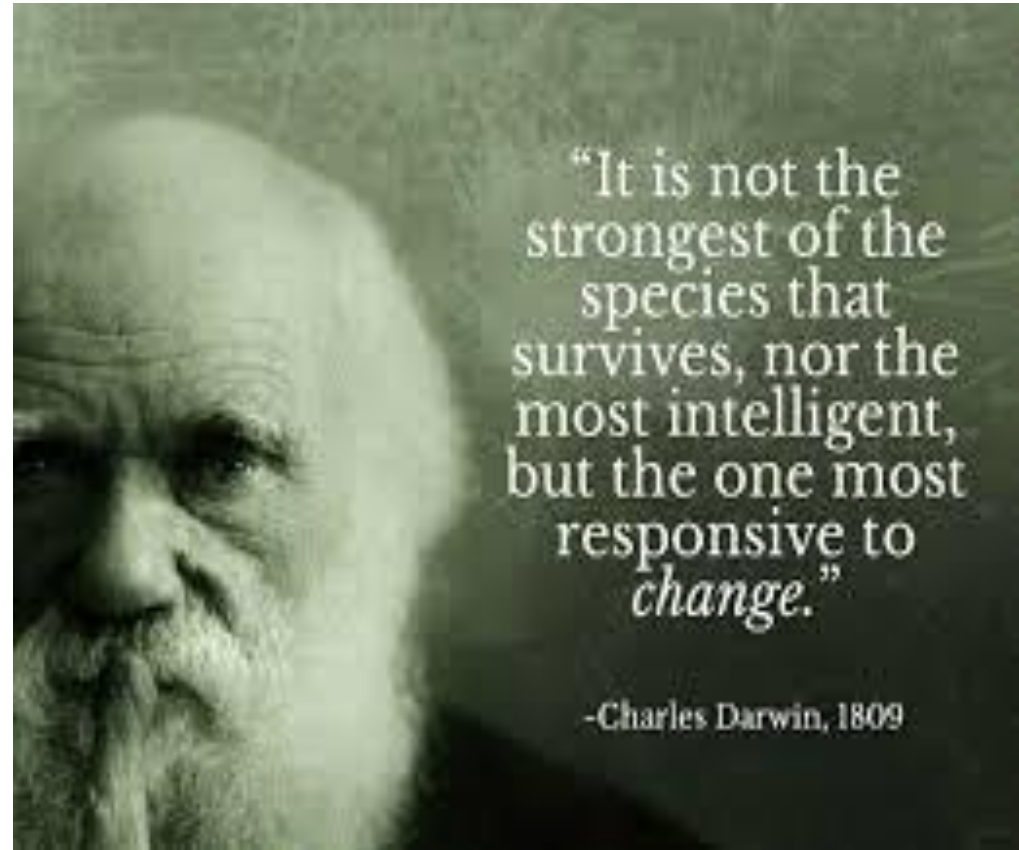




MAPLE LEAVES TO SHAMROCKS
CANADIAN COLLEGE DIPLOMAS
TO IRISH DEGREES:
FIVE YEARS OF LESSONS
LEARNED



ORIGINS OF AN AGREEMENT



BEGINNINGS



- In the summer and fall of 2010 Ontario Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities (MTCU) held informal introductory discussions with representatives from the Technological Higher Education Association at NAFSA in May and NACAC in September.
- This was followed by a formal meeting between MTCU staff and representatives from Enterprise Ireland who were based in Toronto to look at the possibility of developing a MOU between the institutes of technology in Ireland and Ontario colleges.

Beginnings

- Enterprise Ireland communicated to MTCU its willingness to fund a visit to Ireland for a delegation from Ontario colleges in the Spring of 2011.
- Ontario was asked to match funding being provided by Enterprise Ireland.
- MTCU approached Colleges Ontario with the proposal and the contact information for the contacts at **thea**.
- Delegation of approximately 13 presidents, vice presidents and deans representing Colleges Ontario visited Ireland and a reciprocal visit by a delegation from **thea** occurred in late June 2011.
- On November 28, 2011 an MOU between Colleges Ontario and **thea** was signed.



