



29th April 2023 | Issue 19

Welcome to the April issue of our beloved newsletter. This academic year has surely gone by fast.

We wish the best of luck to all of our students sitting exams in the coming days.

To our final years, we wish you well in all of your future endeavours, and please let us know how you are getting on.

Our newsletters are archived and uploaded on the Geology website. You can access them [here](#). The *G(e)ossip* will be released on the last Thursday of each month.

If you have feedback or anything to be added to upcoming newsletter issues, please send us an email at geossip.tcd@gmail.com.

-The G(e)ossip Team

FAREWELL

Farewell to **Frances Leogue**, our PG research administrator and best of luck to her in her new role in the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Thank you for all your hard work over the years, helping our postgraduate students!

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Congratulations to **Micha Ruhl** who was elected a Fellow of the College on Trinity Monday, 24 April 2022 in the pouring rain. We wish him a long and fruitful academic career here at Trinity!

COMMUNITY

As a member of the **Trinity community**, you have the right to study or work in an environment that is **free from bullying, harassment, and sexual misconduct**. [Speak Out](#) provides the opportunity for you to make the University aware of incidents that you have either experienced or witnessed by reporting them anonymously.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

DMG Volcano Day

The inaugural Dublin Volcano Day is being held on May 10th in the Museum Building, in room M4, hosted by Mike Stock and Claire Harnett (UCD). The day will include flash talks as well as some longer conference style presentations from the Irish lava enthusiast science community. Anyone who is interested in joining should contact the organisers via [email](#).



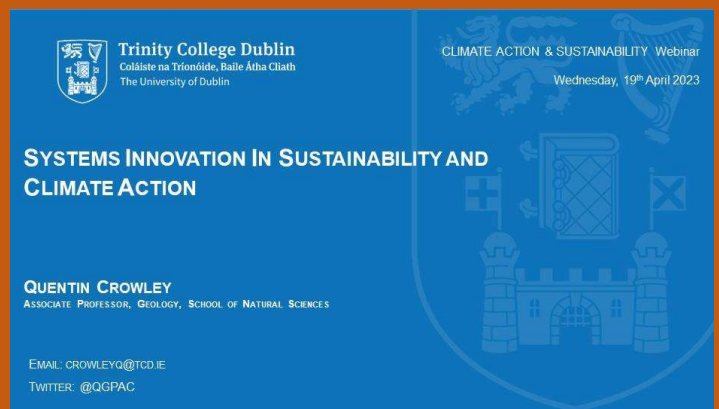
MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

TCD's Student Counselling Services is open and available to all registered students. Check out their website [here](#) to read about the services they provide, email them at student-counselling@tcd.ie to request an appointment, and follow them on Instagram at [@tcd_headspace](#) for mindfulness and mental health awareness tips. They now offer [PhD research support groups](#) to keep you on track!

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Quentin Crowley delivered a lecture on April 19th entitled *Systems Innovation in Sustainability and Climate Action* as part of the Trinity Climate Action and Sustainability webinar series.

Find out more about the series [here](#). You can find a recording of the Quentin's presentation on the [Trinity YouTube channel](#).



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

36th International Meeting of Sedimentology
Dubrovnik, 12-16 June, [website](#)

14th International Platinum Symposium
Cardiff, 4-7 July, [website](#)

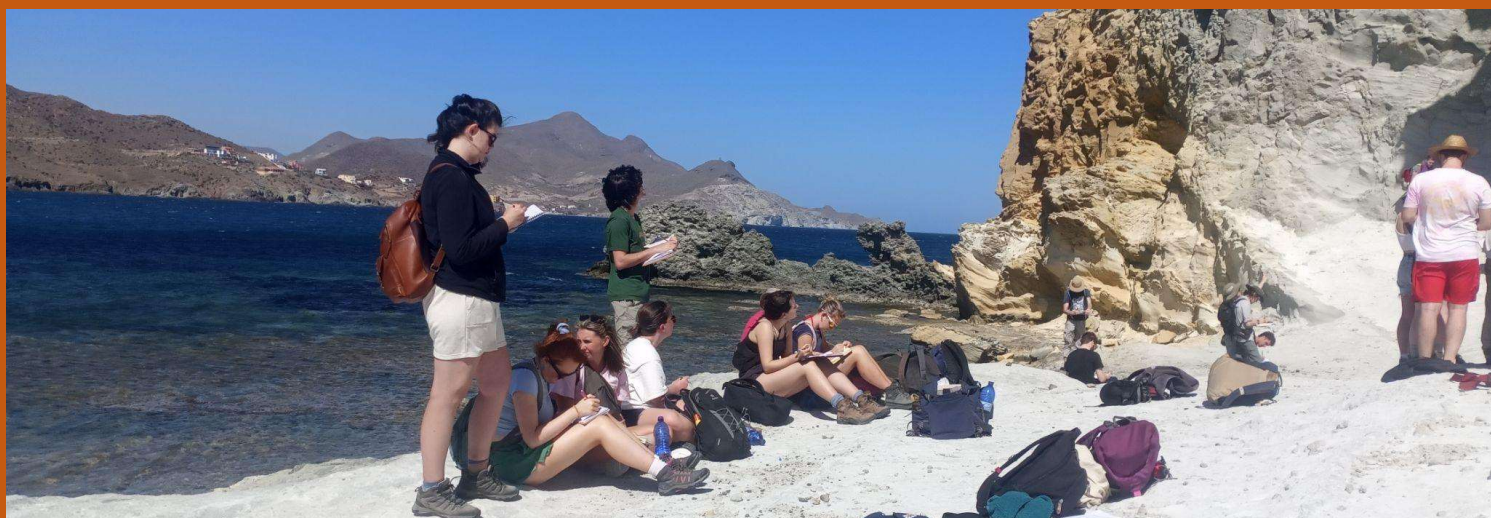
4th International Meeting on Stratigraphy (Strati2023)
Lille, 11-13 July, [website](#)

