

Atlantic Technological University

APPLICANT NEWS



SUMMER 2025

ATU leads strategic expansion in health and veterinary education

Marking three transformative years since its establishment, Atlantic Technological University (ATU) is setting a clear course in higher education with the launch of flagship programmes that will shape the future of healthcare and veterinary services in Ireland.

Responding directly to national workforce needs and regional demand, ATU is advancing major developments in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, Pharmacy, and Physiotherapy positioning the university as a key driver of innovation, talent, and regional development.

At the heart of this expansion is a new five-year Master of Pharmacy programme, set to launch at ATU's Sligo campus, pending accreditation by the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI). Beginning with an intake of 36 students, the programme integrates 12 months of structured work placements across community, hospital, and industry settings ensuring graduates are work-ready and well-rounded. This major initiative is underpinned by a €35 million investment in cutting-edge teaching and research facilities, further cementing ATU Sligo as a centre of excellence for pharmaceutical education.

In a landmark announcement in September 2024, ATU was officially designated as Ireland's second provider of veterinary education, joining University

College Dublin in this critical space. The new Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery programme, launching in September 2026, will be based at ATU Letterkenny, with one semester delivered at ATU Mountbellew. The programme will be supported by significant investment in veterinary teaching facilities and will initially offer 40 places, subject to meeting validation and accreditation requirements.

Further expanding its healthcare footprint, ATU is also advancing plans to introduce a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Physiotherapy at its Letterkenny campus. This programme supports national strategies aimed at increasing capacity in therapy disciplines, ensuring the health system can meet rising demand with a new generation of skilled professionals.

Through these ambitious developments, ATU continues to demonstrate its commitment to delivering high-impact, future-focused education anchored in regional needs, aligned with national priorities, and designed to equip graduates for meaningful, in-demand careers.

Dr Orla Flynn, President of ATU commented, "Three years into our journey as a Technological University, ATU is strategically building on its strengths by launching programmes in critical disciplines that directly address both national and regional needs.



These new offerings align with the government's broader vision to expand healthcare and veterinary education across Ireland, ensuring a robust pipeline of skilled professionals to support our growing population. Positioned in the west and northwest, ATU is

uniquely placed to deliver high-demand programmes that respond to real-world challenges. These developments are not just milestones, they are the foundation for an ambitious wave of future academic innovation at our university."

Graduation

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Become a student

ambassador - see page 8



Join a club or society

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ATU Sports Scholarship applications are now open

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Atlantic
Technological
University

Your future
is here



CAO Applicants

Our team are **HERE TO HELP** if you need advice or guidance in the coming weeks.

Contact us at
cao@atu.ie or

Visit our CAO Hub
atu.ie/cao



Ollscoil
Teicneolaíochta
an Atlantaigh

Atlantic
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NEW FUNDING & DEVELOPMENTS

€1.9 million secured for biopharma, medical and engineering technology at ATU

ATU has received a €1 million HEA Performance Funding award in recognition of addressing skills needs in the biopharmaceutical industry sector through its long-standing partnership with the National Institute of Bioprocessing Research & Training (NIBRT).

Since 2008, ATU and NIBRT have developed a suite of accredited training programmes tailored to industry demands. Starting with one programme, the initiative has grown to 24 university courses by 2024, with over 5,000 students participating.

Separately, ATU has secured €961,000 through the capital Equipment Call, administered by Enterprise Ireland (EI) for a Fibre Optics Medical Imaging System. The capital equipment funding will enable

the acquisition of state-of-the-art fibre optics medical imaging systems, which will complement MET's existing medical imaging suite in the Galway City campus, which is extensively used by the Medtech sector. The fibre optics medical imaging system will allow Medtech companies to test their devices using a radiation-free guidance system, design novel devices with compatibility to all modes of medical imaging systems and provide a competitive edge to companies operating in Ireland.

ATU's strength in flexible education plays an important part in the continued success of the life sciences industry in Ireland and ensures the country remains a leader in skills development and workforce excellence. ATU is committed to fostering collaborations that drive innovation and economic growth.



Mountbellew Agricultural College and ATU partnership formalised



ATU and Mountbellew Agricultural College have officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) deepening academic collaboration and advancing research and educational opportunities in the agricultural and environmental sectors. The MOU signed at Mountbellew Agricultural College sets out a framework for further cooperation in programme development, research initiatives and student engagement opportunities.

€1.9 million contract awarded for national training programme for Special Needs Assistants

ATU has been awarded a €1.9 million contract for the continued delivery of the national training programme for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs). The course based in the St Angelas campus, which is fully funded by the Department of Education, has 2,962 course completions to date, while a further 881 are enrolled for the current academic year.

Planning permission granted for regional sports and activity hub

ATU has secured planning permission for the development of the Letterkenny Regional Sports and Activity Hub at its Donegal Letterkenny campus. The 42-acre, multi-pitch regional sports complex will feature a wide range of facilities, including a pavilion building with a seated spectator stand, changing rooms, and flexible spaces for exercise, community programs, and meetings.

In addition, ATU has been awarded a grant allocation of €426,081 by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme. The funds will contribute to upgrading and developing An Dánlann, a multipurpose sports centre located on the Letterkenny campus in Donegal.



Approval granted for major land purchase

Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science James Lawless TD, and Minister of State Marian Harkin TD announced approval in February for ATU to purchase a parcel of land (16.35 acres) across the road from the existing ATU campus in Sligo. ATU has confirmed it will fund the purchase from within its existing finance reserves. This purchase is key to future growth and advancement of the university.

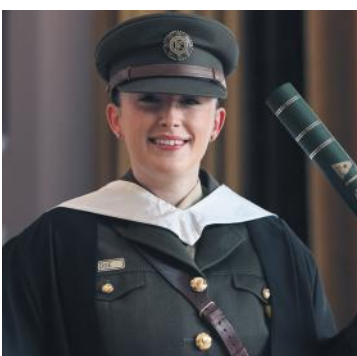


Significant investment announced in digital skills for the north west

Funding for the North West Digital Employment Pathway Training Hub (NW DEPTH) initiative was included in a total of €46,064,915 of PEACEPLUS funding announced recently to improve equal access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning in Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland.

This project, supported by the PEACEPLUS Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), will be led by ATU in partnership with Ulster University, North West Regional College, and Donegal Education and Training Board via their well-established strategic collaboration, the North West Tertiary Education Cluster (NWTEC).

GRADUATION 2024



Mary Robinson received honorary doctorate from ATU



Atlantic Technological University honoured one of Ireland’s most distinguished figures, Mrs Mary Robinson, with an honorary doctorate at a special ceremony in her native Mayo at the ATU Mayo campus in Castlebar last December, recognising her extraordinary contribution to society.

Always ATU



ATU Alumni is a global network of graduates, leaders, and innovators living and working across the globe. Our lifelong connection with alumni begins as ATU students and continues well beyond graduation. Being part of this network means staying connected to opportunity through lifelong learning, networking opportunities and invitations to participate in a range of alumni programmes and events. Visit atu.ie/alumni to find out more.



ATU Magazine is a bi-monthly publication featuring news, interviews, profiles, research, innovation activities, and updates on ATU alumni. Visit atu.ie/atu-magazine to read each issue and sign up to receive future editions.

ATU awards STEAM prize at Junk Kouture finals

ATU presented the STEAM award at this year's Junk Kouture World Finals, which took place at the Helix, Dublin, on 4th March. The STEAM Award, recognises designers who seamlessly integrate science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics into their sustainable creations, further bridging the gap between innovation and sustainability.

The winning creation was titled, 'La Voix Du Congo' by Hasseena Atariwa and Nassima Achiba from High School of Fashion Industries, New York City.

Over the past three years, ATU and Junk Kouture have forged a dynamic partnership to promote sustainable fashion and innovation among students aged 12 to 19 years old.



Jack Burke from ATU presents Hasseena Atariwa with the award designed and manufactured by ATU staff and students at the Junk Kouture world finals.

ATU sponsors BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition

For a second year in a row, ATU participated in the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition (BTYSTE). We were delighted to sponsor the ATU Award for 'Best use of technology in a project', won by Kristin Cahill, Ritika Rose Sam and Lena Ogonowska from Christ King Girls Secondary School, Cork. ATU's involvement in BTYSTE reflects the university's commitment to fostering technological innovation and education in STEM fields.

SciFest at ATU



The 20th anniversary of the SciFest competition did not disappoint. Congratulations to all the post primary level competitors who took part in this impressive STEM competition, held in ATU campuses in Galway, Sligo and Donegal in May.

VEX Robotics

What an incredible few days at the VEX Robotics competitions and regional finals at ATU in January. Congratulations to the winning teams for taking the top spots with their outstanding innovation, teamwork, and problem-solving skills!

New tertiary degree in Social Care Practice



ATU, in partnership with Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board, recently launched a new Tertiary Education Degree at Cavan Institute, the BA (Hons) in Social Care Practice. The programme provides a one-year plus three-year study opportunity for learners interested in studying year one of the honours degree programme at Cavan Institute and three years in ATU Sligo. This programme is one of three flexible and accessible pathways to a university degree at ATU. The options currently available include Sustainable Engineering Technologies and General Nursing.

Record numbers at Open Days



ATU has seen a 16% increase in attendees at Open Days this academic year. The continued growth is a strong indicator of the university's rising appeal and reputation as visitors recognise the warm ATU community, diverse programme offering, modern facilities and the university's focus on fostering innovation and career-readiness among students. Thanks to everyone who came to meet with our staff and students, discover our academic programmes and student supports, and get a taste of student life on campus.

First ever Entrance Scholarship Awards at ATU



Conor Byrne, a first-year Pharmaceutical Science with Drug Development student at ATU, receiving the Academic Excellence Award from Dr Orla Flynn, President of ATU

Atlantic Technological University recently presented 73 Entrance Scholarship Awards to first-year students who achieved between 550 and 625 CAO points in the Leaving Certificate. Over three days in January 2025, ATU presented 73 Entrance Scholarship Awards to current first year students who achieved between 550 and 625 CAO points in the Leaving Certificate. Three awards ceremonies took place across ATU in the Sligo, Letterkenny and Galway City Dublin Road campuses. Award recipients and their families, along with their former post-primary school principals, vice-principals and guidance counsellors attended these events.

Each award winner received a €500 scholarship and a trophy designed by ATU Connemara graduate Eoin Kirwan, from Irish Laserwood Designs. The event marked and recognised the incredible accomplishments and achievements of these young students.

ATU apprenticeships celebrate milestones and national recognition

ATU will mark a major milestone this autumn as the first cohort of Civil Engineering Apprentices graduates. Launched in September 2023, the programme has seen rapid growth, with over 80 SOLAS-approved employers now supporting Civil Engineering apprentices across Ireland. In May, the apprenticeship received further recognition by winning the 2025 Irish Construction Excellence Award in the ‘Third Level Course or CPD’ category.

ATU apprentices have achieved both international and national recognition in recent months. Seán McLoughlin, an Electrical Installations apprentice, earned a Medallion of Excellence and placed fourth globally at the WorldSkills Competition in Lyon, France.

This success was followed by two national awards at the National Apprentice of the Year event in Dublin’s Mansion House. Leah Maguire, an apprentice on the BA (Hons) in Insurance Practice at ATU Sligo, was named Finance and Insurance Apprentice of the Year, whileJodie Whyte, from the BEng (Hons) in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering at ATU Galway City, received the Engineering Apprentice of the Year award.

ATU’s craft apprenticeships are also expanding. Phases 4 and 6 of the Electrical Apprenticeship will also be delivered at the ATU Mayo campus, in



addition to existing locations in Galway City, Sligo, Letterkenny, and Killybegs. New apprenticeships in Metal Fabrication and Refrigeration and Air Conditioning will be facilitated at the ATU Letterkenny campus from September.

More information on ATU’s apprenticeship programmes can be found at atu.ie/apprenticeships

Global Village showcases cultural diversity



In February and March, ATU Global organised a series of events across our campuses to celebrate diversity and showcase the many different cultures in ATU through food, music, dance, art, poetry, national costumes and

poster displays. This annual event is a mainstay within our academic calendar. Atlantic Technological University is a multicultural university with over 93 nationalities represented in the student and staff population.

ATU at the forefront of teaching and learning excellence

ATU has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first university in the Republic of Ireland to be designated as an Accredited Institution of Advance HE, a prestigious recognition that places ATU at the forefront of teaching and learning excellence. Dr Niamh Plunkett, Head of Teaching & Learning at ATU Sligo, has achieved the prestigious Principal Fellow award from Advance HE. This accreditation enables ATU to assess and award Advance HE Fellowships through its ENGAGE Programme, a structured initiative designed to support and recognise staff excellence in teaching and student learning support.

Registrar & VP Students, Teaching & Learning, Dr Michele Glacken, emphasised the significance of this accreditation for ATU’s students:

“Students are at the heart of everything we do, and by investing in our staff’s professional development, we are ensuring they receive the highest quality education. This accreditation strengthens ATU’s ability to promote an environment where both staff and students thrive.”



Academic skills workshops at ATU library



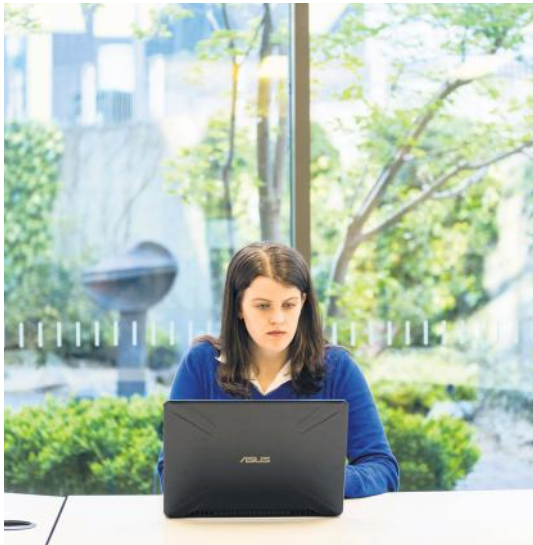
Workshops for students were a regular occurrence in ATU Library this year. Workshops included "How to Reference Correctly in Harvard Style," "How to

Manage Your References Using EndNote," and "How to Effectively Search" through the 600,000+ books, eBooks, eJournals, eNewspapers, databases, and guides.

The ATU Library is a welcoming and inclusive space, a hive of innovation, activity, and information. It plays a central role in learning, teaching, and research at ATU, with eight libraries located across the university’s campuses in Donegal, Galway, Mayo, and Sligo, providing comprehensive resources, services, and facilities.

ATU Library continued its mission of integration by making all databases and eBooks fully accessible across the university, enabling equity for all ATU students and staff.

It also hosted numerous book displays and exhibitions to create a welcoming environment for ATU’s diverse student and staff community. Regular events such as lunchtime socials, book clubs, training sessions, and drop-in clinics reflect the dynamic and evolving nature of library services at ATU.



