

NOVEMBER

25th

INHEF SYMPOSIUM 2022

**INCLUSIVE AND UNIVERSAL APPROACHES IN HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES**



SUPPORTING THE SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF EXISTING AND FUTURE
INCLUSIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVES FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES
WITHIN IRISH HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS.

MTU CORK SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PRESENTATIONS

01. SKILLS FOR LIFE: UNLOCKING OUR FUTURE **St John of God Kerry Services & MTU Kerry**

A student lead presentation showcasing a selection of their personal successes. The Skills for Life course is operated from Munster Technological University (MTU) in partnership with St John of God Kerry Services (SJOG). Skills for Life is a Quality Qualification Ireland (QQI) accredited three-year full-time course that supports school leavers with intellectual disabilities. This presentation will be a blend of the students speaking about their success and experiences of the course. Also, this presentation will highlight the benefits of using technology to complete QQI using a new digital format. This presentation will include live accounts, videos and photos of the students' achievements.

02. CRAWFORD SUPPORTED STUDIOS **Cork City Council, MTU Crawford, Crawford Art Gallery & Cope Foundation**

Crawford Supported Studios exists through partnerships with Cork City Council, MTU Crawford, Crawford Art Gallery and Cope Foundation. It aims to provide a sustained creative environment for individuals with disabilities or specific social needs to develop their art practice. The Studio runs twice weekly, one day on location in Crawford Art Gallery and one day in MTU Crawford College of Art & Design. In practical terms, Crawford Supported Studios provides safe studio space, art materials, equipment, two long-term studio facilitators, connection to cultural institutions, assistance with transport and communications, access to exhibitions, audiences, peers, and support in terms of professional training and development.

PRESENTATIONS

03. THE INCLUSIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE (ILI) Maynooth University & Service-Learning Partnership Group

This research is about how students experience learning and facilitate inclusive higher education. It is a collective contribution from graduates and one of the programme facilitators of the Inclusive Learning Initiative (ILI) Maynooth University which ran from 2011- 2018. The ILI was established as an access route and support system for students with intellectual disabilities wishing to engage in higher education. The initiative was based on a fully inclusive model of support. This means students choose their own programme of study are invited to participate in college courses, certificate programmes, and/or degree programmes that are existent in the university. No programme base exists and there are no specially designed programmes for disabled students, so individuals avail themselves of existing supports through the college and other relevant support agencies. The ILI has been part of the national and international conversation with respect to inclusive higher education. Numerous research studies, focused on the student and staff experience, have been facilitated to capture the significant learning, implementation challenges, and impact of the ILI.

04. THE IMPACT OF A UNIVERSALLY DESIGNED, INCLUSIVE THIRD-LEVEL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES IN A DUBLIN COLLEGE

TU Dublin & Avista

The right to an inclusive education is explicitly stated in Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (United Nations 2016). While much progress has been made in Ireland over the last 25 years in providing opportunities for inclusive education for children with intellectual disabilities at preschool, primary and secondary level, the same cannot be said for opportunities at third level. TU Dublin (Blanchardstown Campus) together with Avista services have collaborated since 2009 to provide an inclusive third level education programme catering for students with intellectual disabilities. A major feature of the programme is its inclusive nature. Students with intellectual disabilities attend a range of modules with TU Dublin students across various programmes. In focus groups, social care students spoke about their experiences, observations and opinions of the impact of being part of an inclusive and diverse learning environment which included students with intellectual disabilities in their class group.

PRESENTATIONS

Keynote 1

05. INTEGRATION OF STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AT AN AMERICAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITY Clemson University

This session will provide insights into ClemsonLIFE (Learning is for Everyone), a hybrid post-secondary education (PSE) program designed to promote employment and independent living skills for young adults with intellectual disabilities. The session provides an opportunity for parents and teachers to ask questions about PSE programs regarding curriculum, job skills training, social skills development, and community integration into a traditional college campus in the United States.

06. FACILITATING STUDENT VOICE AND CHOICE IN THE INCLUSIVE ONLINE CLASSROOM THROUGH UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING. Mary Immaculate College

This presentation charts the developments of the developments associated with one model of inclusive education aimed at supporting the learning development of a group of adult learners with ID based at MIC during the Covid pandemic and associated digital pivot. There will be a particular emphasis on barrier removal and innovative curriculum design through the implementation of the Universal Design for Learning framework. We focus on the strategies and e-learning models which were employed to create meaningful contexts for student engagement for this group of learners in the online classroom. We will consider some of the transferrable lessons and hear from some of the learners involved as they share their experiences of online learning.