Goldschmidt Conference
Lyon, 9-14 July, [website](#)

International Conference on Crystal Growth and Epitaxy (ICCGE-20)
Naples, 30 July - 4 August, [website](#)

Spain

The 4th year undergraduate Geoscience students participated in an overseas fieldtrip to Almeria, Spain between 7th and 17th April. This year, students spent a day investigating local challenges in topics such as agriculture, energy generation, water use, and climate change. Other aspects of the fieldtrip focused on the geological evolution of basement rocks, sedimentary basins and volcanic rocks in the area.



Photos: Top - Miocene volcanic and sedimentary rocks at Nijar. Middle - Los Genoveses Beach, Cabo de Gata. Bottom - Messinian sedimentary rocks, Sorbas Basin. Photos by Quentin Crowley.

COMMUNITY

One of the main goals of this newsletter is to celebrate achievements and accomplishments in our department. It is our honor to highlight the creativity of Tommy Timothy Tormey (*picture on the left*), a final-year student who wrote a poem about the Spain fieldtrip.

*Here we are in Spain
And there's nothing geological left to explain
We observed, we interpreted
And they weren't always fancy
But we were always inspired
By the American jewel
Our beloved Professor Nancy
The turbidites and conglomerates
Made the sedimentologists drool
Especially our Dutch mastermind Dr Micha Ruhl
He's one man who won't be taken for a fool
Overall we learned what was vital
Everything in life comes down to a Milankovitch cycle
Some days flew by
But some dragged along more slowly
Never a moment wasted
Hearing the genius of Dr Quentin Crowley
From the basement to the basin fill
We saw it all
From the carbonate reefs to the dacite fall
Apart from that stinking creek, we all had a ball
As these past 4 years are coming to an end
We're turning the last corner of the river bend
There's not much distance left to the shore
Whatever happens next
May it be all you ever dreamed for*

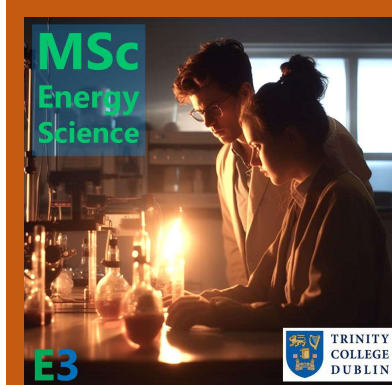


DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to **Juan Diego Rodriguez-Blanco** who has been appointed as the new Director of the MSc in Energy Sciences, a collaborative program involving contributions from 4 leading schools (Schools of Physics, Chemistry, Engineering and Natural Sciences).

These are complex times, as he is also the Director of the MSc in Environmental Sciences!

Learn more about the program [here](#).



PUBLICATIONS

- Sarah Bradley, Jeremy Ely, Chris Clark, **Robin Edwards**, Ian Shennan, Reconstruction of the palaeo-sea level of Britain and Ireland arising from empirical constraints of ice extent: Implications for regional sea level forecasts and North American ice sheet volume, *Journal of Quaternary Science*, 2023.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jqs.3523>
- **Li Zhang**, Yongdong Wang, **Micha Ruhl**, Yanbin Zhu, Haijun Li. Re-investigations of the fossil fern *Xiajiajienia mirabila* (Dicksoniaceae) based on new material from the Lower Cretaceous of western Liaoning, China. *Cretaceous Research*,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cretres.2023.105543>
- **V. Monchal**, **K. Drost**, **D. Chew**. Precise U-Pb dating of incremental calcite slickenfiber growth: Evidence for far-field Eocene fold reactivation in Ireland. *Geology* 2023; doi:
<https://doi.org/10.1130/G50906.1>