ATU researchers ranked among world's top 2% in science



Five of ATU’s researchers have been named among the World’s Top 2% Most Cited Scientists, according to an updated analysis by Emeritus Professor John Ioannidis from Stanford University in collaboration with Elsevier BV and SciTech Strategies Inc. This list is part of a comprehensive study of over 100,000 scientists and represents the top 2% globally. This prestigious recognition places these researchers among the most influential figures in their respective fields globally.

Prioritising mental health & wellness

The number of people self-reporting a psychological or emotional condition has more than doubled in six years, according to the latest figures from the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

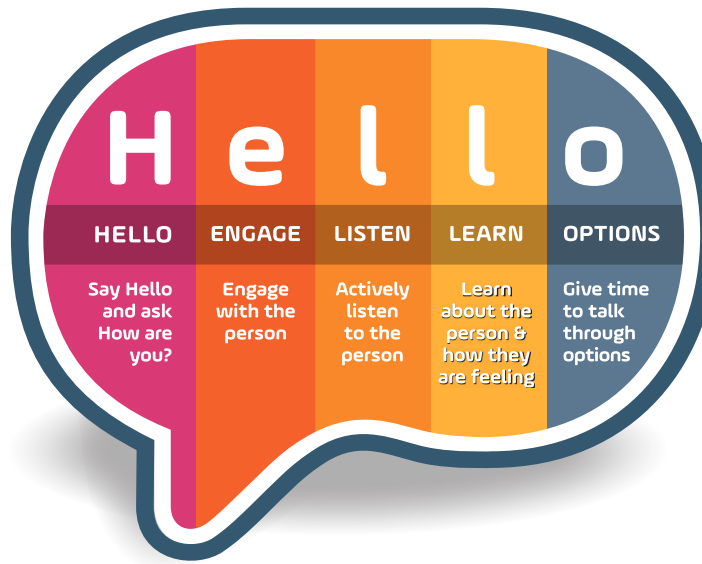
Professor Matthew Sadlier, leading consultant psychiatrist and chairman of the Irish Medical Organisation (IMO), said: "There is a change in the nature of the patients attending. We are getting patients who you wouldn't traditionally have expected to present — university students and people in full-time employment."

Conscious of the growing necessity for support for students at ATU, there are many health supports available free of charge to students, including access to doctors, nurses, counsellors, psychologists and pastoral care.

ATU students have access to Togetherall — an online community that is clinically moderated by mental health professionals and offers students a safe and anonymous

place to express their thoughts, concerns, and triumphs. Resources are free for students and are available 24/7, 365 days a year.

Mental health and wellness activities are ongoing throughout the year. ATU is committed to fostering a culture of connection and support on campus. The events held across ATU campuses help spread positivity and support; they include breakfast mornings, campus engagement and organised walks to encourage conversation and action by signposting to local supports and services.



Most recently, staff and students participated in the Mental Health Ireland initiative "HELLO, How Are You?" campaign again this year. The campaign aims to tackle the lack of connection or belonging that people experience by inspiring individuals to ask how others are feeling.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities



ATU marked International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3rd December with awareness and training for staff and students to develop a better understanding of the key issues facing students and staff with disabilities.

The dedicated Disability and Learning Support Service (DLSS) at ATU offers a professional support plan tailored to the specific needs of students. These include a range of pre and post entry supports for students with disabilities. The supports offered include learning support, educational support workers and notetakers, modifications to the physical environment, transport, reasonable accommodations for examinations and assistive technology.

Incoming DARE students are automatically registered with the service. Others who are not DARE eligible may still be able to register with the Disability Office when they begin the course.

Autism Acceptance Festival 2025

On Wednesday 26th March the ATU Library participated in two collaborative events as part of the annual Autism Acceptance Festival organised by a number of Irish Higher Education Institutions and the Autism charity, AsIAM.

The first event was an online panel discussion with a national audience on Libraries and the Autistic community where the Yeats Library spoke about their N-TUTORR funded staff-student partnership project by Librarians Sinéad Kelly and Fiona Fox alongside Sligo Public Libraries

Ultan McNasser and NCI Librarian Tamara Malone highlighting what academic and public libraries are doing to make their spaces, services, collections and supports more inclusive.

In the afternoon, the Yeats Library hosted a collaborative event with the ATU Disability and Learning Support Services to launch the new 'Cubbie' sensory space in the library and hosted Sligo Public Libraries to showcase their Autism-friendly services and collections to staff, students and the local community.



Connect, respect, protect

ATU rolled out a collaborative series of events focusing on mental health and wellbeing and gender-based violence during the first five weeks of the new term. The ATU Mental Health and Wellbeing Officers and the ATU RESPECT team were joined by Student Services, Students' Union, ATU's nursing and counselling staff, EDI staff, and members of the AURA LGBTQIA+ staff network.

Representatives from approximately 40 external organisations visited the different campuses throughout the nine days, providing information to students on their support services and raising awareness. These included the Rape Crisis Centres, Domestic Violence services, Mental Health support services, community support services, and LGBTQIA+ organisations who provide services in Donegal, Sligo, Mayo and Galway.

Invited services were tailored to each campus's unique student population. For instance, in the Galway (Wellpark Road) campus which specialises in design, film



and creative arts, Minding Creative Minds were invited. This organisation provides counselling and support services to people studying and working in the Irish creative sector.

On the Mountbellew campus where the focus is agriculture, Macra na Feirme, a representative organisation for

young people in rural Ireland attended. Several talks from organisations such as Mental Health Ireland were also provided for students. There was a great response from students and staff, and there were lots of games and prizes which were hugely helpful for engagement and learning.

Period Promise



Atlantic Technological University launched its Period Promise campaign this year, the first campus-wide Healthy Campus initiative dedicated to menstrual health, dignity, and equity. With over 160 free period product dispensers now installed across all nine campuses, ATU ensures that the campus community always has access to free period products.

This initiative goes beyond providing free products, it is about changing the conversation around menstrual health through ethical and sustainable period care, dignity and awareness, health education and health policy advocacy.

LGBTQ+ Network at ATU



AURA is ATU's LGBTQ+ & Allies Staff Network, who champion equality for LGBTQ+ people throughout the University. AURA develops initiatives in relation to visibility, information and education in conjunction with other departments in ATU.

Some of the activities taking place include raising the Progress Pride flag across ATU, taking part in Pride parades in the region, and all campuses owned by ATU have rainbow pathways. Campus libraries have an increased portfolio of inclusion-focused literature, and training sessions are organised to better inform staff members and contribute to the development of a broad culture of respect across ATU.

Starting university? We've got you covered!

We know starting university can feel a bit overwhelming, but don't worry, ATU is here to help make the move as smooth as possible.

Before the main induction day, your campus may run special orientation sessions in person or online for certain groups of students. These include mature students, students on the HEAR scheme, students with access scholarships or 1916 bursaries, students with disabilities, DARE entrants and

neurodiverse students and international students. If you're in one of these groups, keep an eye on your inbox – you'll get an email inviting you to attend. These sessions are a great way to get useful tips about college, ask questions, and find out what support is available. You can also contact the access and disability office directly if you have questions before you start.

All new students should join us online for two short webinars on Monday the 8th of September. The first session

covers a quick guide to using the library, a key resource for your studies. The second session focuses on counselling and wellbeing to give advice on looking after your mental health, managing stress, sleeping well and more while at university.

Some campuses will also hold a family day where you can bring your parents, carers, or siblings to look around, meet some of your lecturers, and get a feel for the place. Check your campus induction page to see if this is happening where you'll be studying. (atu.ie/induction)

The main induction days will take place on the 10th, 11th and 12th of September. Your official induction will take place on campus on one or more of these three days - it's really important to attend. You'll find out which day or days you need to attend by checking the schedule on your campus induction page (atu.ie/induction).

Induction day is your chance

to meet your classmates, explore the campus, get to know your lecturers, learn more about your programme and timetable, discover clubs, societies, and student life and find out what supports are available for you. It's a fun and relaxed way to kick off your university journey!

In your first five weeks of term, we'll run the #First5Weeks programme to help you settle in. Each week has a different theme focused on things like making friends, getting academic support, and getting involved in campus life. Check the ATU website and weekly email newsletter to see what's happening on your campus – and join in!

Our teams will be in touch with applicants as offers are made and accepted to let you know the next steps. We encourage all new students to get involved in all induction activities to get the best start possible to university life. Visit atu.ie/induction for more information.



Innovative sustainability with EU GREEN

ATU proudly stands as a partner in the EU GREEN European University Alliance, co-funded by the European Union. The Alliance forms a 'super campus' of nine universities from France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Poland, Romania, and Germany, unified by a shared commitment to responsible growth, inclusive education, and environmental stewardship.

The universities come together regularly to develop creative solutions to some of society's most pressing challenges. In April, as part of the EU Green Innovation Days, students, researchers, and professionals from the nine universities explored design thinking tools to problem-solve, innovate, and develop sustainability-driven entrepreneurship.

Last October, ATU held a significant

tree planting event across all its campuses and in partnership with EU GREEN Alliance countries. As a powerful symbol of unity and sustainability, native trees were planted across ATU campuses in sequences of nines, representing the nine countries in the EU GREEN Alliance, a dynamic network of universities committed to promoting sustainable education and research throughout Europe.

The aim of this initiative was to inspire future generations on the significance of environmental stewardship and to deepen the connection between local communities and the broader European sustainability movement. By engaging with primary school children, ATU shared knowledge on biodiversity and encouraged citizen science, nurturing life-long environmental champions.



An inclusive learning experience

ATU is committed to creating an inclusive, equitable learning experience for every student. The Access and Widening Participation team support alternative routes to Higher Education to assist students from various backgrounds. The team support access pathways through HEAR admissions, mature student entry, Further Education (FET) entry, access programmes and more. They provide financial support by way of the student assistance fund, laptop loan scheme, scholarships, 1916 bursary fund and financial readiness for life.

Outreach and inreach educational programmes, events and supports, engaging with local schools, community and advocacy groups aimed at attracting and retaining undergraduate students from target groups identified in the national access plan.

The Access and Widening Participation team at ATU recently launched the latest edition of the Mentoring Journal to assist students in supporting their development, exploring useful opportunities, tracking personal growth, identifying strengths and setting goals while enhancing self-awareness. The journal is valuable for future reference, continuing improvement, and lifelong learning.

Applications are now open for the ATU Certificate in Access for Higher Education. This free alternative route into university provides a Level 6 qualification. On successful completion of the Certificate, students will be eligible to apply for undergraduate programmes across ATU (quotas apply on some programmes). This course is available in Letterkenny and Sligo.



Student Ambassadors



Becoming a student ambassador is a great way to gain experience working at ATU events and outreach activities, getting involved with marketing by showcasing your ATU experience, and representing ATU students at important university events. Ambassadors can be awarded digital badges for their volunteering activities through the national forum as part of this initiative. There are lots of ways to get involved, so be sure to keep an eye on our social media posts in September to apply.

Careers fairs and industry talks

ATU Careers Service hosted hundreds of companies and speakers from a wide range of industry sectors to campuses across ATU in person and online, to provide students with opportunities to meet potential employers, network and gain valuable insights into the many opportunities available to ATU students and graduates.

Healthy Campus commitment to wellbeing



ATU Sligo student using the Bolt bike service on campus, part of the Healthy Campus initiative.

The Healthy Campus Charter and Framework is a commitment from ATU to foster a healthier campus environment. By endorsing the initiative, the university pledges to prioritise wellbeing for all members of the campus community, promoting healthier lifestyles, mental and physical health, and a supportive atmosphere. This commitment aims to create a safer, more inclusive academic setting that enhances both student success and sustainable institutional growth.

An Ghaeilge in OTA

Tá fuinnimh le brath thimpeall úsáid na Gaeilge in Ollscoil Teicneolaíocht an Atlantaigh le déanaí, ó chomharthaíocht dátheangacha go ciorcail comhrá, tá an cúpla focal ina chuid lárnach de saol na hOllscoile anois. Tá na mic léinn agus baill foirne ag glacadh páirte in imeachtaí spráíúla cosúil le Seachtain na Gaeilge agus ceardlanna teanga neamhfhoirmiúla. Céim mhór chun cinn leis an nGaeilge a dhéanamh níos feiceálaí agus níos nádúrtha thart ar na campais, dia ar ndiaidh. There’s been a real buzz around the

Irish language at ATU lately. From new bilingual signs popping up on campus to casual comhrá (conversation) meet-ups, the cúpla focal is becoming a bigger part of everyday life here. Staff and students are getting involved through fun events like Seachtain na Gaeilge and informal language workshops. It’s all part of making Irish more visible and accessible—no pressure, just a friendly push to bring the language into more spaces. Bit by bit, An Ghaeilge is finding its voice across ATU campuses.

ATU’s free courses website surpasses 35,000 registered users

The total number of registered users on the ATU Free Courses site freecourses.atu.ie has surpassed 35k individual users, which underlines the demand for the diverse range of MOOCs on offer. Preparing for university is included as part of the 40 free courses, enabling students to access academic support before they enter university. It helps students to hit the ground running and settle in quickly to the first semester. These self-directed online courses include a solid foundation in maths, academic and financial readiness skills.



Available Places

Registrations of interest are now open for Available Places in ATU this September. Programmes with vacant places will be published on Thursday, 28th August at 12 noon. New and existing applicants can apply through the CAO application process for available places who wish to start university this September. This is an excellent opportunity for those who are unhappy with the offer they received, didn’t get an offer, have changed circumstances, or simply have just changed their mind about what they would like to study since they first applied. Visit atu.ie/available-places to register and follow us on social media for more information.

Campus Tours

This is ideal for applicants who could not attend an ATU Open Day and would like to see the campuses, explore the facilities, and discover more about our programmes. There are a limited number of tour slots remaining. Visit atu.ie/visit to book.

Enabling Maths

ATU offers a free course to give applicants a second chance to satisfy the maths entry requirements for ATU programmes. Applicants participate in a two-week Enabling Maths programme online, after the Leaving Certificate results are announced. Visit atu.ie/enabling-maths. ATU offers a range of ongoing learning support to all students who need help or want to enhance their knowledge and understanding throughout their studies. If maths is not your strong point, don’t worry, ATU offer lots of programmes that do not require any form of maths as an entry requirement. Check out each prospectus or programme page for entry requirements or email cao@atu.ie to help you identify some suitable programme options.

Summer Camps

ATU is delighted to announce the return of Summer Camps for 2025. With sixteen camps already in the calendar from architecture and design to sustainability, fashion, tech innovation, science & engineering, ATU’s summer camps are carefully crafted to ignite creativity, foster problem-solving skills, and introduce students to the power of entrepreneurship. Visit atu.ie/summercamps for more.

Taster Days

Secondary schools from all over our region visited our campuses to take part in Taster Days across lots of programme subjects this year. These days give secondary school students the chance to start considering which area of further study might be for them. The students engaged with ATU academics, technicians and students in various workshops, from lecture theatres to hands-on lab experiments. They enjoyed soaking up the university atmosphere on the day and discovering each campus they visited.

