



SciFest 2024 with Abbott

My name is Conor Lynch and I am a second year TCPID student. For my project this year I am reporting on TCPID, Abbott and SciFest. For this I interviewed all the project teams to see what their project was about.

Abbott have been working with TCPID students on Sci Fest for the past 8 years. Each year we take a trip down to Longford and get a tour of the Abbott facility. For the next four Thursdays all the project team members travel to TCPID in Dublin to work on designing and creating the projects for SciFest. On the last Thursday we have an exhibition in Regents House in Trinity College where we display and present out projects!

About SciFest

SciFest was started in 2006 by Sheila Porter. It is a charity and it encourages young people to get interested in science and technology and to learn. It's patron is President Michael D. Higgins.

About Abbott

Abbott in Ireland make healthcare products. Their aim is to help people live healthier lives.

2024 Projects

Why They Did It! - Conor Barnwell

The Wheeling Wind Tunnel - Darragh Finn

The Perfect Penalty! - Dale O'Neill

Jewellery Under Pressure - Seadna O'Hara

Move to the Limit - Rebecca Nolan

Can you Feel it? - Shannon Brooker



Move to the Limit - Rebecca Nolan

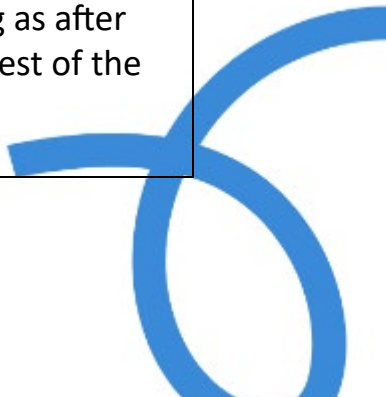
The Power of Walking - Emma McGrath

Sustainable Creations - Saoirse Keogh

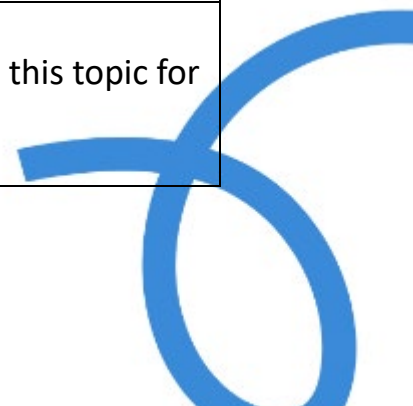
The Science of Baking - Gillian Cronin





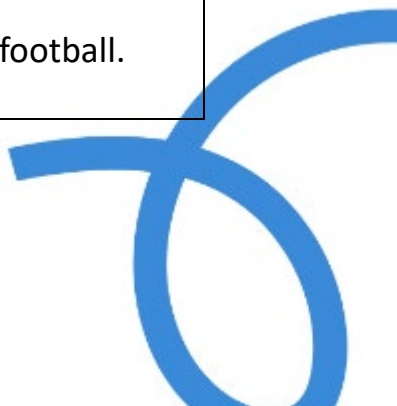
<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>Why They Did It!</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Conor Barnwell</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Paddy O'Rourke & Brid Burns</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>Looking at why people like crime dramas.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>Because crime drama is very intriguing as after the first episode you can get into the rest of the series or season.</p>





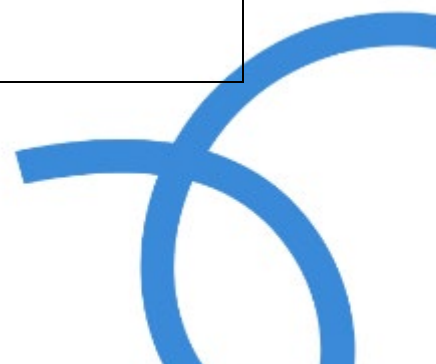
<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>The Wheeling Wind Tunnel</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Darragh Finn</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Kelly O'Sullivan</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>My project is on the myth of a car driving upside down. We are going to use Hot Wheels toys to test this theory out.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>I have wanted to research this topic for a very long time.</p>





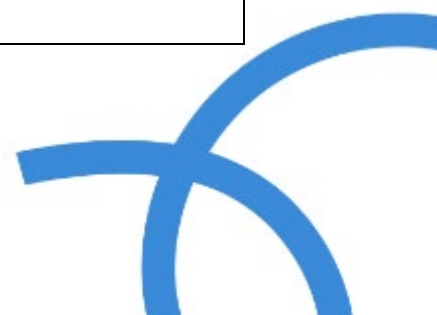
<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>The Perfect Penalty</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Dale O'Neill</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Roseleen Murphy & Jack Gorman</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>My project is going to be the perfect penalty.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>I picked this topic as I am big fan of football.</p>





