

- **No.24**
- **Learning from Mentoring Relationships: within and between Higher Education Institute staff; with Civil Society Organisations; and with students working on Community Based Research projects within the curriculum.**

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- **Abstract:**

- Theme 2. The Role of Higher Education in Creating Knowledge with Communities
Format : 90 minute storytelling session including 3x Storytelling papers (15 minutes each) + 45 minute discussion
Title: Learning from Mentoring Relationships: within and between Higher Education Institute staff; with Civil Society Organisations; and with students working on Community Based Research projects within the curriculum.
Authors: Sinead McCann, Catherine Bates, Henk Mulder, Jim McAllister.
Abstract In 3 related storytelling sessions we share experiences of mentoring at different levels and between different partners, to support and enhance collaborative community-based research (CBR). We give concrete examples and practical tips for setting up formal or informal mentoring relationships between stakeholders in CBR. Stories will be followed by 45 minutes' discussion. This session will interest academic staff and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).
Story 1: Coordinating mentoring across the EU to support the development of science shops/CBR centres. Storyteller: Henk Mulder, The University of Groningen. Henk will speak about his experience in coordinating mentoring on EU projects PERARES (Public Engagement with Research and Research Engagement with Society) and TRAMS (Training and Mentoring of Science Shops). Mentoring relationships are often long-term, but even a two-day 'summer school', with e-mail follow-up, facilitated the setting up of a science shop in Portugal. Henk will talk about various wishes and needs relating to mentor/mentee relationships, and highlight ways to mobilize practical knowledge on science shops and make this knowledge available through mentoring.
Story 2: A case study on inter- and intra-institutional staff mentoring in Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT). Storytellers: Sinead McCann, Catherine Bates, DIT. As part of the PERARES project, staff at the Programme for Students Learning with Communities (SLWC) in DIT have been formally mentored by staff at Queen's University Belfast, with over 20 years experience fostering CBR projects. SLWC staff will share their experience of the invaluable support, insight and practical guidance emerging from this mentoring relationship, and will talk about their own piloting of informal mentoring relationships in DIT between academic staff experienced in CBR and staff starting CBR projects with students for the first time.
Story 3: Case study: CSOs and academic staff joining forces to mentor student researchers in DIT. Storytellers: Catherine Bates, Sinead McCann (DIT), Jim McAllister (Garda [police] Road Safety Unit). College Awareness of Road Safety is a collaborative course-based multidisciplinary CBR project between students and staff at DIT and the Garda [police] Road Safety Unit, begun in 2007/8. CSO and SLWC

staff will outline this collaborative research model, whose aim is to improve awareness of road safety among the target group of 17-24 year olds – i.e. students themselves – by engaging them in course-based research. CSO and SLWC staff will present both perspectives on the benefits of mentoring in this model, where staff from various disciplines and the Gardai mentor students to creatively develop individual approaches to road safety-related research