Study abroad with Erasmus+



Erasmus+ provides opportunities for students and academic staff to study, train, get work experience and volunteer abroad. Through a network of partner institutions, ATU can assist students in securing a study or placement mobility period abroad, or a blended study mobility. We also welcome incoming Erasmus+ participants each year to enrich our diversity of cultures at ATU. Many Erasmus+ mobility and work placement opportunities are financially supported. Learn more by visiting atu.ie/international

LinkedIn Learning partnership

ATU has partnered with LinkedIn Learning, an online library with over 18,000 courses delivered in seven languages, to suit the training needs of staff and students. All staff and students at ATU have full, free and unlimited access to on-demand training on any device, at any time. The course topics range from leadership, engineering, and business management to Excel and beyond. The resources comprise high quality video learning resources plus downloadable exercises and workbooks.

Free Financial Readiness for Life course

A newly developed ‘Financial Readiness for Life’ free online course launched by ATU and MABS aims to equip students with essential financial literacy skills to navigate college life and beyond. The ‘Financial Readiness for Life’ course is the first of its kind in Ireland targeting higher education students and those preparing to go to third level. Developed in collaboration with MABS, it provides an accessible and interactive platform for students to develop critical financial skills.

Six reasons why more Northern Ireland applicants are choosing ATU

1. Fees

At a maximum of €3000 per year, the Student Contribution Fee is more affordable than in Northern Ireland and the UK.

2. Grants

Northern Irish students can apply for a fee grant through SUSI (www.susi.ie). Unlike student loans, fee grants do not have to be paid back.

3. Loans

You can still apply to the Student Loans Company for a student contribution loan.

4. CAO Application

The CAO Change of Mind facility will remain open until July 1st at 5pm. You can add courses and rearrange the order of your choices until this time free of charge.

5. Worldwide Degree

A degree from ATU can take you anywhere in the world. We have graduates employed in every corner of the globe - there are no limits to what you can achieve.

6. Location

As a multi-campus university, ATU offers students a diverse range of experiences, from bustling cities to wild Atlantic coastal regions, across the west and north-west of Ireland.

Learn more by visiting atu.ie/northern-ireland

ATU retains global #1 ranking



Caroline Mullan, lecturer on the Lean Sigma White Belt course.

ATU has once again secured its position as the top-ranked university-level Lean Sigma White Belt course worldwide, according to Class Central, a leading platform for ranking massive open online courses (MOOCs). The ATU Lean Sigma White Belt has been named the #1 course in Class Central’s prestigious ‘10 Best Lean Six Sigma Courses to Take in 2025’ ranking, retaining its status as the premier provider of Lean Six Sigma education.

ATU is Ireland’s largest online provider of accredited degrees in Quality, Lean Six Sigma, and Operational Excellence. The White Belt programme alone attracts more than 2,500 students annually, while over 600 students enrol in ATU’s Lean Six Sigma Yellow, Green, and Black Belt courses.

Flexible learning to take you further


As leaders in flexible learning, ATU offers students qualifications matched to industry demand in areas such as Science, Engineering, Design, Computing, Tourism, Education, Nursing, Business and much more.

Built on our expertise and in collaboration with industry partners our courses support students at all stages, regardless of location, to access and

continue lifelong learning, develop new skills and advance their careers.

With over 470 part-time, online and flexible courses now open for application for a September 2025 start, from Higher Certificate right up to Masters level, our graduates are equipped with the skills and confidence to excel in their chosen career.

Download our prospectus today to view our full course list at atu.ie/flexible



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ATU GALWAY-MAYO

ENGINEERING

Future engineers get inspired at ATU Galway City

As part of Engineers Week 2025, ATU Galway City welcomed primary and secondary school students to campus for a hands-on look at what engineering is all about.

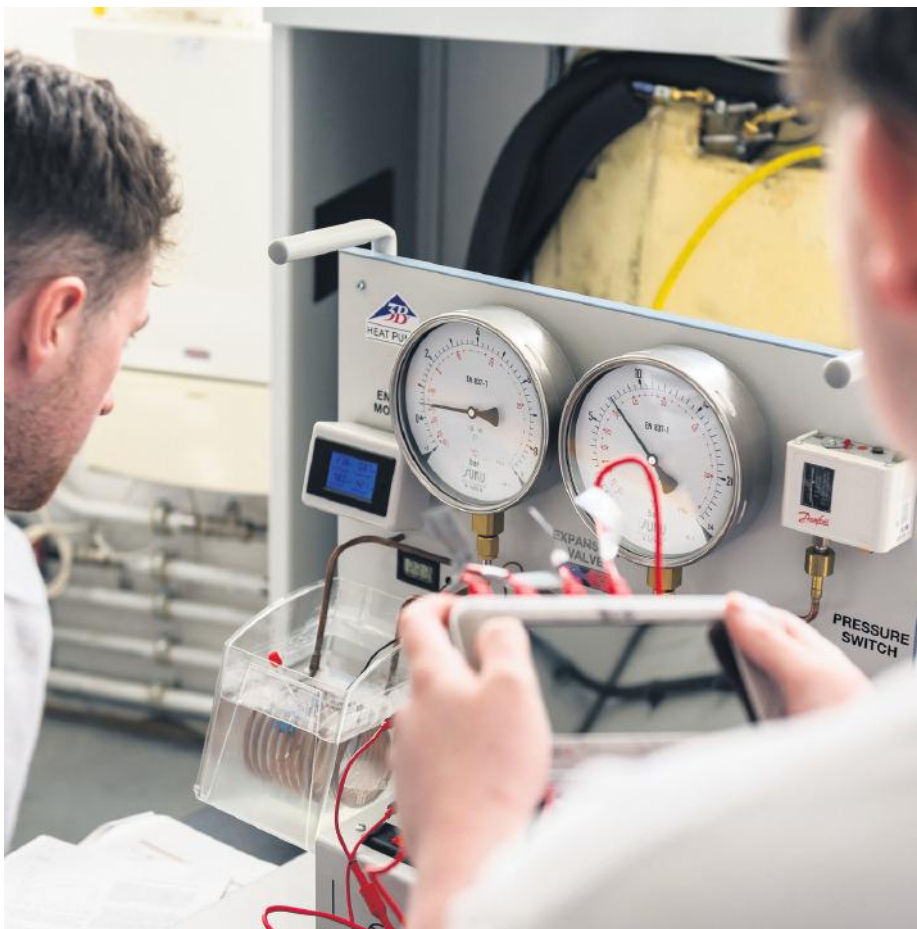
Organised by the School of Engineering, the events introduced visiting students to ATU's engineering labs, staff, and facilities. Guests took part in interactive workshops, explored engineering tools and concepts, and saw real projects in action.

The event wasn't just led by lecturers—ATU's own engineering students played a key role, helping to run demonstrations and guide visitors through the activities. Their involvement gave younger students a first-hand look at what it's really like to study engineering at university.

The workshops were designed to spark curiosity, promote problem-solving, and highlight how engineering impacts the world around us—from sustainable design to smart tech and infrastructure.

Events like this are part of ATU's wider commitment to community outreach and inclusive education, and help show the exciting and meaningful careers available through engineering.

To find out more about engineering courses at ATU Galway City, visit atu.ie/AU649



Finalist at Siemens Innovative student Engineer of the Year competition



Noreen Kennedy, a Biomedical Engineering graduate from ATU Galway City, was named a finalist in the 2024 Siemens Innovative Student Engineer of the Year competition. The event, held at Engineers Ireland headquarters in Dublin, brought together top student engineers from across the country to present their final-year projects.

Noreen's research focused on improving lung cancer treatment through better understanding of how lung characteristics affect ablation outcomes. Her work was supported by Endowave and supervised by Dr Cormac Flynn of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at ATU Galway City.

The BEng (Hons) in Biomedical Engineering at ATU Galway City equips students with the knowledge and practical experience needed to develop technologies that improve lives. With a strong emphasis on applied learning and collaboration with industry, the programme is producing future leaders in the fast-growing medtech and healthcare innovation sectors.

Congrats to Noreen Kennedy for her well-earned recognition.

Top prize awarded at CIOB Tomorrow's Leaders Challenge



Students from ATU Galway's Department of Building & Civil Engineering have claimed first place at the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) Tomorrow's Leaders Student Challenge Ireland 2025. The competition, hosted at Dundalk IT, saw ATU Galway's team secure first place ahead of ten other university teams from across Ireland.

The annual event challenges students to tackle real-world construction issues. This year, teams were tasked with devising sustainable strategies to address

the global housing crisis.

The ATU Galway team competed against Belfast Metropolitan College, Dundalk IT, MTU Cork, SETU, Carlow, SETU Waterford, TUD, University of Limerick, University of Ulster, and fellow ATU campuses in Sligo and Donegal.

The CIOB challenge provides an opportunity for students to apply their knowledge, work collaboratively across disciplines, and showcase their understanding of environmental

sustainability in construction.

ATU Galway has a strong history in this competition, reflecting the high standard of education and training within its Building & Civil Engineering programmes.

The winning team was supported by lecturers and mentors from the department, who highlighted the importance of these events in helping students develop practical skills and industry connections.

For more information on Civil Engineering, visit: atu.ie/AU638

How Engineering students benefit from PASS



Starting a degree in engineering can feel like a big leap but at ATU Galway City, students don't have to do it alone. Through the university's PASS (Peer Assisted Study Sessions) programme, first-year students get extra support from peers who have already been through the experience.

As one staff member described, "PASS works really well for our engineering students. Second-years meet first-years once a week to help them get to grips with college life, especially the tougher parts like maths and problem-solving. It's also a great way to build confidence, ask questions, and feel part of the group early on."

PASS is a student-led, informal study support programme that runs

alongside lectures and labs. In the sessions, trained second-year students (PASS leaders) guide small groups of first-years through class content, sharing tips on study strategies, time management, and university life.

Engineering students at ATU often face a steep learning curve, balancing technical modules, maths, and hands-on lab work. PASS sessions create a supportive environment where first-years can talk through difficult topics with someone who's recently completed the same modules.

Whether you're figuring out your first engineering maths assignment or just settling into campus life, PASS is one more way ATU Galway City helps you feel supported from day one.

From groundwork to graduation: Meet future civil engineer David O'Reilly



David O'Reilly, a final-year student on the BEng (Hons) in Civil Engineering at ATU Galway City, has taken a unique and inspiring path to his degree. Originally from Ballyconneely, Clifden, Co. Galway, David returned to education 12 years after finishing secondary school at Clifden Community School. After working as a groundworker and machine operator on residential and road projects, he decided to upskill and pursue a career in civil engineering.

It was talking to graduates of the course that really helped him decide. He felt that ATU's practical focus suited his experience and ambitions.

Commuting four hours a day from Ballyconneely while balancing life as a new father, farmer, and volunteer RNLI crew member, David's story is one of determination.

While life outside of college is busy, especially with two daughters, David has thrived on campus. He has found the lecturers to be very helpful and their support has made a huge difference in his academic pursuits.

After graduation, David plans to return to work with OMC Group, a multidisciplinary consultancy where he completed his placement. He also has exciting personal milestones ahead, he's getting married this December!

David is also considering ATU's Higher Diploma in Civil Engineering, showing that learning doesn't stop after one degree. His advice to new students? "Engage with your lecturers and put the work in early. Good continuous assessment marks will take a lot of pressure off at exam time."

TE Connectivity rewards ATU talent

Two final-year engineering students at ATU Galway City have been awarded prestigious academic bursaries by Galway-based firm TE Connectivity, recognising their exceptional performance and commitment to their studies.

The €2,500 bursaries were presented to Ryana Maciel Miranda, a student of Energy Engineering, and Seán Cooney, who is studying Mechanical Engineering. Both students are enrolled in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at ATU and are entering the final year of their degree programmes.

The bursaries were awarded by TE Connectivity, a global technology leader with a strong local presence through TE Medical in Galway. The awards recognise not only academic excellence but also dedication and future potential in the field of engineering.

This collaboration highlights ATU's strong industry links and the support available to students who show talent, drive, and ambition in their studies.

For more information about engineering programmes at ATU Galway City, visit atu.ie/engineering.

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

ENGINEERING

ATU graduate honoured with National Engineering Award

Jodie Whyte, a graduate of the BEng (Hons) Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Apprenticeship) programme at ATU Galway City, was named Engineering Apprentice of the Year at the Generation Apprenticeship Ireland Awards 2024. The awards ceremony, held at the Mansion House in Dublin, recognised exceptional apprentices from across Ireland.

The BEng (Hons) in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Apprenticeship) programme at ATU Galway City blends university-based learning with structured, full-time employment in the advanced manufacturing sector. Apprentices spend part of each year on campus, engaging with academic modules, before returning to their workplaces to apply these skills in real-world settings. This flexible model ensures graduates are equipped to meet the evolving demands of the industry.

Speaking to I Love Limerick, Jodie encouraged more women to consider apprenticeships as a pathway into STEM careers, highlighting the opportunities available to women of all ages. She described her award as proof of what can be achieved through hard work and thanked Johnson & Johnson and the



National Apprenticeship Office for their support.

Having completed her apprenticeship at Johnson & Johnson Vision Care in Limerick, Jodie's achievement showcases

the success of ATU's apprenticeship model in preparing graduates to contribute meaningfully to their industries.

Congratulations, Jodie, on this fantastic achievement!

Students help lead Ireland's winning team at Invent for the Planet 2025

A multidisciplinary team of students, including representatives from ATU Galway, won the Irish leg of Invent for the Planet (IFTP) 2025, a global innovation competition led by Texas A&M University. Hosted at ATU, the 48-hour challenge brought together students from across Ireland to tackle some of the planet's most pressing issues.

As Ireland's winning team, with strong involvement from ATU Galway students, the group created the Replast Kit—a modular system that transforms plastic waste into durable bricks for low-cost housing in developing regions. Designed to empower communities, the kit enables local people to produce and build their own homes, addressing both plastic pollution and housing shortages through an innovative, scalable solution.

Reflecting on their experience, the team shared: "Our Invent for the Planet 2025 journey was more than



just an innovation sprint—it was about teamwork, creative problem-solving, and a shared vision for sustainability. These 48 hours proved that when technology meets purpose, real change happens."

IFTP Ireland is led by Dr Jack Saad, lecturer in industrial and mechanical engineering at ATU Galway, alongside mentors from local industry and academia. The event, now in its fourth year, is supported

by sponsors including Thermo King, EU Green, the Marine Institute, and Ireland's Seafood Development Agency.

For more on engineering and innovation at ATU, visit atu.ie/engineering.

