



UCD VETERINARY COMMUNITY EDI NEWSLETTER

Nuachtlitir EDI do Phobal Tréidliachta UCD

April 2023



Welcome to the third edition of the UCD Veterinary Community EDI newsletter

EDI stands for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. At UCD we aim create an environment where diversity is celebrated and everyone is treated fairly, regardless of age, civil status, disability, family status, gender (including gender identity), membership of the Travelling community, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

www.ucd.ie/equality

This applies not only to staff but also students across the University with the aim of creating a welcoming environment that is supportive of difference. For information on upcoming training and events, please visit www.ucd.ie/vetmed/about/athenaswan and follow us on Twitter [@UCDVetAthSWAN](https://twitter.com/UCDVetAthSWAN)



Good Luck

Best of luck to all
Veterinary Medicine & Veterinary Nursing
students in their 2023 exams!!



The **Dean's Inclusion Award** is awarded on an annual basis to *individuals, clubs or teams* that have demonstrated outstanding behaviours in the areas of EDI during the preceding college year. Prof Michael Doherty, Dean and Head of School, reviewed nominations from staff and students and was delighted to select Stage IV graduate entry Veterinary Medicine student Lorna Murphy as the winner for 2022. Lorna has demonstrated passion and drive for EDI in our School and the wider Veterinary Sciences Community. Lorna was the 2021/22 VetSoc welfare officer. She represented UCD at the Veterinary Schools Council 2022 conference and pursued various initiatives including a student food bank. The award was presented to Lorna by Prof Doherty and VETEDIAS co-chair Prof Stephen Gordon at a lecture with her fellow Stage IV students on February 15th 2023.

www.ucd.ie/vetmed/about/athenaswan/deansinclusionaward

Foodbank

The cost of living crisis is biting hard for everyone. We have opened a small foodbank for the community. Donations can be dropped to Student Adviser, Niamh's office - room 201a, 1st floor, Vet Sciences. Reminder to students leaving campus/Dublin after exams: Please donate any non-perishable food items. For more information on what can be donated please email niamh.nestor@ucd.ie



Pride

On April 20th 2023, the VETEDIAS committee hosted the School's annual flagship Pride event, supported by CHAS. This year we held the event a little earlier in the run-up to undergraduate students' exams. The cakes went down especially well! The event kicked off with an address from Prof Michael Doherty. Róisín Walsh (Student LGBTQ+ VetSoc Rep) and Assoc. Prof Marijke Beltman also addressed the gathering with inspirational and moving speeches on what Pride means to them. VETEDIAS co-chairs, Assoc. Prof Cliona Skelly and Prof Stephen Gordon, provided closing remarks on the importance of recognising Pride in our community. We were delighted to provide a welcoming space for our staff and students. Also in attendance were colleagues from across the University, including members of UCD's LGBTQ+ committee and UCD's Vice President of EDI, Prof Colin Scott. Suggestions for Pride 2024 are welcome, contact vetedias@ucd.ie or check out www.ucd.ie/vetmed/about/athenaswan/pride/ Dublin Pride takes place in June! Keep an eye out for events on campus and around the city.



Pride



Facilities update

Following a review of accessibility and signage in the Veterinary Sciences and Hospital buildings, a number of immediate changes were actioned. Redundant stickers were removed from doorways and door-stops installed along the library corridor. More changes for the medium- and long-term have been factored into the Silver Athena SWAN Action Plan for the coming 4 years. Watch this space!



Pronoun Tags

For the second year in a row the students that received their white coats at the start of March 2023 could avail of a pronoun tag that they could wear on their stethoscopes during their clinical final year. All students that indicated they would like one of these tags have since received theirs and we are currently looking into the option of having pronouns added as an option to nametags for students on clinical placements.



Eimear Burkley (she/her) [what's this?](#)

Email signatures

To support and celebrate diversity in our community, staff may want to update their email signature with appropriate images and personal pronouns. For more information, see UCD EDI page:

www.ucd.ie/equality/information/downloads/
For pronoun information: pronouns.org/what-and-why/

Veterinary Sciences Community Garden

Spring has sprung in the garden and thanks to the hard work of staff and students the daffodils are waving their heads, the fritillary are bobbing in the wind and the herb garden is strutting its stuff. Plans are afoot to get a new cold frame in place for our spring seedling planting so watch this space. Thanks to David Kilroy for the new compost bin!

Upcoming garden event: A composting workshop will take place in the Community Garden on **May 4th, 11.45am-1pm**. All welcome!



Veterinary Nursing Podcast - IWD 2023

To celebrate International Women's Day 2023, Samantha Feighery, RVN, BSc. VN, BS. joined Kate Acton on the latest episode of the podcast to discuss her path in Veterinary Nursing, her career as an equine veterinary nurse, and some top tips for students and nurses. Check it out here:

www.ucd.ie/vetmed/newsandevents/ucdveterinarynursingpodcast/

Upcoming Events and Training

- Recognising and Minimising Workplace Stress* | Apr. 28th |
- Staff P4G reviewee and reviewer training* | Dates in Apr. & May |
- MENU coffee morning* | May 5th |
- Darkness into Light* | May 6th | Join the School Team! Register online: www.darknessintolight.ie/join/UCDVeterinarySciences
- Being Aware of Our Biases: Unconscious Bias Training* | May 15th www.ucd.ie/equality/editraining/editrainingcalendar/
- Dignity & Respect Training* | Available online for staff & students | www.ucd.ie/dignityandrespect/training/dignityandrespecttraining/

Did you spot our 'Moment of Reflection' table in the Vet Sciences Foyer? Take a moment out and have a read.



School Twitter Account [@UCDVetMed](#)
Vet EDI/Athena SWAN [@UCDVetAthSWAN](#)

Veterinary Student Society Instagram [@UCDVetSoc](#)
School Instagram [@UCDVetMed](#)
Veterinary Hospital Instagram [@UCDVetHospital](#)