

Service Learning

This section describes what **Service Learning** (also known as **Community Based Learning**) is and some of the Service Learning projects with which staff and students from ITB have been involved.

Creative Digital Multimedia Programme

“Little Big Imagination” Project – Visual Communications Module (CDM year 2)

CDM year 2 design students visited St Patrick’s Primary School in Corduff and met with three groups of sixth class students there. The school children passed on a short story they had written, which was in turn illustrated by the CDM student. CDM students also worked on a website for the project.

ITB staff member: *Niamh O’Hora, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media,*

Kilbarrack Youth Project (KYP) Website – Website Design 1 Module (CDM year 2)

Last semester, CDM year 2 students were introduced to Niall Coughlan from Kilbarrack Youth Project in ITB and a few of us also travelled over to KYP and met with staff and young people, where we explained a little about the CDM course. Each student submitted an original website for KYP, and after consideration from staff and the young participants, one assignment was selected as the completed live website <http://www.kilbarrackyouthproject.com/>.

ITB staff member: *Niamh O’Hora, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media*

Dublin Deaf Scout Website - Website Design 1 Module (CDM year 2)

In 2011, a member of the Dublin Deaf Scouts worked as a client with CDM students, who individually designed a website for the group. A winning design was chosen by the scout leaders and scout members.

ITB staff member: *Niamh O’Hora, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media*

Fingal Film Festival 2013

During second semester 2012/13, all year 2 students submitted a short film to the Fingal Film Festival: <http://fingalfilmfest.com>. One of our students was shortlisted in the Animation category on this programme last year.

ITB staff member: *Sinead Curran, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media*

Guinness Book of Records

ITB recorded a [Guinness Book of Records Entry](#) for a local primary school and won the entry for the most identical St. Patrick’s.

Creative digital media students in ITB assisted in the video recording of a Guinness World Record entry for a local primary school St. Brigid's, Beechpark Avenue local primary school. This ambitious endeavour was awarded to the most identically dressed St. Patrick's in the one location.



ITB Staff Member: Margaret Kinsella, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media

Creative Arts Workshops

Creative digital media students facilitated a creative design workshop for transition year students as part of the ITB open day. The incoming students were presented with a visual delight (or spook..) of a Halloween theme installation representing design theory. This design workshop then focused on creative exploration with mixed media on Christmas design themes.

ITB Staff Member: Margaret Kinsella, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media

Visual Art Workshops

Creative digital media students participated in a series of visual art workshops with [An Draíocht](#) focusing on storytelling and student identity as part of first year Personal Development module.

ITB Staff Member: Margaret Kinsella, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media

Helping to Keep Older People Warm

30c goes to Age Action

the innocent big knit

keeping older people in Ireland warm this winter

ITB Creative Digital Media Big Knit 2013

This year's creative digital media first year students are embarking on the ITB Big Knit. ITB visual creativity/personal development students are knitting hundreds of little woolly hats for innocent smoothies, with money from every bottle sold going towards supporting older people through [Age Action](#)

It is a team based challenge, where each team have to decide on the strengths of the team.

deadline for hats 4th October

AgeAction
For all older people

Current woolly hat total as of 18th October 2013 is 900 and counting. The main focus was on producing *many* hats with an additional design focus where students had to design and create an *unusual* or *creative* piece.

ITB Staff Member: **Margaret Kinsella, Lecturer in Creative Digital Media**

Horticulture Programme

Hospital Garden Design

Horticulture students have, under the guidance of faculty, designed and built gardens in the grounds of a local hospital and are currently in the process of extending this initiative.

Sports Management and Coaching Programme (2012/13)

Physical Education and Coaching

St Patrick's Senior National School, Corduff & Scoil Bhríde, Blanchardstown: Year 2 students went to one of the schools above and deliver physical education and coaching under supervision – happens in both semesters

ITB staff member: **John Byrne, Lecturer Coaching and Exercise Psychology 1 & 2**

Personal Training Programme

Each student is paired with a staff member at ITB and they are required to deliver a ten week programme of personal training. This was a very successful programme.