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

SCIENCE AND COMPUTING

Buzz-Worthy! Hive app aims to help new beekeepers thrive



A team of ATU Computing and Digital Media students have been shortlisted for the Enterprise Ireland National Student Entrepreneur Awards for their innovative digital

media project, 'HIVE' which is designed to support novice beekeepers in their journey of learning apiculture and to enhance productivity for large-scale apiaries. The student team members include

Shane Costello, Matthew Creaven and Yana Greer. The Student Entrepreneur Awards is a national-level competition involving students from across the country. The awards offer

€35,000 in cash prizes, with the overall winner receiving €10,000, and the opportunity to avail of specialist advice and assistance to potentially help an enterprise idea into a business reality.

From Forensic Science at ATU to Nassau County Police Department



Kaitlin chose ATU because she found the Forensic Science and Analysis course to be one of the most comprehensive and well-structured programs available in Ireland. It stood out to her not only for its strong academic foundation but also for the practical, hands-on experience it offers. The course is designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to pursue a range of career paths in forensic science, both in Ireland and internationally. Kaitlin was particularly drawn to the opportunities for real-world application, including lab work, case-based learning, and potential industry placements. It felt like the ideal environment to grow both academically and professionally, and she knew it would give her the best chance to succeed in a field she's passionate about.

In 2024, Kaitlin was incredibly fortunate to gain first-hand experience in law enforcement through an internship with the Nassau County Police Department in New York. During her time there, she had the privilege of learning from some truly remarkable and insightful individuals—officers, detectives, sergeants, and lieutenants—many of whom Kaitlin keeps in touch with and now considers close friends. Their mentorship not only deepened her understanding of the field but also helped shape her into a more resilient, confident, and strong-minded person. The experience had a lasting impact on both Kaitlin's personal growth and professional outlook.

Double win for graduates at science research conference

Two of the four top prizes in the 2024 Science Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Network Conference went to ATU graduates Sharon Devine and Jackie Kirk.

Sharon Devine, a 2024 graduate of the BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Science, picked up the Best Poster Spotlight prize for her

emphatic presentation entitled: 'An Investigation into the Attitudes and Beliefs of Healthcare Practitioners on Exercise as part of Cancer Treatment – A Qualitative Study'. Sports and Exercise Science students can expect a strong focus on practical learning, work placement and projects. Much of the learning will take

place in specialised classrooms and our dedicated performance analysis laboratory. Students will develop a thorough understanding of the three main disciplines of sport and exercise science: physiology, psychology and biomechanics. Learn more here [atu.ie/AU662](#)

Jackie Kirk, a 2024 graduate of the BSc (Hons) in Medical Science received the Best Scientific Poster for her research entitled 'Creation of a Tissue Microarray for use as a Positive Control in the Immunohistochemistry Laboratory'. Our Medical Science programme will provide students with a solid foundation in the basic sciences together with appropriate skills and knowledge to practice medical laboratory science. Graduates are specifically qualified to work in modern hospital laboratories in the investigation, diagnosis and monitoring of medical conditions and disease. Learn more here [atu.ie/AU671](#)



Next-gen sports: Unleashing digital innovation

ATU Galway City hosted the Digital Innovation for Sport 2025 event on May 15th, offering a day of engaging discussions, insights, and networking opportunities focused on the fusion of digital technology and sports. Tailored for sports administrators, executives, coaches, sports scientists, analysts, and medics, the event delved into leveraging technology to enhance sports performance, foster participation, and drive revenue generation. Attendees had the chance to participate in thought-provoking conversations and connect with peers in the industry. One of the highlights was the panel discussion on "How to Move the Dial with Digital Transformation," moderated by Damian Lawlor, Journalist and

The Saturday Game Presenter. Esteemed panellists such as Mark Gottsche, Conor Carmody, Rory Byrne and Teddy Murphy along with Mike Conroy, Olly Logan, Chang Woohyuk, Kurt Reinhardt and Evan Mulligan offered invaluable insights into the role of connecting grassroots sport with best practice in sports innovation.



Lecturers powering up science projects



At ATU Galway, lecturers are bringing the “wow” factor to SciFest! With boundless enthusiasm and a dash of scientific magic, they’re helping students turn big ideas into show-stopping projects. Whether it’s designing eco-friendly gadgets, cracking the mysteries of robotics, or exploring cutting-edge biomedical tech, the staff at ATU Galway are right there, sharing their expertise and cheering students on.

But it’s not all lab goggles and equations, lecturers make it fun, too! Brainstorming sessions are full of laughter, wild ideas, and the occasional “Eureka!” moment. They encourage students to think big, experiment boldly, and never be afraid of a little mess (it’s science, after all!).

With their support, ATU Galway students are gearing up to dazzle at SciFest, proving that with a little guidance and a lot of curiosity, the future of innovation is in great hands!

ATU Researcher develops new technique to identify individual sperm whales



A new technique to identify sperm whales using aerial photographs has been developed by ATU PhD student Seán O’Callaghan, the first time this method has been used for photo-identification. The exciting new research was recently published in “Aquatic Mammals”, the world’s oldest peer-reviewed marine mammal journal.

Seán, whose work is supervised by ATU Scientists Dr Joanne O’Brien and Dr Martin Gammell of the Marine and Freshwater Research Centre (MFRC), ATU Galway and co-supervised by Dr Rui Prieto, Institute of Marine Sciences – OKEANOS, University of the Azores, Horta, Portugal, says photo-identification is an incredibly important cetacean research tool to monitor individuals within populations or across migratory movements:

“It was first developed in the 1980’s on sperm whales using the tail fluke and dorsal fin when distinguishable markings were present. Over the past decade there has been a rapid development of domestically available (and more affordable) drones that can be bought off the shelf. This has led to this piece of equipment becoming a stable tool in the field for many researchers for a variety of uses.”

The paper describes a new method to use aerial images of sperm whales for the purpose of photo-identification using available markings along the dorsal surface of individuals.

The head, back and tail fluke from an overhead perspective were used to differentiate between over 300 individual whales off Norway, Scotland, Ireland and the Azores between 2017 and 2024.

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

SCIENCE AND COMPUTING

Why study Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science?



The chemical and pharmaceutical science industry in Ireland, particularly in Galway, is a thriving sector, known for its global leadership in biopharmaceutical manufacturing and research. This industry involves the development, production, and distribution of pharmaceuticals, as well as research into new drugs and technologies. It offers diverse career opportunities, including research and development, quality assurance, and regulatory affairs.

So why study Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science at ATU Galway?

Our programme focuses on the practical application of chemistry and includes Medicinal Chemistry, Forensic Analysis, Quality Management, Pharmaceutical Science, and Analytical Techniques. Students learn how new medicines are discovered and how to ensure that they are safe and of high quality.

There is a strong emphasis on practical work and projects gives the students a great experience in all these areas. It prepares graduates for immediate employment in the pharmaceutical, chemical, biomedical and biotechnology sectors.

In addition to laboratory work there is a huge demand for graduates from this programme in areas including quality management, quality assurance, training and development, regulatory affairs, marketing and research. In addition, graduates can pursue postgraduate (MSc or PhD) programmes immediately. There is no need to have studied chemistry for the Leaving Certificate, as the fundamentals of all science subjects are delivered in year one.

You can learn more here: atu.ie/AU568 (Level 7) or atu.ie/AU668 (Level 8)

From Public Health Nutrition undergraduate to PHD! Rebecca Tarpey’s journey through ATU



Rebecca Tarpey began her academic journey at Atlantic Technological University, where she completed a BSc (Hons) in Public Health Nutrition. The course offered a strong foundation in nutrition science, public health, and behavioural approaches to health promotion, and it helped Rebecca develop both academic knowledge and practical skills relevant to the field.

During her undergraduate degree, Rebecca particularly enjoyed modules such as Nutrition Through the Life Cycle, Community Nutrition and Food Policy, and Evaluating the Evidence for Public Health Nutrition, which allowed her to explore the application of nutrition across different stages of life and population groups. In third year, Rebecca completed a professional placement with the NutriPD project, a National Forum-funded initiative based at ATU Galway. The project focuses on developing professional competence in nutrition through competency-based education and advocating for the recognition and protection of the nutritionist title in Ireland. Being involved in this initiative gave her insight into professional development, education standards, and national-level policy issues in the nutrition field.

Now, Rebecca is pursuing a PhD in the Department of Sport, Exercise and Nutrition at ATU Galway, where her research is titled “Management of Menstrual Cycle Symptomology for Quality of Life and Health.” Rebecca’s



Student STORY

work focuses on identifying practical, non-clinical strategies to help individuals manage menstrual-related symptoms in ways that support wellbeing, participation, and performance—especially in athletic populations.

Each stage of Rebecca’s academic journey has shaped her identity as a nutritionist and researcher. ATU has provided a consistently supportive, research-active environment that has allowed her to develop personally and professionally. Rebecca is passionate about using evidence to improve health outcomes and advocate for approaches that centre lived experience, particularly in under-researched areas like menstrual health.

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

GALWAY INTERNATIONAL HOTEL SCHOOL

History comes to life as students embark on annual heritage adventure in Berlin

Students on the BA (Hons) in Heritage at ATU Galway City recently visited Berlin, Germany for a five-day fieldtrip. This annual visit forms part of the European History Field Studies module, taught by Dr Mark McCarthy and Dr John Tunney, Department of Heritage & Tourism.

During the visit from 10–14th February, the class explored the public history, memory, and heritage of the city, from medieval to modern times. Sites visited included: Hackescher Market, Museums Island – UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Neue Wache, Lustgarten, Bebelplatz, Gendarmenmarkt, Checkpoint Charlie, the Berlin Wall at Niederkirchnerstraße and Bernauer Straße, the Topography of Terror, the former Nazi Airforce Ministry, the site of Hitler's bunker, the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, the Jewish Museum, the Stasi Prison, the DDR Museum, the Brandenburg Gate, and the Europa Experience.

Programme Chair Dr McCarthy said:



'Our programme is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills for a rewarding career in the heritage sector or other areas such as teaching. This international visit, combined with regular fieldtrips to heritage sites and museums

around Ireland for other modules, provides our students with a practical hands-on learning experience – highlighting links between the past, present, and future.'

For further information on this programme, visit: atu.ie/AU625

Galway International Hotel School team win in Arras, France

Two students from the Galway International Hotel School at ATU Galway claimed first place in the FICAHT Strand Two competition held in France on March 12th. Caitlyn Valerie, a third-year Gastronomy Science and Food Innovation student, and Chloe Costello, a second-year International Hotel Management student, represented ATU at the annual France-Ireland Culinary Arts, Hospitality, and Tourism event. The FICAHT network aims at bringing together French and Irish Higher and Further Education Institutions delivering education and training in Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism, encouraging student mobility, developing EU-wide

programmes through the Erasmus+ scheme and exchanging good practices. This year, the competition also included competitors from Spain and Italy.

FICAHT is supported by the Embassy of France in Ireland, the Higher Education Authority, the Irish Embassy in France and Campus France. The competition offers two strands of engagement. Strand One is aimed at Level 5 and 6 learners, while Strand Two is open to those on Level 7 and 8 degree programmes.

Chloe and Caitlyn, along with their French colleagues from Argelès-sur-Mer, held their own against strong competition from colleges in France, Italy, and Spain.

Each partnership was invited to produce and serve a three-course menu celebrating Irish and French produce.

This year's theme required the creation of dishes that met the highest standards of quality, creativity, and innovation while incorporating modern interactive elements to enhance the client's meal experience. Judges remarked on the quality of the food produced, the technical skills and the collaboration between the chefs and the front of house team.

The students were mentored by lecturers at the Galway International Hotel School including Anne O'Leary, Mary Reid, Elizabeth Fox and Colin Gilligan.

Chloe Costello finds her calling in Hotel and Hospitality Management



Chloe Costello is a 2nd year International Hotel and Hospitality Management Student who wasn't quite sure which choice to make when it came to choosing a

course for her. After getting a job in her local hotel whilst in school, her path began to take shape. Realising she loved working in a hotel she began to research her

options and Chloe found International Hotel and Hospitality Management at the ATU Galway City Dublin Road Campus, she came to an open day, spoke to staff and students and that sealed the deal for her!

One of Chloe's favourite parts of the course are the practical classes, the one that stands out to her is the restaurant classes. In the first year, it was the spirits liqueur and mixology class, and in the second year, it's the wine studies class. She also got the opportunity to be in the kitchen, which is an amazing experience and one that will be a good skill to have in the industry and everyday life. All the skills Chloe has gained in mixology, getting to learn about all the spirits, and



putting that learning into practice by making cocktails out of these spirits. In the training restaurant, she enjoyed learning about fine dining service and skills such as how to Flambé. Chloe loved these practical classes so much, as they get you ready for the real world.

Learn more about the BBus (Hons) in International Hotel and Hospitality Management here: atu.ie/AU630

Sizzling success as ATU wins bronze at Student Chef of the Year 2025



After an intense two-hour cook-off, Gastronomy Science student Eliška Semanová from ATU Galway came third at this year's Knorr Student Chef of the Year competition. This year ten student chefs from the north and south of the country took part in the competition, which was hosted at TUS Athlone.

Eliška and the other student chefs were challenged to prepare a two-course menu comprising main and dessert recipes, inspired by this year's theme 'Feel Good Food'.

For her main course, Eliška prepared Paupiette of Dover Sole containing a carrot scented fish farce, wrapped in a thin layer of carrot, presented on a bed of kimchi flavoured spinach, with a beurre blanc sauce, accompanied with dillisk pickle and steamed potatoes. For dessert, she prepared Vegan Carrageen soufflé, rhubarb gel, pickled rhubarb, ginger tuile.

Learn more about our Gastronomy Science programmes at atu.ie/AU631

ATU's Masterclass series inspires future industry leaders

The much-anticipated Marketing Masterclass sessions made a triumphant return to ATU this year, offering Tourism, Hospitality, and Event Management students an exclusive front-row seat to industry expertise.

Throughout the year, top industry leaders shared their insights, from their career journeys to cutting-edge trends shaping the marketing landscape. These sessions weren't just lectures—they were game-changing opportunities for students to gain firsthand knowledge from the best in the business!

In previous years, ATU has welcomed powerhouse names like Google, Primark, Baileys/Diageo, Adare Manor, and the Galway International Arts Festival. This year's line-up has been equally impressive, with students engaging with experts from Glenlo Abbey Hotel & Estate, Belle Hair, Dublin Airport, Ireland's Association for Adventure Tourism, and Connacht Rugby, soaking up industry secrets and real-world strategies.

These masterclasses aren't just about learning—they're about networking, inspiration, and launching future careers in the dynamic worlds of tourism, hospitality, and events.

Want to be part of the action? Explore ATU's exciting course offerings at atu.ie/AU532 and start your journey to industry success!

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

BUSINESS

Adding experience to the equation

Think a business degree is all theory and textbooks? Think again. At ATU Galway, students don't just learn about the business world—they step into it.

