ICAT INDUCTION EVENT 2018

The 2018 ICAT Induction Event took place on the 19th and 20th July 2018. It was a great opportunity to get the Fellows together and to introduce our new cohort to the ICAT Programme. The two-day event included talks and workshops on several topics including research ethics, selecting supervisors, online research profiles, writing high impact scientific papers, developing research concepts and feasibility in research.
This edition of the ICAT newsletter focuses on our Wellcome-HRB ICAT Fellows. Our second cohort of ICAT Fellows were appointed in July 2018 following a very competitive application process. During Year 1 they will maintain a clinical training component (70%) with time protected for the academic activities, including meeting potential supervisors and developing PhD proposals. They join our first cohort who now embark on their PhD research. If you wish to get in touch with Fellows to discuss potential research projects, please contact us.

ICAT FELLOWS - Cohort 2 (2018)

DR HELEN FOGARTY
Helen (far left) received her medical degree (2013) and MSc in Molecular Medicine (2016) from Trinity College Dublin. Her MSc project into NOTCH1 mutation status in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia gave her an insight into laboratory research methodology and reinforced her ambition to become an academic clinician. Helen is a first year Haematology SpR in St James’s Hospital and is currently exploring her research interests in coagulation and vascular biology, including investigation of novel roles for von Willebrand factor in cancer-associated thrombosis and sickle cell disease.

DR ANITA LAVERY
Anita (second from right) is currently completing higher specialist training in Medical Oncology. She graduated from Queen’s University Belfast in 2011 and undertook early clinical training in London, including a one-year medical oncology fellowship at Guy’s Hospital. She returned to Belfast for specialty training in Medical Oncology in 2016. Her clinical and research interests are in upper GI and urological cancers, including cancer genomics and developing new targeted treatment strategies. She is looking forward to developing these interests further through the ICAT programme.

DR MARK GURNEY
Mark (second from left) graduated from NUI Galway in 2013. He completed basic specialist training in general internal medicine, and further developed a clinical and research focus on malignant haematology while a visiting medical resident at Mayo Clinic in 2016. Mark commenced Haematology higher specialist training in 2017 at University Hospital Galway. As an ICAT fellow Mark will explore his primary interest in the field of natural killer cell biology, and the application of natural killer cells as a cell-based cancer immunotherapy.

DR BRENDAN KELLY
After studying Radiography Brendan (far right) entered Graduate Entry Medicine, graduating in 2015. He was appointed as a Specialist Registrar in Radiology in St Vincent’s Hospital in July 2017 and received an MSc in Radiology from NUI Galway in 2017. His research interests are in the fields of molecular imaging, especially in its application to personalised medicine and cognitive imaging / dementia, and in potential applications of machine learning and artificial intelligence to radiology.
ICAT FELLOWS - COHORT 2 (2018)

**DR JENNIFER SCOTT**

Jennifer (pictured left) is a graduate of NUI Galway (2013). She is a specialist registrar in Nephrology and has completed postgraduate clinical training in Galway University Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Australia and the Mayo Clinic, USA. Through the ICAT programme, Jennifer is looking forward to delving into big-data and advanced data analytics, to explore the pathophysiology, detection and treatment of autoimmune disease, with ANCA Associated Vasculitis as the exemplar disease.

**DR WILLIAM MARTIN**

William (second from left) graduated from NUI Galway in 2014 and completed an MSc in Preventive Cardiology at NUI Galway in 2015. His postgraduate medical training was conducted at University Hospital Galway and Mayo Clinic, before joining the Higher Specialist Training programme in Nephrology in 2018. He has contributed to studies examining renal functional trends in patients with diabetes, mesenchymal stem cell therapy for diabetic kidney disease, and immunological aspects of chronic kidney disease progression.

**DR KAREN MCCARTHY**

Karen (second from right) graduated from University College Cork in 2013 and is a specialist registrar in General Paediatrics. Through her clinical training she has developed a sub-speciality interest in Infectious Disease and is completing a Master’s in Paediatric Infectious Disease at the University of Oxford. Having had an interest in research from undergraduate level she has developed broad-ranging research interests, particularly in the areas of antimicrobial resistance and stewardship.

**DR GERARD WALLS**

Qualifying in Undergraduate Medicine in Belfast (2012), Gerard (far right) obtained MRCP (2015) whilst completing general medical training in London, including Royal Marsden rotations. He secured Specialty Training in Clinical Oncology in Northern Ireland (2016) and took up an Academic Clinical Fellowship at QUB in 2017. He is in the final stages of an MSc in Clinical Education and is preparing for Final FRCR examinations. Before joining ICAT, Gerard published and presented research on a range of topics including advanced radiotherapy and immunotherapy. Through the ICAT Fellowship Gerard aspires to transform care for patients with lung cancer using impactful translational research.
APPLICATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIPS (2019)

The ICAT Programme will open for applications for fellowships this month. **THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS IS THE 1ST OCTOBER 2018.**

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS:**

- Applications undergo comprehensive peer review prior to shortlisting for interview.
- All applicants receive feedback on their applications.
- Shortlisted candidates proceed to **INTERVIEW IN DUBLIN ON THE 4TH AND 5TH DECEMBER** (any changes to these dates will be communicated to the applicants).
- The interview panel is composed of representatives of the ICAT partner universities as well as independent international panel members.
- Provisional ICAT fellowship offers are made to successful candidates following interview; the offers are dependent on approval by their postgraduate clinical training body in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland.
- All interview candidates receive feedback from the panel.
- The new cohort of Wellcome-HRB ICAT Fellows will start in July 2019.

For all information regarding the ICAT fellowships and application process, please visit our website or contact the ICAT Programme Manager (see last page for contact details).

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

ICAT will appoint Fellows in five consecutive intakes (2017 – 2021). The calendar of events below illustrates some of the activities scheduled up to the start of the next ICAT academic term in July 2019.
Wellcome-HRB Irish Clinical Academic Training (ICAT) PhD Fellowships - Call for Applications

ICAT seeks to appoint ambitious medical graduates who aspire to become the next generation of clinical academic leaders.

ICAT is an all-island integrated clinician PhD programme (applicants must be enrolled, or eligible to enrol, in a higher specialist training programme in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland). ICAT Fellows undertake a PhD in one of the six partner universities.

Deadline for applications: 17:00 GMT, 01 October 2018