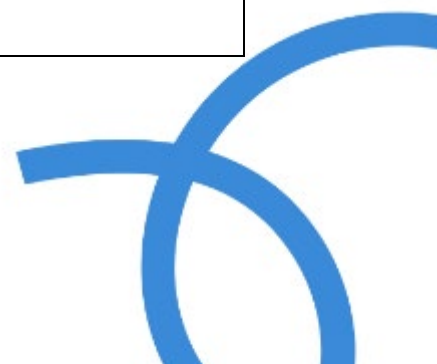
<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>Jewellery Under Pressure</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Seadna O'Hara</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Cian Quigley & Rosemary Clarke</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>It's about the science behind jewellery, where it comes from and the techniques to make jewellery.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>Because I am big fan of jewellery so I want to learn more about it.</p>





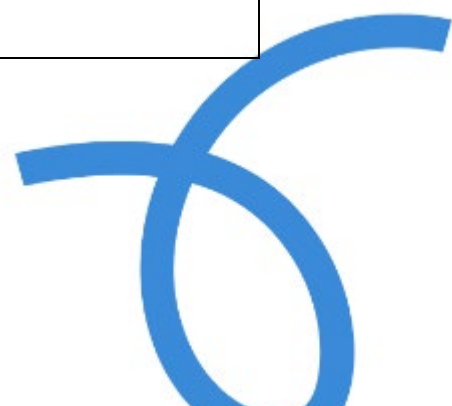
<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>Move to the Limit</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Rebecca Nolan</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>AJ Shrahan & Emmanuella Afolabi & Upama Ghoth</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>My project is going to be a mix of Irish Dancing and Art and how rhythm affects the brain.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>Because I am interested and passionate about my hobbies.</p>





<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>'Can You Feel It'?</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Shannon Brooker</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Kate Peters & Denise Hannigan</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>I am going to base my project on music.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>I picked this topic because it helps to contribute to my life as I love listening to music.</p>





<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>Power of Walking</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Emma McGrath</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Erika Dovgalyte & Eoin Domerty</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>My project is going to be the benefits of walking.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>Because I love walking and I wanted to explore why walking is good for everyone.</p>



<p>Title of Project</p>	<p>Sustainable Creations</p>
<p>Name of Student</p>	<p>Saoirse Keogh</p> 
<p>Who are your partners on this project?</p>	<p>Kinga Wilczyhske & Ronan Mac Donnell</p> 
<p>What is the project about?</p>	<p>I have my own business and it's called Crafts by Saoirse. I am exploring ways to be more sustainable.</p>
<p>Why did you pick this topic?</p>	<p>It is about something that I love that I can use my creative and artsy side.</p>



Title of Project	The Science of Baking
Name of Student	Gillian Cronin 
Who are your partners on this project?	Rachelle Waters 
What is the project about?	To learn the science behind baking
Why did you pick this topic?	Baking is my favourite hobby.



Interview with Rachelle Waters – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
I have been with Abbott since 2016
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
I am a Citizenship & Sustainability Specialist for Abbott Ireland
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
I used to work in HR for our diagnostics division in Sligo when I joined first, but I have been on the Citizenship & Sustainability team since 2019.
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
100% the people! I get the opportunity to work with amazing people every day of the week not only in Ireland but across the globe in countries like America, India, Germany, UK to name a few!
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
This is a tough one! I want to say everything because I love the work Abbott and I get to do with TCPID every year but if I had to pick a few:
 - Getting to work with the TCPID team each year and building a friendship outside of our work items
 - The students!! Each year I learn something new from each student and especially the student I am working with on their project!
 - The projects – each year I am more and more impressed by the ideas and creativity of everyone and wonder can we top this next year, and WE DO!!
 - The showcase day – seeing everyone’s projects on display after all the hard work we put in the weeks leading up, and students going into details with attendees about their hard work, meeting family, friends and past students , my favourite day in work every year!



Interview with AJ Shrahan – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
I have been working for Abbott just over 5 years now.
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
I am a Corporate social responsibility specialist. This means I get to be involved and be part of the planning of all projects/initiatives within Abbott in Ireland. I work on a team that connects the outside world to all of the good we do within Abbott.
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
No, my first job in Abbott was a receptionist in Abbott in Galway.
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
To get to be part of the incredible work Abbott in Ireland do. I also work on an extremely supportive team which makes the job even more appealing.
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
This year was my first year being part of TCPID and I have enjoyed the journey more than I could even put into words. This is something different from our every day work and gives us the opportunity to be hands on and I absolutely have loved every minute of it. I hope to be part of this partnership for many years to come.