Work placement is a key feature of Business degrees at the School of Business in ATU Galway City. Students on programmes such as Marketing and Sales, Business Information Systems, Entrepreneurship, and Agri-Business Management complete an industry placement as part of their degree. And from next year, students on the Digital Accounting and Finance & Economics degrees will also spend Semester 2 of Year 3

gaining hands-on experience in the workplace.

Dr Seamus Lennon, Head of the School of Business at ATU Galway City, explains:

“Industrial placement has been a feature of most of our Business programmes for many years, and from next year our Year 3 students of Digital Accounting and Finance & Economics will have a semester-long industrial placement. They will join students on other programmes where placement is already well established. We find that many students return to the business where they completed their work placement for their first

job after graduation, and overall work placement is a fantastic experience for our students.”

In Ireland, over 60% of large graduate employers use internships or placement programmes to source future hires, according to the

gradireland employer survey 2023. That means a placement is more than just experience—it could be your first step into a full-time role.

To find out more about Business degrees at ATU Galway, visit atu.ie/AU600



Digital Accounting degree unlocks major exemptions

ATU Galway City's Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Digital Accounting has received advanced exemptions from Chartered Accountants Ireland, making it one of just two programmes in the country to offer exemptions at

the CAP2 level. It is the only degree in Ireland to provide three exemptions at this stage. These exemptions allow graduates to progress more quickly through professional accountancy qualifications, saving both time and money

on their route to becoming a chartered accountant.

Dr Seamus Lennon, Head of the School of Business at ATU Galway City, says the recognition reflects the strength and relevance of the programme.

“Our graduates will really benefit with these additional exemptions awarded to the Digital Accounting degree. The degree itself is unique in that it covers subjects such as accounting, business and digital business, and graduates can expect to develop careers in accounting, business, data analytics, blockchain and many other areas of the digital economy.”

The degree has also received positive feedback from the profession. Aidan Clifford, Technical Director

with ACCA Ireland, one of the world's largest professional accountancy bodies, said: “The Digital Accounting degree will provide the skills that add value and support decision-making for future business leaders. The degree will ensure that graduates start working at the higher end of the value chain immediately on graduation, and they will be very much in demand by employers.”

Blending accounting, technology and future-focused learning, this degree prepares students for a wide range of careers in the fast-moving digital economy.

To learn more about the Digital Accounting degree at ATU Galway City, visit atu.ie/AU607



Business graduate honoured at ATU Alumni Awards



When you join ATU, you become part of a community that extends far beyond the classroom—one that includes graduates making a real impact across Ireland and beyond. One such graduate is Enda McGuane, who was recently awarded the Alumni Award in Business at ATU's inaugural Alumni Awards.

Now Head of Asset Management at the Land Development Agency, Enda's career spans both public and private sectors. He served for 14 years in the Irish Defence Forces, including UN peacekeeping missions in East Timor and Lebanon, and now plays a key role in shaping national housing and land strategy.

Enda's journey is a powerful reminder that being part of the ATU community means staying connected to a network of graduates who lead with purpose and continue to shape the world around them.

To learn more about business programmes at ATU Galway City, visit atu.ie/business

Deloitte Galway visit enhances ATU audit class experience



ATU Galway's Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Accounting students were given a firsthand glimpse into the world of professional auditing during a recent visit from Deloitte Galway. The event marked the second session of the Audit Simulation Project, designed to immerse students in real-world audit practices.

The session saw students working in small, collaborative teams, tackling a detailed case study that mirrored the complexities of client audits. Guided by Deloitte professionals, participants navigated the intricacies of audit procedures, gaining practical insights into industry challenges and best practices.

ATU Galway extended its gratitude to Deloitte for their continued support and commitment to student learning. The partnership exemplifies a strong link between academia and industry, preparing the next generation of auditors with skills grounded in real-world application.

ATU Business student in the running for management award



Daniel Collins, a final-year Business student at ATU Galway City, has been named a finalist for the gradireland Management Undergraduate of the Year Awards 2025. These awards recognise students from across Ireland who show great leadership skills, strong academic results, and a real interest in management.

Daniel got to join other finalists at Lidl Ireland's Head Office, where they took part in group tasks, interviews, and networking activities. The event, run by gradireland, helps connect top students with big-name employers.

Speaking about the experience, Daniel said he loved meeting the other finalists and getting the chance to engage with Lidl's leadership team. The overall winner of the award will be announced later this year—best of luck, Daniel!

Interested in Business at ATU? Check out atu.ie/AU601

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

GALWAY CITY WELLPARK ROAD

Graduate artist in residence at Galway Arts Centre

Atlantic Technological University is proud to congratulate Taim Haimet, a graduate of ATU's BA (Hons) in Contemporary Art, on being awarded the Galway Arts Centre ATU Graduate Artist in Residence Award 2024. The residency is generously supported by the Galway City Arts Office and offers an invaluable opportunity for emerging artists to further develop their practice in a supportive and professional environment.

Taim is a highly accomplished multidisciplinary artist whose work spans a wide range of media including sculpture, digital media and ceramics.

Her creative talent and commitment to her practice have already been widely recognised. In 2023, she was awarded a residency with 126 Artist-Run Gallery in Galway, a significant milestone for early-career artists, as well as being selected for the highly regarded RDS Visual Arts Awards, a national platform celebrating excellence among Ireland's emerging visual artists.

This latest accolade is a testament to Taim's growth within the Irish arts community, and ATU is delighted to support her on this exciting new chapter.

Want to learn more about Art? Visit atu.ie/AU618



Design your future

The BA in Design (Common Entry) at ATU Galway City's Wellpark campus offers students a flexible and creative start to their design journey. This three-year Level 7 degree begins with a broad introduction to key design areas, giving students the chance to explore Product Design, Interior Design, Graphic Design & Illustration, and Textile & Fashion Design before choosing a specialisation.

In the first semester, students take core modules such as Digital Media, Design Studio, and Introduction to Design Pathways. By the second semester, they select their preferred area of focus,

ensuring they can tailor their degree to their interests and career ambitions.

The programme balances traditional and modern design skills, with modules in Photography, Digital Media, Design History, and Creative Problem Solving. Students also gain valuable business and entrepreneurial knowledge, preparing them for the competitive and evolving design industry.

A standout feature of the course is its focus on real-world experience, including a full year of professional practice. This can take the form of industry placements, international study, or campus-based projects in collaboration



with industry partners, ensuring graduates leave with the creative, technical, and professional skills needed to succeed.

Graduates of the programme can progress to Level 8

honours degrees in their chosen specialisation, opening doors to a wide range of careers in the design sector. Ready to explore your creative potential? Find out more at atu.ie/AU519

Students explore AI in Finland

In March, nine student teachers and two faculty staff from ATU Wellpark travelled to Finland to participate in the Erasmus+ funded Blended Intensive Programme Project: Artificial Intelligence for Teachers. This international course aimed to help future educators explore the use of AI in the classroom, while fostering collaboration across cultures.

ATU students joined peers from Hanze University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands and Tampere University of Applied Sciences in Finland. The programme combined online learning with a week-long visit to Tampere, where students deepened their knowledge of AI tools, applications, and ethical considerations in education.

Throughout the week, students worked together to design and deliver

presentations using AI-enhanced digital tools, gaining valuable hands-on experience. They also visited local schools and universities to observe Finland's renowned education system in action.

Beyond the classroom, the group enjoyed a true Finnish experience—attending an ice hockey match, relaxing

in a traditional sauna, and even braving an icy lake dip!

This unforgettable exchange offered students both professional and cultural insights, while strengthening international partnerships. Next year's programme is set to take place at Hanze University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands.



CREW celebrates its first anniversary

CREW (Creative Enterprise West), based at ATU Galway City's Wellpark Road campus, is celebrating one year as a dynamic innovation hub for the digital creative industries in the west and northwest of Ireland.

Since opening in April 2024, CREW has supported entrepreneurs in animation, film, game development, immersive media, design, and digital arts, offering mentorship, training, infrastructure, and enterprise development.

In its inaugural year, CREW has made a significant impact by delivering four incubation programmes, supporting 31 entrepreneurs across nine counties. It has collaborated with 36 national and international partners on 24 projects and hosted over 50 events, welcoming more than 2,200 visitors.

Minister Dara Calleary, TD, marked the anniversary, praising CREW's achievements: "The momentum and community that have taken shape here are inspiring. Hubs like CREW support local talent, open new job pathways, and help Irish creative industries thrive internationally."

Paddy Tobin, Chair of the CREW Board and Head of the School of Design & Creative Arts at ATU, highlighted the hub's role as a catalyst for regional growth: "CREW continues to drive the development of the digital creative industries in our region."

Enterprise Ireland's Meabh Conaghan also commended CREW's role as a "driver of innovation and growth" and looks forward to continued collaboration.

Interested in joining or learning more? Visit atu.ie/crew to discover how you can get involved.

Innovative wearable reaches final of Spark Innovation Programme



A final-year student at ATU Galway City's Wellpark campus, Shania Taite, is making waves in the world of design and innovation with her final-year project for the BA in Design (Industrial Design). Shania's project focuses on developing a sleek, minimalistic wearable device and accompanying app aimed at supporting women's health, specifically mental health, hormonal balance, and overall well-being.

Shania's work has already gained significant recognition, earning her a place in the final 12 applicants of The Spark Innovation Programme, a student scholarship initiative supporting emerging innovators and consolidating ongoing collaboration between the Design and Healthcare communities. As a finalist, she has received €1,000 in funding to further develop her idea and prepare to pitch it to a panel of judges on May 30th.

This achievement highlights the creativity, problem-solving, and real-world application skills nurtured in ATU's Design programme, where students are encouraged to design with empathy, purpose, and innovation. Interested in studying Design at ATU? Learn more at atu.ie/AU519

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

CONNEMARA

Innovation on display at 2025 Industry Day



The ATU Connemara campus recently hosted its annual Industry Day, where students from the Furniture Design and Manufacture programme exhibited their work to visiting professionals and members of the wider design community.

The event highlighted the creativity and innovation of the student projects, which focused on themes such as sustainable design, craftsmanship, and collaborative problem-solving. Guests had the opportunity to view student work up close, speak with the designers, and engage with staff and lecturers on the ideas behind the projects.

The day served as a platform to celebrate student talent and foster stronger connections between the university and industry. The event was well attended by employers and collaborators from across the design and furniture-making sector, reflecting the programme’s renowned reputation.

Industry Day also plays an important role in preparing students for life after graduation, offering them valuable feedback and exposure to professional expectations within the field.

To find out more about the BSc (Hons) in Furniture Design and Manufacture at ATU Connemara, visit atu.ie/AU681

Recognition for students at Wood Awards Ireland 2024

Students from ATU Connemara and ATU Galway City’s School of Design & Creative Arts were recently highly commended at the Wood Awards Ireland 2024 for their innovative Connecting Communities project.

The project was completed by second-year students on the BSc in Furniture Design & Manufacture programme. Congratulations to Isabel Robinson, Eoin Dalton, Melissa Shiel and Ciarán Gell, whose work stood out for both its design excellence and global impact.

The team designed and built outdoor furniture for the local community in Clifden, using FSC-certified tropical hardwood that had been sustainably harvested by the community of Itacoatiara in the Amazon Rainforest. As part of their learning journey, the students also travelled to Uaxactún, Guatemala, where they visited working rainforests and collaborated with local furniture makers.

The project brought together creativity, sustainability and cultural exchange. It reflects the hands-on, community-engaged ethos of the Furniture Design & Manufacture course, which blends traditional craft with contemporary environmental thinking. To learn more about the BSc (Hons) in Furniture Design & Manufacture at ATU, visit atu.ie/AU681



Rooted in action: ATU Connemara plants 250 native trees

ATU students, staff, and community members recently came together to plant 250 native trees in the Community Native Woodland at Connemara National Park—continuing a long-standing commitment to biodiversity and environmental action in the region.

This tree planting event is part of an initiative that began in 2013. Since then, more than 6,000 native trees have been planted on the 2.5-hectare site beside the ATU Connemara campus. These native woodlands support local ecosystems, provide a natural learning environment for students, and contribute to broader efforts around sustainability.

Programmes at ATU Connemara focus on teacher education, furniture design, manufacture, and wood technology, and are deeply connected to sustainability through their emphasis on natural materials and environmentally conscious design. Students learn to work with timber responsibly, and for those in teacher education, this approach encourages a mindset they can bring into their future classrooms and pass on to the next generation of learners. To keep up with sustainability initiatives and student life in Connemara, follow [@atuconnemara](https://www.instagram.com/atuconnemara) on Instagram.

Made at ATU: Student designs on display

Each year, the ATU Connemara campus hosts its Student Furniture Exhibition, offering a public showcase of the creativity and craftsmanship emerging from the BSc in Furniture Design and Manufacture programme.

The exhibition is a highlight of the academic calendar and celebrates the skill, innovation and dedication of ATU Connemara’s furniture design students. Visitors have the opportunity to explore an impressive selection of student work, ranging from traditional woodworking projects to contemporary design pieces that reflect current trends in sustainability, usability and aesthetics.

Each item on display represents months of hands-on learning, design development and workshop hours. The exhibition provides an ideal opportunity for students to present their final-year work to friends, family and industry professionals—and for future applicants, it offers a glimpse into the kind of work they could one day create.

Whether you’re passionate about design, thinking about studying furniture craft, or simply curious to see some of Ireland’s emerging talent in the field, the Student Furniture Exhibition at ATU Connemara is not to be missed.

Student wins national Sean Nós title



Ronan Nee, a student of the BSc (Hons) in Education (Design, Graphics and Construction) at ATU, has danced his way to national recognition, winning first place in the Oireachtas Senior Sean Nós Dancing Competition held recently in Killarney.

Also flying the flag for ATU was fellow student Conall Ó Mainín, who performed impressively in the same competition. Both students are based across ATU’s Connemara and Galway City (Wellpark Road) campuses.

The Oireachtas festival is one of the most prestigious events celebrating traditional Irish language, music and dance, and Ronan’s achievement highlights the depth of talent among ATU’s student community.

Congratulations to both Ronan and Conall on representing their campuses with pride and rhythm!

To learn more about the BSc (Hons) in Education (Design, Graphics and Construction), visit atu.ie/AU680

From Johannesburg to Letterfrack

KC Croucamp, a student on the BSc in Furniture Design & Manufacture at ATU Connemara, has travelled a long way, both geographically and academically to pursue a passion for hands-on design and craftsmanship.

Originally from Johannesburg, South Africa, KC completed A Levels in Art & Design, Business Studies, and English Language through a micro-school called Alpha Study Centre. While researching third-level options, one course stood out.

“ATU was the only university I found offering a BSc in furniture making and hands-on woodworking,” KC says. “The school also offered great support to international students during the application process.”

Now studying at ATU’s National Centre for Excellence in Furniture Design and Technology in Letterfrack, KC has embraced student life and encourages others to do the same.

“My advice to new students is to make use of the #First5Weeks—it’s the best time to make friends in your course. Working with classmates helps keep you motivated, and you can support each other through challenges.”

