie ensured that minimum standards were achieved for registration purposes by leading a committee set up by NMBI of all its stakeholders. As suspension of placements occurred during the academic year, Anne-Marie found novel ways for students to progress and reach the Standards and Requirements. Each HEI, through their own processes and procedures, with NMBI guidance, ensured that students were not academically or clinically disadvantaged. Additionally, she made sure students could contribute to the pandemic response by way of legislation, education and competencies, to become vaccinators in their own right.

MSc in Education and Training Management, 1996
PhD, 2006
Supporters

— A&L Goodbody
— Accenture
— Beauchamps
— Cornmarket
— DCU Campus Store
— DCU Rooms
— Deloitte
— KPMG
— McKeon Group
— Neogen
— Ornua
— The Helix
— Tony Pattersons Sports Grounds
Previous Outstanding Achievement Awardees

Albert Manifold
2016-2017

Dr Gráinne Healy
2016-2017

David Moloney
2016-2017

Stephen Cluxton
2016-2017

Dearbhail McDonald
2016-2017

Dr Michelle D. Cullen
2017-2018

Joe Hogan
2017-2018

Aogán Ó Feargháil
2017-2018

Helen McEntee TD
2017-2018

Jamie Heaslip
2017-2018

Lorraine Twohill
2018 - 2019

Shay Walsh
2018 - 2019

Enda Kenny TD
2018 - 2019

Sr Orla Treacy
2018 - 2019

Lindsay Peat
2018 - 2019

Pat McCabe
2019-2020

Daráine Mulvihill
2019-2020

Sinéad Strain
2019-2020

David Lloyd
2019-2020

Mary Mulvihill
(posthumously)
2019-2020

Tadhg Furlong
2019-2020
Previous Alumni Wall Awardees

Paul Kerley  
2008 - 2009

Liavan Mallin  
2008 - 2009

Jamie Heaslip  
2008 - 2009

Ena Prosser  
2008 - 2009

Paddy Christie  
2008 - 2009

Ardal O’Hanlon  
2008 - 2009

Caroline Morahan  
2008 - 2009

Conor Lenihan  
2008 - 2009

Sean Óg O’hAilpín  
2008 - 2009

Rotimi Adebru  
2008 - 2009

Margaret Ward  
2008 - 2009

Michael Dwyer  
2008 - 2009
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role 1</th>
<th>Role 2</th>
<th>Role 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Smyth</td>
<td>Noel O'Connor</td>
<td>Niall McGirr</td>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
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<td>Aodhan Cullen</td>
<td>Philip Moriarty</td>
<td>Diarmuid Corry</td>
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<td>Michael Kelly</td>
<td>John Jordan</td>
<td>Aaron McNelis</td>
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<td>Stephen Cluxton</td>
<td>Caroline Kennedy</td>
<td>Bryan Cullen</td>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
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<td>Donal O'Shea</td>
<td>Richard Curran</td>
<td>Larissa Atkinson</td>
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<td>Ger Brophy</td>
<td>Sharon Commins</td>
<td>Fionnuala Britton</td>
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<td>Michael Patten</td>
<td>Aldagh McDonogh</td>
<td>Kevin O'Sullivan</td>
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<td>Laura Whitmore</td>
<td>Sandra Lawlor</td>
<td>John Mulholland</td>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
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<td>Noel Curran</td>
<td>Mark Mortell</td>
<td>Eimear O'Kane</td>
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<td>Gervaise Slowey</td>
<td>Brian Hayes</td>
<td>Lorraine Twohill</td>
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<td>Ciara Peelo</td>
<td>Paul Finnerty</td>
<td>Colm Delves</td>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
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<td>Paddy Power</td>
<td>John Martin</td>
<td>Ciaran O'Kelly</td>
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<td>Brian Buggy</td>
<td>Joe Hogan</td>
<td>Greg Reilly</td>
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<td>Colin Cunningham</td>
<td>Fergal Bonner</td>
<td>PJ Hough</td>
<td>2012 - 2013</td>
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Note: Each role represents a different period for each person. The roles are likely to be positions or functions within a specific organization or context.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Cathal Gurrin</td>
<td>2012 - 2013</td>
<td>Dr Deirdre Boilson</td>
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<td>Tony Murphy</td>
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<td>Paul Lynam</td>
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<td>Garrett Forde</td>
<td>2012 - 2013</td>
<td>Sean Whelan</td>
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<td>Marian Corcoran</td>
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<td>Margaret E Ward</td>
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<td>Ian Kehoe</td>
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<td>Mary O’Dea</td>
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<td>Pat Burke</td>
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<td>Dessie Farrell</td>
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<td>Brema Drohan</td>
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<td>Albert Manifold</td>
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<td>Fergal Woods</td>
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<td>Lisa Nicole Dunne</td>
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<td>Deirdre Ni Cheallaigh</td>
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<td>Robert Mulhall</td>
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<td>Sheila Nunan</td>
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<td>Eithne Hand</td>
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<td>Bronwyn Brophy</td>
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<td>Dr Siobhan O’Halloran</td>
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<td>Lisa Cusack</td>
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<td>Sinéad McCluskey</td>
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Dear Guests,

As Chair of the Alumni Council, I wish you a warm welcome to the 2021 Alumni Awards celebration. This event again demonstrates the innovation and passion to ‘make things happen’ that has always been part of the character of DCU.

The DCU Alumni Community now numbers almost 90,000 graduates. We are a diverse community who are linked by the common bond of our experiences in DCU. Strengthening and extending this connection with Alumni is a priority for the University with the intent of DCU being a resource to Alumni and the Alumni community being a resource to DCU, as it delivers on its objective to transform lives and society.

We encourage all graduates to stay connected with DCU wherever you are in the world and at whatever stage you are in your career and life.

To each awardee, welcome back to DCU and congratulations on your achievements. We are proud to have such a vibrant, diverse and global Alumni community.

We wish you continued success and hope that you will always stay close to DCU, be an ‘Ambassador’ for the University and keep connected to your fellow Alumni.

Enjoy the evening and congratulations on your achievements.

Marian Corcoran
Chair of Alumni Council
Alumni Council Members

— Brian Smyth, Bachelor of Business Studies, 2006
— Gaye White, BA Humanities, 2001
— James Brunton, PhD Social/Organisational Psychology, 2009
— James Corcoran, Bachelor of Business Studies, 1990
— Jim Moore, BEng Electronic Engineering, 1990
— Marian Corcoran, BSc Biotechnology, 1986
— Robert Dunne, Bachelor of Religious Science Degree with History, 1985
In 2020/21, DCU's friends and alumni pledged over €1.7 million to provide transformative scholarships that open a world of opportunity for DCU students.

Thank you for your generosity... and for being part of DCU's mission to transform lives and societies.

To donate to other projects making a difference to the lives of DCU students today, visit dcu.ie/trust
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DCU Alumni – Making a Difference