CONFERENCES



International Association of Hydrogeologists - Irish Group Annual Conference

Eimear Prendergast, Conor Smith, Eyad Abushandi, Jerry Dickens attended the conference about groundwater and planning 18-19th April, Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore. Eimear and Conor as true hydrogeologists forgot to take pictures of themselves at the conference, but took a great one (left) of a “probe in a bubble tube which is funny”.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to **Quentin Crowley** who was recently elected to join the Governing Board of Climate-KIC, which is the EU's main climate innovation initiative.

Learn more about it [here](#).



Greece

The 42 students of the JS Geoscience class together with **David Chew, Emma Tomlinson, Michael Stock, Chris Nicholas, Swetha Venugopal** and **Foteini Drakou** have returned from a two-week field trip in Greece.

During the first part of the trip, the students had the chance to reconstruct the evolution of the Megara basin and the Kerinitis Gilbert-type fan delta. An early morning low magnitude earthquake, that barely anyone noticed, made a great introduction for the day dedicated to Neotectonics of the adjacent Gulf of Corinth.

A 124m-long ferry (David Chew, pers. commun) brought the group to the largest island of Cyclades – Naxos – to explore and map the metamorphic core complex. Inspired by metamorphism and the concept of isograds, students wrote a song about David Chew and the index minerals found in metapelites.

The last destination of the trip was the volcanic island of Santorini where the students logged 300,000 years of its volcanic history. The class studied the c. 1,600 BCE catastrophic eruption that destroyed the Minoan settlement of the island, and they also had the chance to walk around the crater of the 1950 eruption in Nea Kameni island.



GLOSSARIES FOR FORWARDNESS

On 26th April a new art installation was opened in the Museum Building. *Glossaries for Forwardness* is a multi-platform project by Marie Farrington, examining the convergences between landscape and memory through the architecture of the Museum Building. This project arose from Farrington's artist residency at Trinity Centre for the Environment (2021-22) where her research approached geological sampling methods as ways to explore our interpretation of landscape, and how land can be implicit in its own representation and display. The works presented in this exhibition perform a reflexive sampling of the Museum Building's interior and translate processes such as thin-sectioning, microscopic imaging and resin-mounting into modes of making in the studio.

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication with texts by our very own **Quentin Crowley**, Anneka French and Marie Farrington and a public engagement programme including talks, screenings, listening sessions and an event in collaboration with the Department of Ultimology.

The art installation is available to view between 27 April–23 September 2023 in the Museum Building.



People behind the art installation (Marie Farrington in blue).



Resin mount: column proxy, 2023, olivine dust, bio-resin; next to Connemara Marble column.

Additional events related to the art installation in the coming months:

Core Sample, Listening Session

29 April (Saturday), 12 pm

18 May (Thursday), 5 pm

29 June (Thursday), 5 pm

Location: Museum Building

In conversation: Stanislaw Welbel and Marie Farrington

Wednesday 31 May, 7 pm

Location: Online

*In conversation: **Dr Quentin Crowley** and Marie Farrington (followed by Core Sample, Listening Session)*

Thursday 8 June, 5 pm

Location: Museum Building



The University of Dublin Choral Society gave two wonderful performances of Mozart's Medley, including the Requiem, one of the most known choral pieces, on the 28-29th of March, conducted by David Leigh.

Sarah Guerin (*left*), **Blanka Kovács** (*middle*) and **Dave Chew** (*right*) from our department are part of the choir and would like to thank all who attended the concert.

The choir will continue in the next academic year, you can find more information about the society [here](#).



POSTGRAD STUDENT SUPPORT

GRAD CHATS

FOR ALL POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

To equip students with the skills to manage stress, work-life balance, increase self-care practices, communication and assertiveness skills, and look at how best to negotiate the supervisory relationship

Mondays from 2pm - 3.10pm in person at the Student Counselling Service offices (3rd floor, 7-9 Leinster Street South, Dublin 2)

With: Tom Adams (SCS) and Martin McAndrew (Postgraduate Advisory Service)

Scan me to sign up

Learn more on the PG Grad Chats [webpage](#) and pre-register [here](#).

WELLBEING

The [Silver Cloud programme](#) provides a great online tool to help you improve and maintain your wellbeing by addressing issues that can have a negative impact on your life.

The program is provided by Student Counselling and is available to everyone in the Trinity Community.

SAFETY AND SAVING ENERGY

Turn off the light!



Please make sure when you're leaving your office for the day to close the door properly, turn off all the lights and appliances. This includes the hallway lights as well.