KC’s story highlights the global reach and supportive community of ATU Connemara, where creativity, craft, and collaboration come together in one of the most unique design campuses in Ireland.



ATU GALWAY-MAYO

MOUNTBELLEW

New name for Agri-Business Management programme



Agriculture, food production and environmental management are just a few of Ireland's key industries, and gaining a degree in this area opens up a host of career options. This programme will enable the learner to improve their general business knowledge and understanding and develop business skills, particularly as they apply to the rural enterprise and agri-business sector.

The aim of the BBus (Hons) in Agri-Business Management is to provide the learner with a business education that emphasises the importance of rural enterprise and agri-business by developing an understanding of the theory, concepts and methods as well as the practical implementation of a range of skills and tools in these areas.

Graduates will be well prepared to

operate in a variety of managerial and administrative positions in rural and agri-enterprises or to become self-employed. Graduates can progress to a variety of work in agri-business and agricultural services, for example, in marketing, information processing, administration and management posts, and various employment opportunities in rural development.

Passion for dry stock and dairy management fuelled by hands-on farm experience

Evan Maher is a student of our Agri-Business Management course in ATU Mountbellew's campus. We had a chat with Evan about some of the aspects of his course that he enjoys.

"I really enjoyed studying advanced dry stock management, advanced dairy management, and the marketing module during the first semester of the second year. We finish cattle on my home farm, so I found the beef aspect of dry stock management especially engaging. Dairy management also stood out to me, given that most farms in my area are involved in dairying.

The work placement we go on in the 2nd year is beneficial to learn what sector of the agri-business industry you want to go into after graduation.

The Mountbellew campus is small, which helps develop personal relationships with students and lecturers, both of whom are happy to help with any questions or concerns you may have.

I took part in the inter-agricultural college hurling league this year in both 7 and 15 aside competitions. We won both of these games. It was great to represent ATU and brilliant craic!

The range of skills you learn with this course is so broad that it's hard to pinpoint one big career goal, as you could go in nearly any direction in the agricultural or business industries. But I could see myself opening my own business at some point in the future." If you want to learn more about Evan's course, visit: atu.ie/AU606



Ewe stuns Mountbellew with birth of quintuplets



In a surprising twist of nature, an ewe at the ATU Mountbellew campus on the outskirts of Galway City gave birth to five wonderful and healthy lambs in March – something that almost never happens! While twins and triplets are fairly common in sheep, having quintuplets is incredibly rare and the birth left everyone shocked.

While four of the lambs were able to feed from their mom, the smallest of the group is being bottle fed to ensure he becomes as strong as his siblings.

ATU Mountbellew is one of Ireland's leading educational institutes offering undergraduate programmes in conjunction with ATU Galway City in agri-business, agri-engineering and agri-science.

With a total area of 120 hectares, students benefit from practical, hands-on experience gained on our working farm. Livestock and fully functioning farm facilities such as a milking parlour, grain store, sheep and cattle housing facilities, and handling facilities, mean students gain first-hand experience of the modern forms of equipment they can expect to encounter in their future careers.

New simulators enhance agricultural training



Agricultural education is getting a major boost with the introduction of new equipment. Students now have access to cutting-edge simulators and learning tools that make hands-on training more engaging, especially for those with little or no background in agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture has announced the investment of €320,000 in seven ewe simulators for use by students completing agricultural training courses. The new simulators are being used by students completing courses at the agricultural colleges and at the Teagasc Sheep Research and Innovation Centre, Athenry, Co Galway.

The simulators are also available to students at universities and technological universities who use these facilities for practical learning and to farmer groups who wish to improve their lambing skills.

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

MAYO

Students complete climbing wall instructor training

Students from Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Mayo recently completed a Climbing Wall Instructor (CWI) training course at the Suas Climbing Centre in Clare, marking a significant achievement in their outdoor education journey. The training was conducted by Brian Bateson, a respected figure in the climbing community, who provided participants with comprehensive instruction on safety, technique, and group management.

The Climbing Wall Instructor certification is nationally recognised and equips students to safely lead climbing sessions on artificial climbing structures. It is a key qualification for those seeking roles in climbing gyms, adventure centres, and outdoor education settings. Graduates of the program are well-positioned to pursue careers as climbing instructors, adventure guides, or outdoor educators, contributing to the growing demand for qualified professionals in these fields.

Interested in Outdoor Education? Learn more here, atu.ie/AU590



Nursing students host cancer awareness event

General Nursing students in ATU Mayo hosted a public information Cancer Awareness event on Thursday, 27 March, from 10am to 1pm on campus as part of their degree studies module "Oncology, End of Life and Palliative Care". The event was hosted by staff and students in the Dept of Nursing, Health Science and Integrated Care in partnership with the Irish Cancer Society.

The third-year students learned the key characteristics of the main groups of cancers including methods of screening, detection, diagnosis and staging of cancer diseases. This event was an opportunity to share this information and knowledge with the public.

Aoife Petrie, lecturer, Department of Nursing, Health Science and Integrated Care, says: "The students had stands about six different types of cancer and what to



look out for. Early detection and intervention significantly improve survival rates. By raising awareness and providing valuable information, we hope to empower

individuals to take proactive steps in their health journey."

Learn more about General Nursing here: atu.ie/AU690

It's a no brainer, ATU Psychology now accredited

Thinking about a career in psychology? ATU's got your back. The BSc (Hons) in Psychology has officially been accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI)—a major milestone for the programme and great news for current and future students.

This initial accreditation, valid from 2024 to 2026, marks a strong endorsement of the course's quality just over a year after it launched. Full accreditation is expected to follow a review in 2026. PSI accreditation is an important step for anyone hoping to pursue a career in psychology. Students who complete an accredited undergraduate degree are eligible to apply for postgraduate training in a wide range of specialisations within the field.

Dr Justin Kerr, Head of School at ATU Mayo, said:

"This recognition is a testament to the

quality of our programme, our dedicated staff, and the hard work of our students. It opens up real opportunities for our graduates."

Dr Elaine McHugh, Psychology Lecturer, added: "We designed the course with PSI standards in mind from the start. Our students graduate with a strong academic foundation and real-world knowledge of psychology in action."

The course offers small class sizes and close interaction with lecturers, alongside expertise in areas like clinical psychology, cognition, child development, addiction and disability.

The course is accredited until 2026, when it will be reviewed again for full accreditation.

To learn more about the Psychology degree at ATU Mayo, visit atu.ie/psychology

Early Childhood students bring learning to life on the beach!



Students in ATU's Early Childhood Education and Care programme are getting hands-on experience through creative community events — and one of the highlights is the Family Beach Day at Grattan Beach in Galway.

Organised by third-year students in collaboration with Galway Atlantaquaria, 'Exploring the Shores' brings families together for a day of outdoor fun and discovery. Children get up close with local marine life and take part in playful, interactive activities along the shore. It's a chance to learn about the ocean in a relaxed and engaging setting and it's one of the most talked-about events of the year.

Events like this are part of the course's real-world assessments, helping students build confidence and practical skills while making real connections with the community. From a gentle Halloween Story Trail to a festive Christmas campus celebration and a woodland Outdoor Play Day in Mayo, the course puts play at the heart of learning.

Over 400 families have taken part across the year, with many returning again and again. These projects allow students to step into their future careers while spreading joy — and learning — to young children and their families.

Think a career in Early Childhood Education might be for you? Discover the course at atu.ie/AU695

ATU Mayo students attend national social care conference

ATU Mayo Social Care students recently had the opportunity to attend the Social Care Ireland Conference, held on April 2nd and 3rd at the Fairways Hotel in Dundalk. Organised by Social Care Ireland—the national professional body for social care workers—the event provided valuable insight into the evolving role of social care across Ireland.

Thanks to ongoing support from IASCE Ireland and Dr Deirdre Garvey, Head of the Department of Environmental, Humanities and Social Sciences at ATU Mayo, third-year Social Care students are invited each year to enter a competition for the chance to attend. This year, students Rhona Kavanagh and Kasia Domagala won the competition with a video entry and were joined at the conference by ATU Social Care staff Teresa Fahy and

Paula Lenehan.

The event featured talks and workshops on advocacy, collaboration, ethical challenges, reflective practice, and trauma-informed approaches. Students described the experience as inspiring and informative, providing both practical tools for placement and study, and a renewed sense of belonging to the social care profession.

Networking opportunities allowed students to connect with experienced practitioners and hear first-hand about the realities of frontline work. The experience reaffirmed the importance of staying engaged with current issues in the sector and highlighted the value of continuous learning beyond the classroom.

Interested in studying Social Care? Visit atu.ie/AU696

ATU GALWAY-MAYO

STUDENT LIFE

Things to do in Galway and Mayo

Located on the outskirts of Galway City, the Dublin Road and Wellpark Road campuses are within walking distance to Galway City. One of the friendliest cities in Ireland, you will be greeted with a smile by Galway folk while you walk down bustling Shop Street in the heart of the city. Galway offers a range of

international cuisines from Asian, Mexican and of course traditional Irish dishes. With a vibrant nightlife and plenty of choice for pubs, you are guaranteed a great night out in Galway – of course a trip to Supermacs is mandatory afterwards!

Just a stones throw from Galway City is Salthill, a lively city suburb



with sandy beaches and the famous Blackrock Diving Tower, there's plenty of activities to take part in when you are looking for a break from your study. Continuing out the Wild Atlantic Way, there's tons of scenery to see as you drive through the winding roads and hills of Connemara. Located beside the beautiful Connemara National Park

and Diamond Hill, sits next to our Letterfrack campus. If you are a lover of sunrises, there's no better place to be than the top of Diamond Hill, taking it all in.

Coming back across Galway City and taking a trip out to the countryside is Mountbellew, home to Ireland's first Agricultural college. A gorgeous townland, with

a 120-hectare dairy farm, you will need your brown boots out here. Mountbellew's night life is relaxed and enjoyable.

Taking a trip up the road to our Castlebar Campus in Mayo, an up-and-coming town in the west of Ireland. Home to great shopping and tasty restaurants, you won't be lost for things to do up here!

GALWAY

EVENTS CALENDAR

Below is just a taste of the variety of events and festivals which take place in Galway.

St Nicholas Markets	Every Saturday
Umbrella Le Cheile Artisan's Market	3rd Sunday of Month
Galway Ceili Club	Every Monday
Galway Love Festival	March
Claregalway Castle Spring Garden, Craft & Food Fair	April
Cúirt International Festival of Literature	April
Bealtaine Festival	May
A Taste of May Food Festival	May
Galway Theatre Festival	May
Fleadh na gCuach Festival	May
An Tóstal Salthill Festival	May
Trad on the Prom	May
Éalú Le Grá Glamping Music Festival	June
Salthill Fives,	June
Galway Folk Festival	June
Galway Uke Fest	June
Galway Film Fleadh	July
Galway Fringe Festival	July
Galway International Arts Festival	July
Galway Races	July / August
Galway Pride Festival	August
Galway Heritage Week,	August
Galway International Oyster & Seafood Festival	September
Galway Comedy Festival	October



Accommodation in Galway & Mayo

For many students, university means moving to a new town or city and trying to find accommodation for the first time. Therefore, finding the accommodation right for you is important. Whether you are moving to Galway City, Mayo, Connemara or Mountbellew you will be living in a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable area.

Types of Accommodation

Accommodation options for students include private rented accommodation, or purpose-built student villages.

Private Rented Accommodation

www.atustudentpad.ie provides a list of the different types of accommodation (houses, flats, full and partial board), available near the Galway, Mayo, Letterfrack, and Mountbellew campuses.

Student Villages

Several purpose-built student villages are near ATU's Galway and Mayo campuses.

These student villages are owned and run by private operators not vetted or approved by ATU or ATU Students Union.

Galway Student Villages

Glasán - www.glasan.com
Cúirt na Rásai - cuiirtnarasai.com
Ceann Bóirne - atustudentaccommodation.com

Mayo Student Villages

Hawthorn Village - hawthornvillage.ie

Connemara Student Villages

Áras Ghuaire - letterfrackaccommodation.com

ATU DONEGAL

BUSINESS STUDIES

Local student finds success closer to home at ATU Donegal

Lisa Gallagher began her third-level studies further afield but soon realised she wanted to be closer to home in Donegal. "I'm a home bird," she says, adding that being near family gave her more financial freedom to enjoy a better work-life balance.

After reassessing her options, Lisa chose the Marketing with Online Technologies degree at ATU Donegal. "I've always had a flair for business, and this programme really suits my outgoing personality," she says.

Lisa thrived in the course, particularly enjoying the analytics modules and real-world projects. "We worked with companies on marketing strategies and SEO improvements," she explains.

Supportive lecturers, strong industry links, and practical experience have boosted her confidence as well as her CV.

To anyone considering ATU, go for it. It's the best decision I've made," Lisa concludes.

To learn more about our Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Marketing with Online Technologies, visit atu.ie/AU302



From first class honours to first class business

Graduation Day marked a major milestone for Luke Johnston as he celebrated earning a first-class honours degree from ATU and opened his new venture, Luca's Restaurant, that very same night in October 2018.

After completing his Leaving Certificate at the Royal and Prior College in Raphoe, Luke pursued a Bachelor of Business (Honours) at ATU. "I loved the course from the start. Having grown up in family businesses, I was eager to build on my skills."

His time at ATU gave him a strong foundation in accountancy, marketing, and management, all of which he now applies daily while running Luca's, a thriving restaurant in Letterkenny. "ATU's support, especially through The Curve (The Learning Support Unit which offers invaluable advice and support to a diverse range of students and operates an open-door policy at all times), helped me develop academically and professionally."

Today, Luke manages a team of 12-15 and has since opened several restaurants alongside his family and continues to grow his businesses. "I look back fondly on ATU and the experiences that shaped



my journey. I couldn't speak highly enough of it."

To find out more about the Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Business, visit atu.ie/AU301

Inspired by opportunity in Marketing



Niamh Conaghan chose the Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Marketing with Online Technologies at Atlantic Technological University (ATU) after carefully researching options across Ireland. "I looked at every college to see what was on offer, but I kept coming back to the marketing course at ATU," she says. The course appealed to her not only because it could be completed in just three years, but also because it offered a Level 8 Honours degree and a broad range of engaging modules.

Initially uncertain about her future, Niamh felt overwhelmed by the choices ahead. "I was so unsure of what I wanted to do and felt lost," she recalls. However, as she explored potential career paths in marketing, she began to see a clear direction. What ultimately won her over was the versatility of marketing and how it could be applied to a range of industries and career paths.

"Marketing isn't just about creativity although that's part of it. There are also roles that are more analytical or numbers-driven," she explains. For Niamh, the wide variety of career opportunities was the deciding factor. With strong job prospects and a dynamic, ever-evolving industry, marketing provided a path that matched both her interests and her goals.