THE IRISH VIEWPOINT

Dr. Joseph Ryan

Chief Executive

Technological Higher Education Association

thea
Technological Higher
Education Association
I R E L A N D





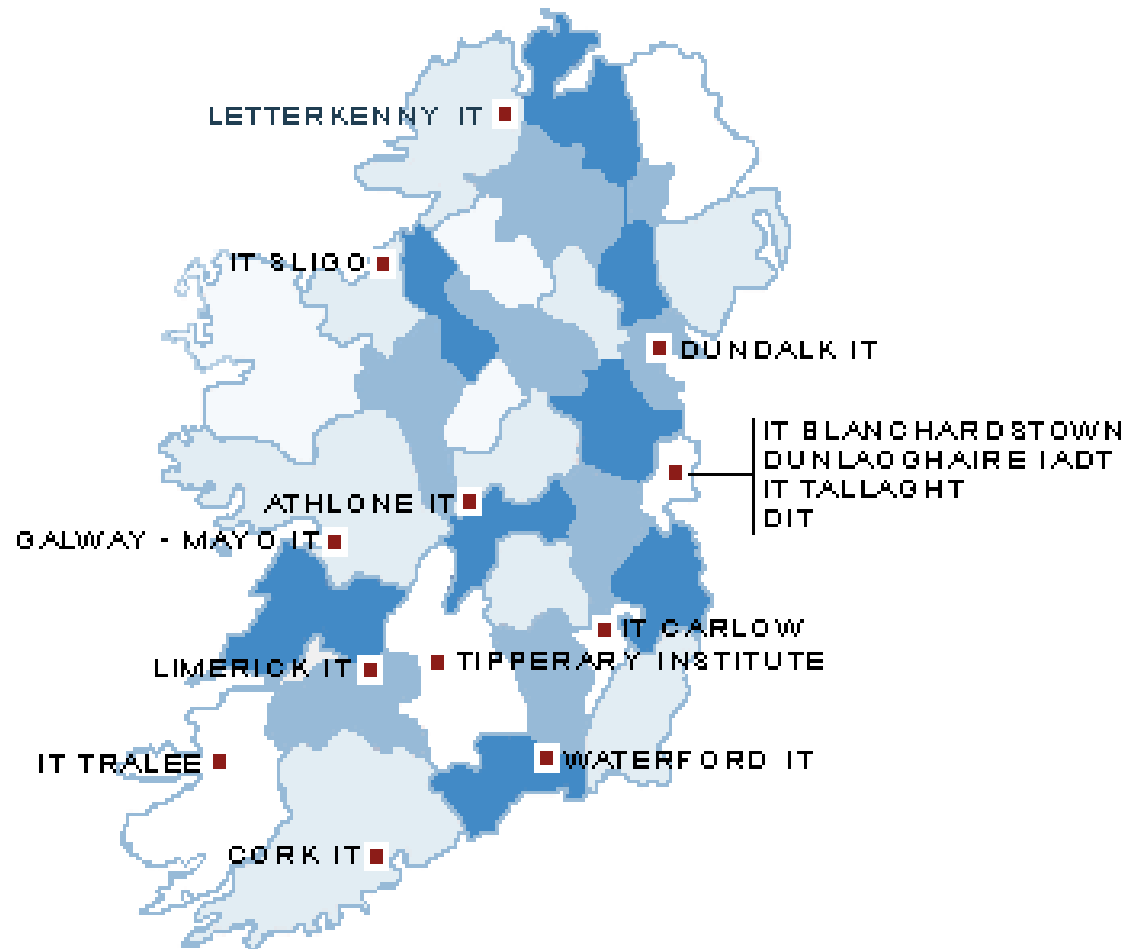
- Contrasts and Similarities
- Infrastructure and Autonomy
- Ambition
- Common goals
- Anglophone
- Translational research

THE IRISH HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

- Predominantly a public system
 - Total enrolments in system (2015-16): 222,618
- Institutes of Technology
 - Total enrolments (2015-16): 90,150 (40.5%)
 - Full-time enrolments (2015-16): 68,570 (38%)
 - Part-time enrolments (2015-16): 19,337 (52%)
- Universities and Colleges of Education
 - Total enrolments (2015-16): 132,468 (59.5%)
 - Full-time enrolments (2015-16): 110,784 (62%)
 - Part-time enrolments (2015-16): 17,912 (48%)

