



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Threesis Grand Finale 2022

3 Minutes
3 Slides
3 Judges

1 December 2022

With guest judges:

John Crumlish, Galway International Arts Festival

Dr Silvia Maretto, University of Galway

Professor Jim Livesey, University of Galway

and MC:

Dr Jessamyn Fairfield, University of Galway

brought to you by the
Office of the Vice-President for Research & Innovation,
University of Galway





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Theresis 2022 Finalists



Muzhaffar Hazman: "AIs don't Understand your Memes".

Originally from Malaysia, Muzhaffar is undertaking a PhD within the School of Computer Science and is affiliated to the University of Galway's Digital Science Institute. His research which explores Artificial Intelligence and the use of memes is supported by Science Foundation Ireland.



Georgia MacMillan: "Exploring the phenomenon of natural darkness amid the growth of light pollution"

London born PhD student Georgia, comes from the University's School of Geography where her research focuses on the exploration of the value of natural darkness and dark skies for rural tourism and local communities. Her efforts are funded by the Irish Research Council Employment Based Scholarship in association with National Parks & Wildlife Service.



Mai Alharthy: "Assessing Everyday Memory in Arabic Populations With Brain Injuries".

Originally from Saudi Arabia, Mai is a PhD student in the Discipline of Occupational Therapy. Her research looks at the cultural adaptation of an everyday English memory assessment tool for its use with an Arabic-speaking population with brain injuries. Providing clinicians and researchers with a valid tool to assess memory functions.



Harrison O' Rourke: "Are we on the cusp of the first mass extinction of plants in Earth history?"

Irish PhD student Harrison studies botany in the School of Natural Sciences and is associated with the Ryan Institute. His research focuses on how leaf traits may be associated with plant extinction both in the fossil record and in modern times. His PhD, which explores the response of plants to the current biodiversity crisis, is supported by the Irish Research Council.



Rosy Poliscchio: "Tumours play hide and seek; how do we win?"

Italian student Rosy is completing her PhD as part of the Hardiman Scholarship with the School of Natural Sciences. Her research focuses on efficiently creating bright and luminescent compounds that can selectively accumulate in cancerous cells. Hoping to create a diagnostic agent that can spot tumours in a non-invasive and non-toxic manner. Her work is also supported by the Irish Research Council.



Grace Sutton: "Why Some Drugs Have Evil Twins"

Grace from Tipperary is undertaking her PhD within the School of Biological and Chemical Sciences as part of the College of Science Scholarship. Her research aims to develop a new family of easily synthesised ligands that can be used in reactions that are fundamental to organic chemistry and the pharmaceutical industry.



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Muhammad Jaleed Khan: "Adding Common Sense to Visual AI"

Originally from Pakistan, Jaleed is undertaking his PhD within the School of Computer Science and is affiliated with the Data Science Institute and SFI Centre for Research Training in Artificial Intelligence. His research aims to enhance the expressiveness and accuracy of visual Artificial Intelligence techniques through common sense knowledge and reasoning capabilities, is supported by Science Foundation Ireland.



Victoria Ward: "Heart Attacks and Hydrogel Heroes "

Victoria, a PhD student with the College of Medicine and School of Anatomy, is part of the "Duffy Lab". Her research investigates the mechanical properties of hyaluronic acid hydrogels and how they can reinforce and regenerate damaged heart tissue following myocardial infarction. Her work is supported by the Science Foundation Ireland AMBER Centre.



Kelsey Rhude: "Justice Delayed = Justice Denied"

Originally from Canada, Kelsey is undertaking her PhD in the School of Law in association with the Irish Centre for Human Rights. Funded by the Hardiman Scholarship programme, her work based on case-study research focuses on local and survivor-centred justice approaches in Liberia to understand how they operate, what they entail, and how are they connected to reconciliation and sustainable peace.



Santiago Martinez Sosa: "CO2nverting waste to wealth"

Mexican PhD student Santiago is conducting his research within the School of Biological and Chemical Sciences and is affiliated with the university's Ryan Institute. Supported by the ChemLight group, his research focuses on how CO₂ is captured from industry and converted to chemicals through bio-electrochemical processes.



Rimjhim Kashyap: "Mass Timber Buildings: A sustainable solution to the housing crisis"

Originally from India, Rimjhim is conducting her PhD within the School of Engineering and Ryan Institute. Her research, as part of the Timber Engineering Research Group's project MODCONs, focuses on examining the use of Irish-grown timber in housing construction. Aiming to become a sustainable solution to Irish housing crisis. Her work is supported by the Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Marine's Competitive Research Funding Programme.



Sarah Porcenaluk: "A Generation of Critical Thinkers".

US PhD student Sarah, is conducting her research within the School of Education and is affiliated with the university's Moore Institute. Self-funded, her research focuses on the pedagogy of primary mathematics education and teacher professional development with the aim of developing a toolset for primary teachers on how to include dialogue and questioning during mathematics lessons.

It takes a village..

University of Galway's Threesis is a research communications training programme & competition which first started in 2012.

Over the decade there have been hundreds of participants, contestants, judges, trainers and supporters - and they deserve our warmest appreciation for all that they have done with Threesis.

As we look back on 10 years of training and talks, of connecting and communicating, we know that Threesis takes a village.

So our thanks to everyone for the last 10 years, and below we thank just some of the people who have brought Threesis 2022 to fruition.

Ruth Hynes, Sheila Casey and Ruth Dooley - Threesis 2022 Team
Office of the Vice-President for Research & Innovation

...so thank you..

Training sessions x 3

Trainees: Our 75 postgraduate research students who participated in training sessions.

Trainers: Bright Club's Denny MacDermott and Dr Jessamyn Fairfield.

Facilitation and Venue: Researcher Development Centre.

Logistics: Ruth Dooley

Promotion: Sheila Casey

Grand Finale

Participants: Our 12 finalists.

Judges: Dr Lisa Keating, Director of Research & Innovation, Irish Universities Association; John Crumlish, CEO, Galway International Arts Festival; and Dr Silvia Maretto, Research Office, University of Galway

MC: Dr Jessamyn Fairfield, University of Galway

Prize-giving: Professor Jim Livesey, Vice-President Research & Innovation, University of Galway

Venue: O'Donoghue Theatre, Marianne Ní Chinnéide and Mike O'Halloran (and Buildings & Estates)

Logistics, design and marketing: Sheila Casey

Additional support: Maeve Farrell, Gem Mathieu, Sinéad Beacom, Kate Flood

Audiovisual and filming: Staunton Media - Cormac, Paul and Blue

Photography: Aengus McMahon

Design and printers: Allen Creative and Snap Printing

Catering: Ground & Co.

Heats x 6

Participants: Our 45 postgraduate research students who shared the story of their research.

Judges: Dr Ruth Dooley, Dr Dinali Wijeratne, Dr Attracta Brennan, Dr Kieran Ryan, Professor Michel Destrade, Dr Joanne O' Dwyer, Dr Justin Tonra, Anna Marie Leonard, Dr Davood Roshan, and Dr Claire Masterson.

Mentors: Dr Ruth Dooley, Dr Attracta Brennan, Dr Kieran Ryan, Dr Joanne O' Dwy

er, Dr Justin Tonra, Anna Marie Leonard, Dr Davood Roshan, Dr Claire Masterson. Sinéad Beacom, Anna Marie Leonard, Áine Mhic Thaidhg, Sheila Casey

Venue and hosts: Researcher Development Centre

Timekeeping, logistics and feedback: Sheila Casey

Special thanks: Audiences x 6

Special Thanks

Everyone in tonight's audience!