To find out more about our BBus (Hons) in Marketing with Online Technologies visit atu.ie/AU302

Business honours where I belong



Starting university can be a big change, but for Niamh King, a first-year student at ATU Donegal, the transition was smoother than expected. Although none of her classmates from secondary school joined her in the same programme, group assignments and presentations helped her quickly make new friends.

Outside the classroom, student life has been a highlight. Niamh enjoys studying in the library with friends, going to the gym, and being an active member of the Cheer Society and Student Ambassador Team which helped her connect with students outside her programme.

"I took Leaving Cert Accounting and that made me want to learn more about the business world," Niamh explains. "I specifically chose the course in ATU Donegal because I've lived here my whole life, and it had exactly what I was looking for."

Niamh is studying a three-year Business Honours degree, with the option of a one year added work placement. "The course is filled with valuable content, and the career office and Erasmus office will help prepare you for work placement," she adds.

Looking ahead, Niamh feels confident: "I know more will be expected next year, but I feel ready."

Find out more about the BBus (Hons) in Business at atu.ie/AU301.

ATU DONEGAL

DESIGN AND CREATIVE MEDIA

Success for animation students at national Smarter Travel Awards

Each year the 2nd Year Animation students entered the 'Smarter Travel Student Awards'. This initiative invites students from across Ireland to create projects relevant to their course discipline, promoting the use of more sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling, public transport and carpooling.

This year, ATU Donegal animation students scooped 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the Animation category at the Smarter Travel Student Awards at the Lighthouse Cinema in Dublin on Thursday 24th April. The winning film, 'The Pathway Ahead', wowed the judges who praised the playfulness of their storytelling and the use of colour to emphasise the joy of cycling.

'The Pathway Ahead' was produced by 2nd year Animation students Tea Pajukanta, Emmi Lukkari, Billie Jean Lynch and Jessica Moore.

Entries were judged by an independent judging panel who are



experts in their industry. Academic staff from third-level colleges are encouraged to get involved with the Student Awards by incorporating

Smarter Travel into their coursework.

To find out more about the animation programme visit atu.ie/AU331

Launch of five new Design and Creative Media programmes to inspire the next generation of creatives

Atlantic Technological University (ATU) is proud to announce the launch of four innovative Level 8 programmes and one Level 7 programme in the field of design and creative media. These new offerings are designed to meet the growing demand for skilled professionals in the creative industries and to nurture the next generation of talent in Ireland and beyond.

The five new programmes available on the Letterkenny campus are:

- BA (Hons) in Animation (AU331)
- BA (Hons) in Film & Media Promotion (AU332)
- BA (Hons) in Graphic Design & Illustration (AU333)
- BA (Hons) in Fashion Design with Promotion (AU334)
- BA Design (Common Entry) (AU234)

These dynamic programmes offer students a chance to develop industry-ready skills while fostering their creative expression in a supportive and forward-thinking environment.

In addition, ATU Donegal is introducing a new Level 7 Bachelor of Arts Design Common Entry degree programme for those with a passion for creative media but who are still exploring their ideal specialisation. This pathway allows students to sample subjects across the four disciplines before choosing their

preferred area of focus, providing flexibility and a broader understanding of the creative field.

"These new programmes reflect our commitment to anticipating the evolving career landscape for creatives, and providing our students with relevant and high-quality education," said Dr Lorna Ross, Head of Department of Design and Creative Media at ATU Donegal. We're excited to welcome a new cohort of students to our campus this September and to guide them in their journey as they explore and master the skills and mindset to thrive in this dynamic industry.

"Understanding that creativity is not

always taught, we have removed the need for a Portfolio or Leaving Cert Art/ Design from the Entry Requirements for 4 or the 5 programmes (animation will still require these)", says Lorna.

Applications to join these programmes are made through the CAO. The CAO Change of Mind window opened on the 6th of May. This allows applicants to edit and move around their programme choices. The facility is free and can be used as many times as you like.

For more information on course content, entry requirements, and how to apply, visit www.atu.ie or contact cao@atu.ie



Design and Creative Media students showcase talent at Animation Dingle Festival



Students from the Department of Design and Creative Media travelled to Dingle recently to the Animation Dingle Festival. This animation event brings together industry experts and students and creates an opportunity to meet people from all over the world and celebrate the industry and creativity.

Third-year Animation student Daria Hres was honoured with the RTÉ Jr Award for Best Sting for their standout creation, 'Star Collector' at the prestigious Animation Dingle Festival.

Adding to the university's success, first-year Animation student Eoghan Bonner received a high commendation in the Young Animator of the Year competition for their impressive film, 'My Passion'.

Daria, Eoghan and other students from the Department represented ATU at the Festival with a number of animated stings and student films being screened in the competition. The students were accompanied by lecturer Cormac O'Kane.

"It's incredibly rewarding to see our students' work recognised on such a prominent platform," said Cormac. "Their dedication and creativity truly shine through, and bringing these awards back to the university is a tremendous achievement."

To find out more about these programmes, visit: animation – atu.ie/AU331, film and media production – atu.ie/AU332, graphic design and illustration – atu.ie/AU333, and fashion design with promotion – atu.ie/AU334

Fashion students inspired by Irish linen showcase and industry insights in Derry



Fashion students were treated to an inspiring day of creativity and innovation at the Fashion Hub in Derry, where designer Bridie Mullin delivered an insightful talk on beautifully crafted Irish linen fashion. The event, organised with support from Derry Designer Makers and Number 19 Craft and Design, highlighted the region's strong heritage in textiles and its bright future.

Students also explored contemporary design works and engaged with sustainable approaches to fashion. Shipquay Fabrics hosted the enthusiastic group, allowing for a hands-on look at materials and techniques.

A key highlight of the day was a visit to Hunter Apparel Solutions, where attendees learned about the integration of technology, garment care, repair, and forward-thinking design in the fashion industry, offering a glimpse into a promising and sustainable future for apparel.

To find out more about our BA (Hons) in Fashion with Promotion visit atu.ie/AU334

ATU DONEGAL

LAW, PUBLIC SERVICE & EDUCATION

Supreme Court sits at ATU in first visit to a technological university



In a historic first, the Supreme Court of Ireland convened on the Letterkenny campus of ATU, marking a significant moment for both the university and the Irish judicial system.

This is the first time the Supreme Court has visited a Technological University. The event featured legal seminars, panel discussions, and student engagement sessions aimed at demystifying the role of

Ireland's highest court and promoting access to justice.

ATU President Dr Orla Flynn welcomed the judges and noted the visit's lasting impact on law students: "The opportunity to engage directly with the Supreme Court brings the law to life in a real and inspiring way."

Chief Justice Donal O'Donnell, joined by fellow Supreme Court judges, participated in seminars on

juvenile justice, employment law, and the judiciary's role in a modern democracy. He also delivered a presentation on the Court's history and its evolving function in Irish society.

The visit continues an outreach initiative started by former Chief Justice Susan Denham in 2015 to bring the Court beyond Dublin and closer to communities across Ireland.

The occasion underlined the importance of regional legal education and the role of institutions like ATU in fostering a more accessible justice system. With a legacy in legal studies dating back to the 1970s, ATU continues to prioritise experiential learning through initiatives such as mock trials and virtual courts.

To find out more about ATU Law programmes visits www.atu.ie

Secondary school students experience the courtroom during Street Law mock trials

120 enthusiastic secondary school students took part in an engaging and educational day at ATU's Letterkenny campus during the 'Street Law Mock Trials' event, hosted by third-year law students. These third-year law students

delivered a six-week street law module to the secondary school students in preparation for the mock trial event.

The interactive experience offered students a real-world glimpse into the legal profession, featuring a fully staged

courtroom complete with a judge, jury, and mock trial. Participants were assigned roles, presented arguments, and gained first hand insight into courtroom procedures and the justice system.

The event provided a dynamic and hands-on opportunity for students to explore their interest in law. A wide range of interesting arguments were presented throughout the day, and, with the help of the student-led judiciary, courtroom order was firmly maintained by the end of each session.

ATU extended thanks to the six local secondary schools who joined the initiative and congratulated the standout performers and winners of the mock trials.

This event forms part of ATU's commitment to encouraging early engagement in legal education. Those interested in pursuing law at ATU can explore programmes in Corporate Law (AU311), LLB (AU310), and Law with Criminal Justice (AU210). For more information, visit atu.ie.



Creative showcase highlights talent of Communication and English students



The BA (Hons) in Communication and English students at ATU Donegal's Letterkenny campus hosted an impressive Creative Showcase, celebrating the work of the second-year cohort.

The event featured a vibrant display of creative outputs, including original writing recitals, commercial videos, and advertising imagery. It provided a platform for students to present their creative and professional talents to an enthusiastic audience.

The general promotion and artwork for the event was created by first year students from the programme. Staff and students worked together to bring this inspiring event to life.

To find out more about applying to the BA (Hons) in Communication with English, visit atu.ie/AU312

Ashleigh White aims for writing career



Ashleigh White, a final year student at ATU, is pursuing a Communications with English degree. She was drawn to the course after discovering how well it aligned with her love for English and the strong reputation of the university. Initially, she hadn't considered communications but now appreciates its importance in various career paths.

Ashleigh's favourite modules include 'The Novel,' in first year where she explored literature and participated in insightful class discussions, and creative writing, which inspired her dissertation. She enjoys the diverse range of modules, from law to teaching English as a foreign language, and values the close-knit class environment that allows for personal interaction with lecturers.

Her advice to first-year students is to engage in class discussions, join clubs and societies, and manage reading workloads effectively. After graduation, Ashleigh plans to explore careers in writing, with interests in journalism and marketing.

To find out more about applying to the BA (Hons) in Communication with English, visit atu.ie/AU312

ATU DONEGAL

TOURISM AND SPORT

Culinary arts student Lance Andrew Lumanlan wins top prize at Irish Food Writing Awards

Lance Andrew Lumanlan, a Culinary Arts student at ATU Donegal, has claimed the top prize at the prestigious Irish Food Writing Awards, sponsored by Kerrygold.

The final, held at the Neff Inspirational Kitchen at Airfield Estate, Dundrum, saw Lumanlan impress the judges with a series of outstanding dishes during a high-pressure live cook and serve competition.

The competition is held annually and open to culinary students nationwide. Following the release of the competition criteria candidates submit in writing two starters, main dishes and or two desserts depending on the criteria. Each entry must be supported with recipes and full menu description to match. Candidates are later advised if they have made it to the next round; the live cook and serve. Following service judges select an overall winner for the dishes prepared in the two-hour cookoff. The dishes presented

must have a regional connection and in the case of Lance's submission, credit must go to Molloy's Fish Killybegs, Donegal for the fresh Scallops used in the starter and to Mr Seamus Heraty for the venison used in the main course.

Speaking after his win, Lance shared his motivation for entering: "I had seen the awards displayed in the college, showcasing the achievements of past culinary students. This year, I decided it was my turn to step up. The cook and serve was nerve-racking, but I felt confident in my dishes and the ingredients I chose. I'm absolutely thrilled to have won my first culinary competition."

The award marks a significant achievement for the young chef, whose talent and composure under pressure stood out in a field of strong competitors. Congratulations to Lance on this well-deserved recognition.

To find out more about our BA in Culinary Arts visit atu.ie/AU220



Building a future through sport



Eleanor Knox, a 20-year-old Sports and Exercise student at ATU, has had a lifelong passion for badminton and sport. Playing since the age of four, Eleanor represents her local club, Three Rivers in Killygordon, and has competed for Donegal and her secondary school, earning five Ulster and five All-Ireland titles along the way.

It was in first year of secondary school, while coaching younger players at her club, that Eleanor discovered her true calling, PE teaching. Her love for sport, coaching, and inspiring the next generation made Sports and Exercise at ATU the perfect fit.

Now in her third year, Eleanor highlights modules like Sports and Exercise Nutrition, Anatomy and Physiology, and Gymnastics and Dance as key favourites. She especially enjoyed the practical elements of gymnastics and dance, where she created and performed routines, strengthening bonds with her classmates.

A standout experience was her work placement, which

confirmed her dream to pursue teaching. She also valued working with Little Angels School, helping deliver PE lessons to children with additional needs. This was an experience she found both challenging and rewarding.

Beyond academics, Eleanor's dedication continues through coaching. Starting at 15, she now holds a Level 2 coaching qualification and has worked with Ulster Badminton, including RDS squads and development camps. She was recently named Ulster Young Coach of the Year, a milestone in her coaching journey.

Looking to the future, Eleanor hopes to complete a master's in physical education and continue to grow as both a teacher and coach. She's also interested in working with para-sport athletes, driven by her passion to make sport accessible and inspiring for all.

Her advice to new students, "Stay open-minded, embrace every opportunity, and enjoy every minute, it goes by so fast."

To find out more about BSc (Honours) in Sports and Exercise visit atu.ie/AU320

Longford student aims for career in sports rehab

Siobhan Egan, a 19-year-old from County Longford, is currently studying Athletic Therapy and Exercise Rehabilitation at ATU. With a lifelong passion for sport, her decision to pursue this course came naturally. "I've played Gaelic since I was five, so working in a field where I stay connected to sport while helping others recover from injuries is a dream come true," she explains.

Her favourite modules include Clinical Skills and Clinical Anatomy, where she's developed hands-on experience in assessing injuries, understanding muscle functions, and learning professional notetaking. "The practical classes really bring the learning to life," she says, especially those involving gym-based training and one-on-one programme planning.

Outside college, Siobhan plays Gaelic football for Carrickedmond and represents Longford at county level. She highlights the supportive course environment and small class sizes as key benefits.

Looking ahead, she plans to travel for a year after graduation, then open her own sports rehab clinic and work with teams during training and matches. Her advice to new students, "Take your time, talk to people, and stay on top of your workload, especially anatomy and physiology."

To find out more about our BSc (Hons) in Athletic Therapy and Exercise Rehabilitation visit atu.ie/AU321

Hospitality students host successful fundraiser for Daffodil Day



A fundraising event in support of Daffodil Day was recently held at ATU's Killybegs campus.

Organised by second-year Hospitality Management students, the event was a collaborative effort with Culinary Skills students and lecturers, who prepared a delicious selection of baked goods and beverages for attendees to enjoy.

The campus welcomed the wider community, including families, friends, and local professionals, creating a lively and warm atmosphere. The spirit of the Killybegs campus was on full display, with a strong sense of community throughout the event. A raffle was also held, featuring fantastic prizes, kindly donated by local businesses.

In total, an impressive €1,028.21 was raised in support of this meaningful cause.

To learn more about Hospitality programmes at ATU, visit atu.ie/AU322

ATU DONEGAL

CIVIL ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION

Students explore architecture and innovation on Lisbon study tour

Students from the BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology and BSc (Hons) Construction Management programmes at ATU Donegal recently embarked on a study tour in Lisbon, returning home inspired by the city's rich blend of architecture, innovation, and sustainability.