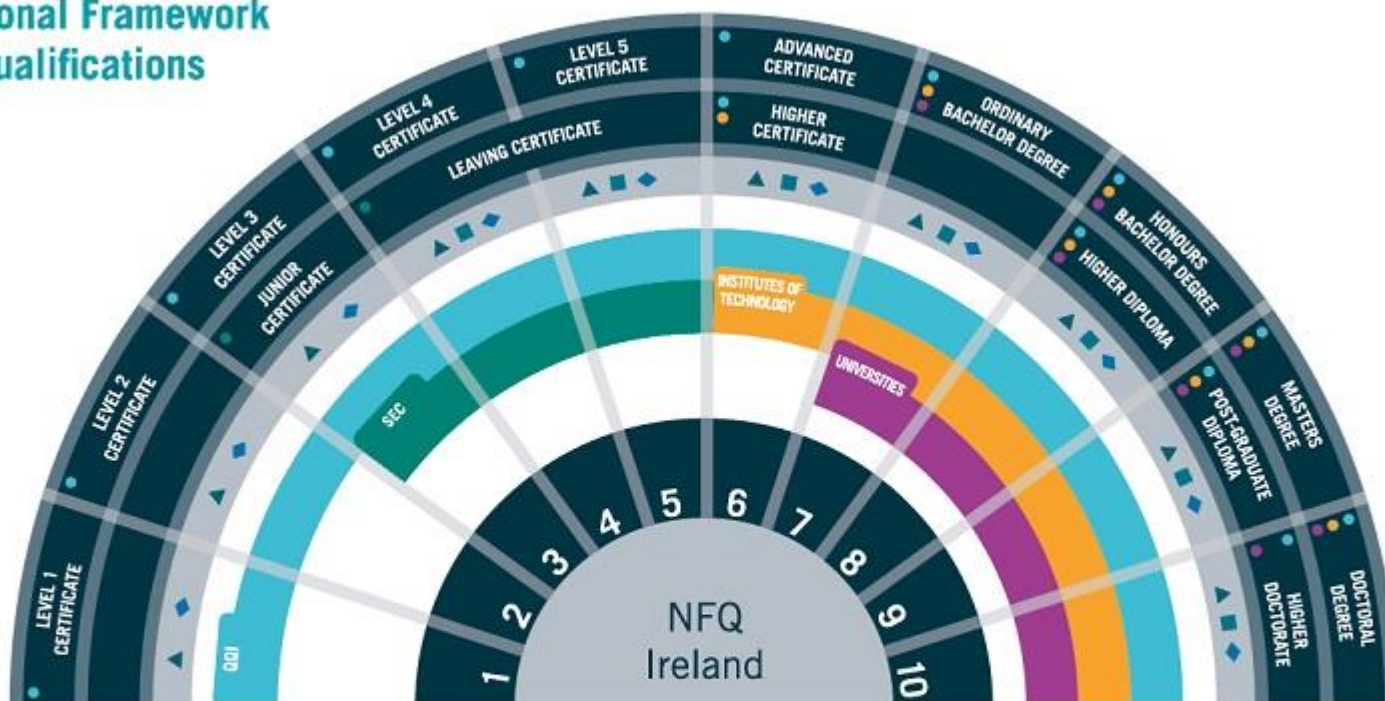
The Technological Higher Education Sector: 14 Institutes of Technology

- Athlone
- Blanchardstown
- Carlow
- Cork
- Dublin
- Dundalk
- Dun Laoghaire
- Galway - Mayo
- Letterkenny
- Limerick
- Sligo
- Tallaght
- Tralee
- Waterford





National Framework of Qualifications



AWARDING BODIES

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) makes awards in further and higher education and training
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (Department of Education and Skills)
- Institutes of Technology
- Universities

AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four classes of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- Major Awards: named in the outer rings, are the principal class of awards made at a level
- Minor Awards: are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- Supplemental Awards: are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- Special Purpose Awards: are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement

DYNAMIC SITUATION

- System design
- Technological Universities
- Diversified system
- Funding challenges
- Talent Shortages
- Brexit

THEA – COLLEGES ONTARIO AGREEMENT

- Process
- Academic mapping
- Pastoral supports
- Pathways
- Learnings

LOGISTICS

■ Metrics

- Student numbers have increased year on year from 2 in 2012/13 to the current year when we have 215 students
- From Sept 2012: 2 – 22 – 50 – 65 – 94 – to 215 in Sept 2017
- Total number of students hosted to date is 448

■ Costings

- Tuition fees €7,500 per year (11K CAD approx) for UG and €9,000 (13K CAD approx.) for Masters
- Cost of living 8 to 10K Euros (approx. 12 – 15K CAD)
- Scholarships of 1,500 Euros (2250 CAD) given to the applicants in the first 2 years

■ Potential

- Further expansion to other colleges and programmes
- Pathways to Masters Programmes
- Development of Masters Programmes
 - (Example George Browne/IADT)
- Research collaboration

