

# Health Sciences Academy Newsletter

## Building an Academic Health Science System in the Mid-West Region

Issue 14 May June 2024

### NCHD CONFERENCE

Thank you to everyone who attended this year's NCHD Conference. Following valuable feedback from last year's conference, this year we introduced the additional category of General Practice, and a lightning oral round for Interns at the platform presentations. We were delighted to have Professor Tony Holohan share his insight on resilience, as this year's inaugural Keynote Speaker.

Despite the last 12 months being another challenging year for all healthcare professionals including NCHDs, over 150 diverse research projects were submitted as abstracts across all disciplines at ULHG. 99 of these abstracts were showcased as electronic posters in the CERC Foyer. 12 Specialty winners presented as part of the Platform Presentations in front of a large audience and our Judging Panel. **Congratulations to all the finalists and winners.**



Judging panel and committee members with specialty finalists and keynote speaker Professor Tony Holohan.



Keynote Speaker, Prof Tony Holohan, Overall winner Dr Gideon-Phil Meyer and Dr John McManus, NDTP Training Lead

Dr Damien Ryan Clinical Director, Urgent & Emergency Care Directorate and Overall winner Dr Gideon-Phil Meyer



### Overall Winner of the Platform Presentation

**Dr Gideon-Phil Meyer** - Emergency Medicine  
*Dr Gideon-Phil Meyer, Dr Cormac Mehigan.*  
**Get it on time: Every time. A Parkinson's Disease Quality Improvement Project.**



### Electronic Poster Winners

#### Electronic Poster **1st Place**

**Dr Rennessa Williams** - Anaesthetics  
*R.Williams, T.Feeley*

**Reusable Cloth Caps: A simple change, multiple potential benefits**



#### Electronic Poster **2nd Place**

**Dr Mary Byrne** - Medicine  
*M.Byrne, A.Deni, S.Barrett, L.Herbert, L.Power*  
**Stewardship Actually - A UHL QI project**

#### Electronic Poster **3rd Place**

**Dr Grace O'Dea & Dr Benedict Kendrick** - Medicine  
*B.Kendrick, G.O'Dea, C.Ahern, B.Mc Dermott, S.Gracias, T.Kinsley, N.Sankhyan, M.Ali, C.O'Connor, SF.Abbas, I.Ullah, T.Hennessy, T.Kiernan*  
**STEMI Transfer times; are we meeting the target?**

### Specialty Winners

- **Dr Marium Javed** - Anaesthetics
- **Dr Gideon-Phil Meyer** - Emergency Medicine
- **Midwest GP Scheme Research Team** - General Practice
- **Dr Maeve Herlihy** - Medicine
- **Dr Lavanya Shailendranath** - Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- **Dr Gabriela Mineva** - Paediatrics
- **Dr Robert Scrooby** - Psychiatry
- **Dr Peter McAnena** - Radiology
- **Dr Saoirse Kilgarriff** - Surgery
- **Dr Razi Alalqam** - Intern Network
- **Dr Katherine Flynn** - Intern Network
- **Dr Susan Giblin** - Intern Network



(Intern winner)



## APPOINTMENT OF NEW DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

The HSE has established research directorates in each of the new healthcare regions. The appointment of Professor Declan Lyons as Research Director in the Mid West is the first of these appointments. Prof Lyons took up his post in November 2023. The Directorate aims to support research projects from small student studies to complex intervention investigations and multicentre international trials. The aim is to facilitate reliable high-quality and innovative clinical research which improves health outcomes for people in the Mid West and beyond. [Click here to read full bio](#)



## CAO Annual Report

There are seven Chief Academic Officers (CAO) posts across the Hospital Groups nationwide. CAOs act as a bridge between Universities, Hospital Groups and their affiliated Community Healthcare Organisations (CHOs) and are focused on strengthening education, training, research and innovation.

The Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) work to develop mutually beneficial partnerships between the healthcare and education sectors. This collaboration is crucial for establishing an Academic Health Science System (AHSS) in Ireland and strengthening the core principles of Sláintecare.

CAOs collaborate with colleagues across the health sector and medical schools to promote an academic approach in hospitals and communities, ultimately improving integrated patient care.

