

# TRANSITIONS TO CIT PROJECT

## CASE STUDY BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE



### PROJECT TITLE DEPARTMENT/PROGRAMME PROJECT TEAM

BSC BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE FIRST YEAR FOURTH YEAR MEET AND GREET  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

**DR LESLEY COTTER (CO-ORDINATOR)**  
**MS FRANCES LYNCH (ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT)**

**CIT STAFF ATTENDEES:** MR MICHAEL HEALY, DR BRENDAN O' CONNELL,  
DR BRIGID LUCEY, DR CAROLINE VAUGHAN, DR HELEN O SHEA, DR  
EAMONN CULLIGAN, PROF HUGH MCGLYNN

**UCC STAFF ATTENDEES:** DR SINEAD KERINS, DR JOHN MORGAN, DR  
COLLETTE HAND

## PROFILE

### OBJECTIVE OF PROJECT

1. Provide a forum for first years to chat with fourth students on the programme.
2. Establish links with students in latter years of the programme and introduce them to the Biomedical Science Society.
3. Create an informal setting for chatting with academic staff.

### DESCRIPTION

A formal opportunity for the first years to meet the fourth years students is organised. For approximately 45 minutes the first years in small groups chat with a fourth year student. This provides them with a chance to ask questions about the programme and certain logistics of being students of a joint programme which can be daunting. A class photo is taken and this is followed by an informal coffee and refreshments session where members of the academic staff of UCC and CIT join the students.





## IMPACT & OUTCOMES

### BENEFITS

- Provide a chance to allay any concerns first years may have regarding programme content and delivery by their peers.
- Provide valuable logistic information to the first years regarding the running and transition to a joint CIT-UCC programme.
- Provide the staff with an informal environment to meet the first year students that they may already be teaching or may teach in future semesters.

### IMPACT ON STUDENTS

29 first year students  
8 fourth year students

### FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS

#### FIRST YEAR BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE STUDENT

“It was great to hear about what is to come and to get general advice about the course from people who know exactly how we feel and have been in our exact position. As first years there are so many new aspects of college life to adjust to and I know that many people generally feel unsure about themselves and their course. However, after the meet and greet our class really felt a great sense of comfort and excitement having been given a clear and honest insight into what to expect. Hearing the love and the enthusiasm the fourth years have for their course is admirable and it says so much about the course. It was also great to talk to the lecturers in the Biomedical Sciences Department and hear them tell us all the great job opportunities that come from our degree.

All in all the meet and greet was a very beneficial, motivational and exciting experience and our class are very grateful that such an event was organized.”

#### FOURTH YEAR BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE STUDENT

“The first years had the chance to bring up any uncertainties, worries or curiosities that they had with other students who were once in their position, in an informal and friendly manner, for example the difficulties of having to go between two campuses and queries about subjects. I personally felt like they were reassured and more confident after they chatted with us. I had the opportunity myself to speak to fourth years 4 years ago, and I can still remember feeling reassured at having gained a few tips and tricks about how to tackle our course. The fourth years, had the opportunity to gain communication skills when speaking to the first years, and also had time to chat to their lecturers and address any general queries about final year. The staff from both UCC and CIT also had the chance to meet up. Overall there was a relaxed and happy atmosphere at the event and I personally really enjoyed it and would highly recommend that similar events should be held in the future.”