Interview with Kelly O’Sullivan – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
15 years.
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
Corporate Social Responsibility specialist .I support and deliver our employee giving programs, such as working with charities, and our school programs that are linked to health education. I do this as part of the Citizenship and Sustainability Team.
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
No, I have worked many roles in my 15years in Abbott.
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
Getting to engage and work with so many amazing individuals across Abbott. Leading programs and initiatives that make an impact internally and externally fostering the link of Abbott in the local community.
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
All the fantastic students! Seeing the students gain confidence and enjoy meaningful experiences makes the work incredibly rewarding and inspiring. Working alongside Marie, Jenny and all the amazing TCPID staff.



Interview with Patrick O'Rourke – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
I was with Abbott 18 years in November 2023.
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
I am the Operations Manager for our Clinical Chemistry products. I am responsible to ensure our customers get the products they need when they need them. I do that by ensuring my team have what they need to do their job successfully.
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
No. I started out in the Laboratory making product in 2005. I then moved into multiple roles supporting product manufacture. I then became a Team Leader across our Testing and Manufacturing areas. Later, I became a Manufacturing Manager responsible for bringing new products on site. I have been in my current role for 3 years.
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
The people – we have a fantastic group of people that all work together to achieve shared goals. There are always loads of friendly faces. The people here know when to have a good time and a joke and also work really hard when we need to.
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
Once again, it's the people. I love meeting new people and seeing what they are doing. I have met some really fantastic people that work so hard to achieve their dreams. The drive that the students have is so evident and the pride in what they do shines through. I met some of the staff and parents and the pride that they have in what the students have achieved is so evident. I also made a fantastic buddy, Clíodhna, through working with TCPID.



Interview with Ronan MacDonnell – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
Since 2018.
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
Area Treasurer for the Rapid Diagnostics Business. I work with Banking and Foreign Exchange.
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
Yes, but it has changed a little bit.
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
At Abbott I get to participate in some of the amazing CSR initiatives like Scifest with TCPID and also Future Well Kids which sees us go into primary schools and meet with 6th class kids to talk about non communicable disease.
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
For the most part I like to meet the candidates. The groups are always great fun with a great sense of fun. I also enjoy having this in common with some of my Abbott colleagues and of course I get to spend time with the wonderful TCPID team.



Interview with Rosaleen Murphy – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
5 years.
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
My Job title is Product Stewardship, what this means as a scientist, that I work as part of team that helps to ensure Abbott products are not harmful to the patients and hospital staff using them and that the products do not release any harmful chemicals into the environment. I do this by looking at all the chemicals that are used to manufacture our products and evaluate those that need to be replaced with safer chemicals.
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
Yes.
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
I work with a great team and there are always new things to learn and it allows me to maintain my science skills.
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
It is just too hard to pick just one thing... SciFest mentoring is the most rewarding and fun thing I do in work all year. I suppose, if I had to pick one favourite this it would be the SciFest Exhibition when the students reveal their projects, it is great to see the passion, enthusiasm and pride that the students demonstrate when they are presenting and describing their projects to the guests. It's also great fun!



Interview with Kate Peters – Abbott Project Partner



- How long have you worked with Abbott?
I've been at Abbott for nearly 10 years, I started my career as an intern on college placement.
- What is your job in Abbott and what does it involve?
I am the Sustainability Manager for Abbott supporting all the 10 sites in Ireland, it involves lots of interactions with people all across Ireland and helping to deliver on our Abbott Sustainability plan.
- Have you always had the same job since you started in Abbott?
No, I'm on my 8th role, I've been lucky enough to move around the business and work in a variety of roles from Health & Safety to Production Supervisor and Purchasing. I've loved getting to know so many different people and new skills!
- What is your favourite thing about working in Abbott?
Working with my amazing colleagues and being given so many opportunities to learn and develop within the company.
- What is your favourite thing about working with the TCPID every year?
The students and Marie. We have so much fun!



Thank you to all the amazing Abbott volunteers who worked as project partners with our students!

- ·AJ Shrahan
- ·Rachelle Waters
- ·Kate Peters
- ·Kelly O'Sullivan
- ·Brid Burns
- ·Paddy O'Rourke
- ·Denise Hannigan
- ·Ronan Mac Donald
- ·Erika Dovgalyte
- ·Roseleen Murphy
- ·Emmanuella Afolabi
- ·Upama Ghosh
- ·Kinga Wilczynska
- ·Cian Quigley
- ·Eoin Doherty
- ·Jack Gorman
- ·Rosemary Clarke





Editor: Conor Lynch

Conor is a second year TCPID student. He is interested in writing and reporting and acted as both reporter and editor for this publication.