- [Professor Helen Whelton](#) - CAO, South, South West Hospital Group.
- [Professor Hilary Humphreys](#) - CAO, RCSI Hospital Group.
- [Professor Martina Hennessy](#) - CAO, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group.
- [Professor Timothy Lynch](#) - CAO, Ireland East Hospital Group.
- [Professor Anthony O'Regan](#) - CAO, Saolta University Health Care Group.
- [Professor Susa Benseler](#) - CAO, Children's Health Ireland.
- Role to be filled - CAO, UL Hospitals Group.

The November 2023 Annual Report is now live on the [Health Sciences Academy Website](#).



## Masters in Health Professions Education

The University of Limerick School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Schools of Allied Health, Education and Department of Nursing & Midwifery offers a Masters in Health Professions Education (MSc HPE) designed to meet the educator training needs of busy health professionals.

Accredited by the Academy of Medical Educators, this 2-year, part-time programme is delivered using varied, innovative learning formats and can be studied as fully online, distance-learning or blended learning options.

For further information, course requirements and applications see our website for the [MSc in Health Professions Education](#) and for enquiries, email [MSCHPE@ul.ie](mailto:MSCHPE@ul.ie).



## Mid West Innovation in Healthcare Pitching Final & Award Winners

The Mid West Innovation in Healthcare Steering Committee were delighted to host the Mid West Innovation in Healthcare Pitching Final. Innovative minds from across the region came together to pitch their groundbreaking ideas on 12th April 2024 in the CERC Auditorium, UHL. Ten teams from the HSE Mid West Health Region and University of Limerick worked on their projects for a number of weeks, with the help of designer Martin Ryan of Actionable Innovation, and pitched via pre recorded presentation and Q & A with the judging panel.

The winning project and team Pauline Chapman, Geraldine Crilly will be provided with support towards implementation, including seed funding of €3000 towards their idea. In addition to additional projects and teams set to receive funding from both the CEO of UL Hospitals and HSE Spark. These innovative ideas from staff would not be possible without support from our colleagues at the HSE Spark Innovation Programme. [Click here to view video & photo gallery](#)

**Finalists in the inaugural Health Sciences Academy Mid West Innovation Call for Ideas to Give Time Back to Staff participated in the Design Thinking Workshop on 6th March 2024 at Houston Hall. The workshop was facilitated by Martin Ryan, Think Actionable, supported by HSE Spark Innovation Programme & Mid West Innovation Steering Committee.**

**Pictured from left – right back row: Roisin Doran, Sinead Carroll, Elizabeth Werner, Dearbhla O'Reilly, Ann Marie Kiernan, Martin Ryan, Emma Tyrrell, Pauline Chapman, Geraldine Crilly. Front row: Marie Keane, Siobhan Meany, Kelly Brosnan, Ciara Shanahan & Moira Marks. Additional finalists; Marie O'Donnell, Anne Barry, Erika Shanley Paul Fitzsimons.**

### Design Thinking Workshop



### Overall Winners of the HSE SPARK Seed Funding



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mansion House, Dawson Street,  
Dublin

# Spark Summit

Innovation in Action

20  
JUNE 2024

### Pricing

€ 150 – standard  
€ 75 – early bird

### Discount Codes

**Consultant**  
CONSULT2024

**Non-clinical HSE**  
HSENC24

€ 100 – standard  
€ 50 – early bird

**NCHD**  
NCHD2024

€ 50 – standard  
€ 25 – early bird

**HSCP**  
HSCP2024

**Nursing/Midwife**  
NUMW202

Email [spark@hse.ie](mailto:spark@hse.ie) for discount codes [Click here to book your tickets today!](#)

## Design@UL 24th May - 6th June 2024

Design@UL 2024 is now open to all. Running from 24th May to 6th June 2024 and featuring Architecture, Product Design & Technology and Design for Health & Wellbeing Exhibition of final year undergraduate and postgraduate student work.

Location: University of Limerick City Campus, Sarsfield Street, Limerick (located next to Sarsfield Bridge)

Explore the forefront of product design and architecture at Design@UL. Design@UL showcases innovative designs and cutting-edge architectural works from final-year students and postgraduate researchers across the School of Architecture and Product Design. Design@UL celebrates creativity the intersection of technology, innovation, and sustainability.