Pathways to Ireland

Creating Opportunities for our Graduates

Don Young
Vice President International
St. Lawrence College
Kingston, Ontario



St. Lawrence College Introduction

- SLC is a medium sized college with 3 campuses in Kingston, Brockville and Cornwall along the St. Lawrence River in Eastern Ontario.
- Approximately 8,000 full time and 10,000 part-time students
- One of the original signatories of the Ireland/Ontario pathways agreement
- Vision
 - *Rooted in our communities we will be a globally recognized college delivering innovative learning opportunities and preparing career-ready graduates to be leaders in their fields*

Partnership development – with a focus on graduates/students

Rationale:

- Very few opportunities for SLC graduates to continue their education in their hometowns
- Ireland pathways offer better value in terms of time and money in addition to the added value of an international experience.

Mechanism:

- Develop specific pathways on a program by program basis
- Provide information to current students during their final year of study
- Annual visit to partner institutions in Ireland to maintain the relationship, get feedback from our graduates and evaluate further opportunities

Expanding the partnerships

Faculty teaching exchanges

- Usually one week trip
- Involves some teaching, program discussions etc.

Professional development opportunities

- Irish Institute sponsored events
- Conferences
- Sharing best practices

Success Stories

- St. Lawrence College presented with an award by THEA November 2016



Success Stories

- Five graduates the first year
- Over 40 graduates per year the past two years
- One Control Engineering Technology graduate completed Mechatronics Honours degree at IT Sligo awarded fully funded Masters by research at Intel Corp.
- Two Music and Digital Media diploma graduates completed Honours degrees at IT Tralee and now studying for Masters at IT Cork

Success Stories

- Two Bachelor of Business Administration graduates in Masters programs at IT Limerick
- Two staff in the International office completing degrees (one on-line and one on a leave of absence)

Beyond Articulations

Expanding Institutional Partnerships

Dan Douglas
Dean, Centre for Research and Innovation
Fanshawe College
London, Ontario



Fanshawe Background

- Fanshawe is a large urban college with campuses located in London, St. Thomas, Woodstock, and Simcoe
- Approximately 20,000 full time and 20,000 part-time students
- One of the original signatories of the Ireland/Ontario pathways agreement
- Mission
 - *Provide pathways to success, an exceptional learning experience and a global outlook to meet student and employer needs*

Extending partnerships – with a focus on research

Rationale:

- To enhance the educational experience
- Offer global mobility opportunities for faculty, staff, and students

Aligned with:

- Institutional commitment to imbed research into the curricula of all PSE programs
- Growth of research as an area of focus in Ontario Colleges (and across Canada)

Expanding the partnerships to include research activities

Getting started

- Leverage existing partnerships
- Initiate conversations where foundations have been established

Relationship Considerations

- Key stakeholders
 - Who are they, what are their roles/responsibilities
- Compatibility
 - Shared interests, goal, complementary expertise
- Commitment
 - Level and alignment
- Mutual benefits
 - Both sides need to see value

Research Partnerships

- Research Office to Research Office
 - Respective roles/responsibilities
 - Play the role of ‘matchmaker’
- Peer to Peer
 - Faculty, staff, student
- Virtual collaborations
 - Simultaneous research by students
 - Shared research by peers
- Exchanges
 - Researcher(s) travel to partner institutions

Outcomes to date

- MOUs with Institute of Technology Sligo (ITS) and Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) - signed in 2015
- 2 additional MOUs in process
- Multiple faculty/staff visits - Canada to Ireland and Ireland to Canada
- Virtual collaboration resulting in a co-presenting by Canadian and Irish researchers at a conference in Galway
- Student presented at conference in Dublin
- Fanshawe hosted an ITS PhD student for 6 weeks to conduct research on ultra-high performance concrete (funded by Flaherty award)
- Collaborative project underway between ITS and Fanshawe related to bio-properties of honey
- 'Research on research' project
 - Resulting in conference presentation at SRAI – Iceland
 - Toolkit in final stages of development

Challenges

- Funding
 - Sources and access
- Coordination of schedules
 - Academic
 - Personal
- Capacity
 - Adding to academic work loads

Learnings

- Face-to-face meeting is crucial
 - Significant planning can occur virtually, but solidifying the partnership requires a personal connection
- It is worth the effort
 - Participants have had very positive experiences and some unexpected results/outcomes
- Challenges can be new opportunities
 - All of the challenges can be turned into opportunities
 - Consider them growth opportunities for your institution

Your feedback is important to us!

Please take a moment to submit the evaluation for this session.

Evaluations are found on CBIE's Conference app.

Thank you!