ITB staff member: Eugene Eivers, Lecturer Personal Training

Activity Workshops for Seniors

Fingal Active Aging and ITB teamed up to establish Activity Workshops for Seniors in the Dublin 15 area. Two workshops were delivered once a week in a ten week programme with a graduation ceremony at the end. The project had a wonderful reception from the seniors who enjoyed the exercise, the social interaction and working with the students. From ITB's point of view, it gave the students experience of engaging with real and demanding clients ensuring they planned carefully and delivered quality programmes.

The programme has been expanded for 2013 and will include seniors from Huntstown, Corduff, Mountview, Blanchardstown, Castleknock and Baldoyle Mens Group.

ITB staff member: Denise Martin, Lecturer Sports Management and Coaching

Applied Performance Analysis

In this module each student will make a link to a local team and provide them with video analysis and feedback on their performance over a series of games. This requires them to really engage with the coaches to find out what areas they want to work on and to use all their skills to deliver the video analysis on time and in an appropriate way. The coaches and teams get access to software and expertise which is usually beyond their means.

Students have worked with teams such as Dundalk FC and Bohemians FC. Some have used their experience to find paid roles in the Performance Analysis field.

ITB staff member: Denise Martin, Lecturer Sports Management and Coaching

Coaching Sessions in Local Primary Schools

For the past four years, the 2nd year Sports Management and Coaching Students as part of their Coaching and Exercise Psychology module participate in practical coaching sessions in local primary schools in the D15 area. They coached children in St Patricks Senior National School in Corduff and children from Scoil Bhríde Boys' School in Blanchardstown. These sessions allow our students an opportunity to gain practical experience in coaching children whilst allowing the children from our local community who hopefully are our future students an opportunity to work with and gain a little insight into what ITB is about. It is also allowed the school children to experience new sports and expertise delivered in a coaching and exercise setting. This has proved a very popular experience for all concerned particularly the teachers from the schools who have gained some useful tips and ideas for their PE sessions with their students.

ITB staff member: John Byrne, Lecturer Coaching and Exercise Psychology 1 & 2

Social Care Programme

ITB Applied Social Care lecturers have developed a programme with a Dublin based charity, the Daughters of Charity (<http://www.daughtersofcharity.ie/>) to provide education, training and life skills to learners with Intellectual Disability. The programme brings learners into a higher education environment in which they are supported by students of the Applied Social Care programme, lecturers and staff across the institute and actively participate alongside other learners across disciplines at ITB.

Adapted from: <http://talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu/institute-of-technology-blanchardstown-ireland/> (4.10.2013)

Early childhood Care and Education

The Story Sack project

The Institute of Technology Blanchardstown offers both full time and work based education at degree and honours degree level in Early Childhood Care and Education. These degrees provide students with the knowledge and skills to work with young children in a variety of early childhood settings. The Early Childhood Care and Education teaching team became involved with Fingal County Library in the literacy initiative as we recognised that the development of literacy is essential in the first years of a child's life. Being part of this initiative strengthens our commitment to literacy and develops our links to other stakeholders in the local community who are interested in promoting literacy in the early years. The Story Sack project is part of the Creative Group Facilitation module which students cover in their third year of the Early Childhood Care and Education degree course. Part of the student's assessment on the module is to create their own Story Sack. Using Story Sacks can motivate and excite children about reading. They're visually attractive and tactile and can encourage active participation in reading. As part of this project, students access a range of settings in the local Blanchardstown area such as parenting groups, crèches' and primary schools and carry out storytelling with the children using the Story Sacks. The project provides mutual benefit, the children have a fun interactive experience through storytelling and the students are given the opportunity to link their practical learning to their course knowledge. The link with Fingal Libraries ensures that all books used in the project are available for children to borrow in Blanchardstown library.

ITB Staff Member: *Margret O'Donoghue, Lecturer in Early Childhood Care and Education*

Community Requirements in the domain of Service Learning

1. Primary School: Service provision (quality and user feedback)
2. Healthy Food Made Easy project - track past and present participants of the HFME Programme – noting their health, eating habits and activity levels before – during - after the HFME course
3. Development of citizen engagement strategy – surveys/digital media/events
4. Devise a plan which considers how certain groups (e.g. elderly, disability and young people) transport needs may be met more effectively
5. Marketing Strategy Development