PRESENTATIONS

07. A LOT DONE, MORE TO DO **University College Cork**

We are students on the Certificate in Disability Inclusive Practice (CDIP) in UCC. We are back in college because we enjoyed being Certificate in Contemporary Living (CCL) students. The CCL gave us a chance to go to college. We met new people, made new friends. We got to try out different subjects. We met students from America who came to UCC for a Summer School. For a lot of us, being a student and learning gave us confidence. Some of us joined Clubs and Societies in UCC and gave speeches. We got involved in clubs and societies, fundraising, and made presentations. Outside of college, we felt more confident. We did an audit of the UCC campus. We found things did not always work properly or sometimes not at all for all students with disabilities. We presented what we found to senior managers to UCC. We made a difference, and we were proud to graduate. We have shown that having an ID should not stop you from going to college. But there are things that do stop people with ID from going to college. This includes money. We need to be able to apply for grants like other students. We are proud of our success but there must be more done to make sure more students with ID have the chance to be like us.

Keynote 2

08. THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY, INCLUSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION!

Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn
City University of New York

Dr. Carpenter will describe the contributions that students with intellectual disabilities make in the Arts in Education courses she teaches at Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn NY. Michael Lettman fourth-year student at Kingsborough will contribute to this discussion. Dr. Carpenter will then outline the growing international movement of including students with intellectual disabilities in higher education and finally, she will discuss an online music outreach project with students with intellectual disabilities in the UK and their peers in the USA. Most importantly there will be a chance for you to participate in some music-making during this presentation!

PRESENTATIONS

09. GUESS Who(T)?

Dublin City University & Trinity College Dublin

Three professionals from two INHEF programmes will come together to reflect on their working roles. Through storytelling, they will show how they support learners with ID in higher education and work experiences. Everyone in the audience will be welcome to participate!

MEDIA STATIONS & POSTERS

- 01. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK:**
A Bloom of Inclusion or a Thorny Problem?
- 02. DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY:**
“This was the best work experience ever because was also my first”: My Photo Story. Learner view of the DCU Ability Campus course and work placement.
- 03. CLEMSON UNIVERSITY:**
Promoting Independence for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities through Assistive Technology
- 04. TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN:**
Student voice on inclusive learning in higher education
- 05. TU DUBLIN:**
To demonstrate student success, six graduates who have completed the Learning Together Programme in TU Dublin, Blanchardstown will present a video.
- 06. AVISTA:**
Learning Together Programme - Employment

SESSION 1 CHAIR: SYLVIA HEALY

- 10:00 **Presentation 1: Skills for Life: Unlocking Our Future**
- 10:20 **Presentation 2: Crawford Supported Studios**
- 10:40 **Presentation 3: The Inclusive Learning Initiative (ILI)
Maynooth University & Service-Learning Partnership
Group (2011- 2018)**
- 11:00 **Presentation 4: The impact of a universally designed,
inclusive third-level education programme for adults
with intellectual disabilities in a Dublin college**
- 11:15 **Further Questions & Answers**
- 11:25 **Teas, Coffees: Reception Area & Multimedia Stations**

SESSION 2 CHAIR: IARA SYNOTT

- 12:00 **Presentation 5 – Keynote: Integration of Students
with Intellectual Disabilities at an American Research
University**
- 12:35 **Presentation 6: Facilitating student voice and choice
in the inclusive online classroom through Universal
Design for Learning.**
- 12:55 **Presentation 7: A Lot Done, More to Do**
- 13:15 **Further Questions & Answers**

13:30 Lunch in the Reception Area & Multimedia Stations

SESSION 3 CHAIR: DONATELLA CAMEDDA

14.35 Performance: Inclusive Music Ensemble of Cork
School of Music

14.35 Presentation 8 – Keynote: Think globally, act locally,
Inclusion in higher education!

15.10 Presentation 9: Guess WhO(T)?

15.30 Feedback Session

16.00 Closing Remarks with Professor Michael Shevlin

16.10 **FINISH**

Conference Hashtag:
#INHEF

**Let the world know
you'll be attending the
conference!**

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