Their journey began at the Palácio do Condé Barao, a complex urban regeneration project by architect Tiago Araújo of FVARQ, with project management led by architect and fire engineer Luís António and the ALPHALINK team. The development will deliver 88 apartments and leisure amenities while preserving intricate wood mouldings and stucco work. A key challenge was integrating seismic resilience in this historic structure, an ever-present requirement in Lisbon.

The group then visited the Escola Reihnar Dona Leonor, a modernised secondary school redesigned by architect Francisco Teixeira Bastos of Atelier dos Remédios. The project's transformation broke away from traditional



classroom layouts, instead embracing visual, metaphorical, and physical connections to unify the space. Naturally ventilated sports facilities and sensitively integrated seismic solutions exemplify sustainability in school design.

A visit to the Museum of Design & Fashion (MUDE) offered further inspiration. Hosted by Director Bárbara Coutinho, the group explored this adaptive reuse of the

former BNU Bank—spanning fabric from the 18th to 20th centuries. Working alongside Joana Vilhena and Ricardo Carvalho, the team created eight floors of galleries and learning spaces, blending past and present with bold architectural expression, while emphasising sustainability, seismic integrity, and craftsmanship.

Vital to the tour's success was architect Teresa Frederica Tojal do Valsassina Heitor,

who generously facilitated key connections with architects and construction firms. The tour offered a wealth of experiential learning, underscoring Lisbon's status as a hub of innovative architectural practice.

To find out more about the BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology visit: www.atu.ie/au343 and BSc (Hons) Construction Management visit: atu.ie/AU342

Stewart builds career in international construction

Adam Stewart, a recent graduate of the Level 8 BSc (Hons) in Construction Management at ATU Donegal, is already making a significant impact in the construction industry. Currently working on large-scale data centre projects across the Nordics, Adam is part of a leading international construction team operating in one of the fastest-growing global sectors.



Reflecting on his time at ATU Donegal, Adam credits the course with giving him a solid foundation in all aspects of construction management. "The course gave me a real understanding of how projects are managed, from planning and scheduling to on-site coordination. It prepared me to contribute from day one," he says.

Adam highlighted the practical focus of the programme and the dedication of the lecturers as key to his success. "The emphasis on real-world scenarios and the support from staff made all the difference. I use what I learned every single day."

His journey demonstrates how the Construction Management Level 8 programme equips graduates with the technical knowledge, practical skills, and confidence to excel in today's dynamic construction industry, opening doors to international career opportunities from the outset.

To find out more about our BSc (Hons) in Construction Management visit atu.ie/AU342

Paving the way from ATU Donegal to a global future

Conor Thompson, a final-year Civil Engineering student at ATU Donegal, is set to take big steps this summer.

Conor chose ATU Donegal for its location and strong academic reputation. "You're never too far from anything," he says. The support he received from lecturers made a lasting impact. "The one-to-one support from staff really makes a big difference. You feel like you're not just a number." Outside the classroom, Conor embraced the vibrant student life that Donegal offers. "There's always plenty to do, and the nights out are great. Plus, Donegal is such a beautiful county, it's a brilliant place to study," says Conor. As part of his degree, Conor worked with Donegal County Council in the Roads Division in Lifford. "It gave me an insight into things I'd never seen before. It was a real eye-opener into how things operate behind the scenes," he says.

Now preparing for a summer J1 visa experience in the United States, Conor plans to work in the construction industry before continuing his studies in Scotland. His degree, he adds, is a passport to opportunities around the globe. "Engineering is so transferable, you can work practically anywhere in the world."

With his bags nearly packed and big dreams ahead, we wish Conor every success in what is sure to be a bright and exciting future.

To find out more about our BEng in Civil Engineering visit atu.ie/AU241



Concrete ideas set in motion through Erasmus+ exchange



Ten Civil Engineering and Construction students from ATU Donegal recently participated in a unique international learning experience through the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme. The group travelled to Thomas More University of Applied Sciences in Geel, Belgium, where they engaged in practical workshops on 3D concrete printing alongside academic staff. The visit also included a tour of the cutting-edge Weber factory, a leader in innovative concrete printing technologies.

One of the highlights was a collaborative project involving students from ATU Donegal, Thomas More, and Zealand - Sjællands Erhvervsakademi in Denmark, allowing participants to share knowledge and work on joint 3D printing projects. The trip also featured cultural excursions, including a memorable visit to Antwerp.

Excitement is already building for the second phase of the programme, which will take place in Denmark during the 2025/2026 academic year, with both students and staff looking forward to continuing this valuable international partnership.

To find out more about the programmes visit atu.ie/AU241, atu.ie/AU342, atu.ie/AU242

Students gain real-world insight at Strabane housing project



First-year students recently visited the Kevin Watson Group's housing project in Strabane, which involves the construction of 150 homes on a brownfield site. The visit offered valuable insight into all stages of residential construction, from groundworks to near completion.

Kevin Watson Group has long supported ATU Donegal, prioritising both student learning and safety. As the project nears its final phase, students observed the real-world pressures of delivering a large-scale development, including the challenges posed by today's market conditions. The visit was an excellent opportunity to connect classroom theory with practical, on-site experience in a dynamic construction environment.

ATU DONEGAL

COMPUTING

Two ATU Donegal students awarded Google scholarships at Google HQ



Two inspiring students from Letterkenny started 2025 with a bang, picking up Google Scholarships at the tech giant's Dublin HQ. Torin Laszczew and Vuyiswas Mgwebeda, both first-year students at ATU Donegal Letterkenny, were among just 40 students across Ireland to receive the prestigious Insight/Google Scholarship.

The programme supports students from underrepresented backgrounds who are studying STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering and Maths) subjects at third level. The awards were presented at a buzzing ceremony by Taoiseach Micheál Martin and are part of a major push to bring more diversity and talent into Ireland's tech sector. Torin, who's studying Data Science and AI at ATU, said: "This is such a great event.

This scholarship takes the financial stress off my shoulders and gives me the freedom to focus on getting the best from my degree. I'm

already making great connections. I'm so grateful." Vuyiswas, a single mum of three who moved to Letterkenny from South Africa ten years ago, shared her inspiring journey: "I am a single mother of three children who are growing up in Letterkenny.

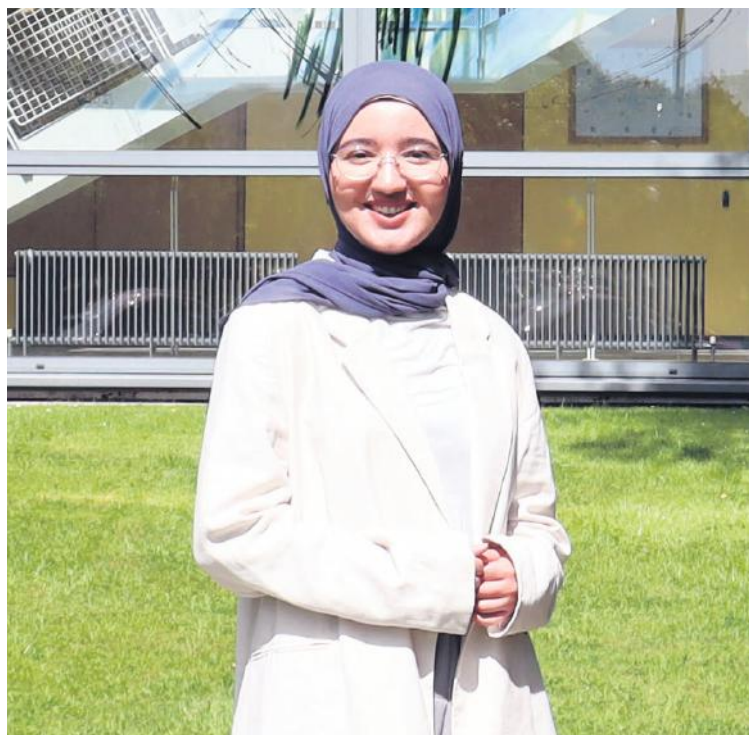
I grew up in a small village in South Africa and I came here ten years ago with nothing but hope. In 2023 I did an access course in tech because I had looked at the Google website and saw that there were jobs in

this area. Now I'm about to do a degree in Data Science and AI." The Insight/Google Scholarship offers €5,000 per year (for up to five years), plus mentoring. It's funded by Google.org and managed by the Insight Centre for Data Analytics at DCU, helping to build a more inclusive future for tech in Ireland.

Applications for the next round open in October 2025, so if you're dreaming of a career in tech, keep it on your radar! A huge congrats to Torin and Vuyiswas.



Pivoting with purpose and trading Dental for Data Science and AI to follow my true calling



ATU Donegal student Nihal Elfodil, studying BSc (Hons) in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence.

"I studied three years out of a 6-year programme on a dental science course. My original fascination had always been with the IT sector. The thrill of coding, problem-solving, and innovation captivated me. I made the bold decision to pivot, leaving behind a path I had invested years into, to pursue IT-related courses that aligned with my interest in AI.

This transition wasn't without its challenges, but it felt like a return to my true self, and it feels like a step closer to realising my potential. I am a believer in the importance of embracing curiosity and constant learning.

One of the best things about my course that I think new applicants should know is its strong emphasis on practical learning.

Throughout the programme, we engage in numerous projects and assignments that may as well simulate real-world scenarios, allowing us to apply theoretical concepts to practical problems. This not only enhances our understanding but also prepares us for the challenges we will face in the future. We develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, which are essential in today's fast-paced tech industry.

In the long term, I aim to continue my studies and lead projects that integrate AI with other domains like dental science for example to drive innovation in these areas."

To find out more about our BSc (Hons) in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence visit atu.ie/AU363

Mary's return to education opens doors to exciting career opportunities

Mary decided to go back to education in 2021 after working in the service industry in Dublin for many years. "I was delighted to move back home to Donegal and go back to college. I enrolled on the Bachelor of Science in Computing programme at ATU Donegal" says Mary.

I loved the programming and networking modules the most, they were really engaging and interactive. The lecturers in ATU are really helpful at every stage of the degree", enthuses Mary. "I am very lucky to have secured a graduate position with FinTrU Letterkenny which I'm very excited to start in July."

FinTrU are a highly skilled technology-enabled solutions company providing both operational services and technology resolutions. Where traditional services companies offer human-only resource models that are costly to scale FinTrU provides clients with the best of both worlds: Technology solutions that are highly specialised to address the CLM challenges of the Investment Banking and Wealth Management industries, underpinned by skilled teams that work hand-in-glove with in-house operations.

What an exciting graduate opportunity to embark on!

From Spain to Cybersecurity



Ronan Smyth, currently pursuing a BSc (Hons) in Computer Science, is making a career shift into the dynamic world of cybersecurity. Originally living in Spain with his partner, the couple decided to relocate to Ireland in search of greater opportunities and a better quality of life.

"Technology had always intrigued me, and seeing friends find success after switching to computing careers inspired us," Ronan explains. Motivated by this, both he and his wife enrolled in Computer Science programmes in Ireland, committing fully to reshaping their professional paths.

Throughout his studies, Ronan has developed a strong foundation by building applications, games, and websites. However, it was the modules on cybersecurity and networking that truly captured his interest. "There's something fascinating about understanding how systems can be exploited and what makes them vulnerable. Those insights really stuck with me," he says.

With a passion for ethical hacking, Ronan aims to begin his career in cybersecurity, with the goal of becoming a penetration tester in the near future. His journey is a testament to the power of reinvention and the growing demand for skilled professionals in the tech sector.

To find out more about our BSc in Computer Science visit atu.ie/AU361

ATU DONEGAL

ELECTRONIC & MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Local graduate engineers a bright future at Vertiv

Shane McMonagle, a Mechanical Engineering graduate, secured a position at Vertiv in Letterkenny as a Graduate Fabrication Engineer. An achievement made even more remarkable given the severe physical and traumatic injury he sustained during his studies due to a personal injury. Shane used the experience to fuel his determination, never letting it get in the way of his academic or professional goals.

At Vertiv, Shane is part of the structural steel fabrication department, involved in everything from laser cutting to welding and painting. Although he expected a CAD-based role, his path has moved towards project management, something he's greatly enjoyed.

'I hit the ground running with some demanding projects, but this is the best way because every day is a new learning opportunity.'

Shane manages outsourcing for smaller projects like plinths, coordinating with local suppliers and ensuring all specifications are in place. He also represents the fabrication team in cross-departmental meetings and oversees ongoing shop floor projects to ensure on time completion.

One highlight includes working on large-scale steel structures such as the Gcub Cabin, an 18-ton unit destined for Uruguay, requiring careful consideration of weather conditions.

Shane gives a special thanks to the Department of Electronic and Mechanical Engineering for their support during his time at university on both an academic and personal level. Looking ahead, Shane sees project management as a promising career path and is considering a master's degree in the field. His journey is a testament to resilience, adaptability, and the value of



hands-on learning.

To find out more about the BEng (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering visit atu.ie/AU350

Jaguar Land Rover in Co. Clare backs new Electric Vehicle engineering degree

The Department of Mechanical and Electronic Engineering at ATU Donegal is proud to launch Ireland's first ever Level 8 BEng Honours Degree in Electric Vehicle (EV) Engineering. Developed in close collaboration with Jaguar Land Rover's Powertrain Team in Shannon, Co. Clare,



TCS Donegal, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Hyundai, this four-year programme addresses the urgent industry demand for EV-specific engineering and technical skillsets.

As the automotive industry transitions away from internal combustion engines, the focus shifts to high-voltage systems, electronic diagnostics, and safety standards unique to electric drivetrains. Our innovative programme has been designed to equip students with critical knowledge in both hardware and software aspects of EV technology, ensuring they are prepared to meet these evolving demands.

This degree is the result of over two years of partnership with JLR's Shannon team and TCS, combining academic excellence with real-world industry insight.

Students will benefit from industry-informed content, access to cutting-edge technology, and opportunities to engage directly with leading automotive professionals.

According to Dr Fiona Gilchrist, R&D Development Lead at JLR, this collaboration has the potential to shape the future of the automotive sector. Colin Harty, Chapter Lead at JLR Shannon, adds that ATU Donegal provides students with pathways to hands-on industry experience through meaningful partnerships.

To find out more about our BEng (Hons) in Electric Vehicle Engineering visit atu.ie/AU354 - To learn more about JLR Careers, please visit <https://careers.jaguarlandrover.com/where-we-are/ireland>

Thinking about engineering? Here's why Padraig chose ATU Donegal

If you're considering Electronic, Mechanical Engineering or Electric Vehicle Engineering on your CAO, ATU Donegal might just be the right choice. Engineering student Padraig O'Laimhin shares his top highlights from the course so far.

What stands out most for Padraig is the creative freedom students are given in their projects. "We get clear direction, but there's still plenty of room to bring our own ideas to life," he says. The support from lecturers and technicians has also made a big difference. "They're very approachable and always happy to help."

ATU Donegal's top-class workshop facilities are another major plus. Even

with no prior experience, students are taught how to use the machinery safely and thoroughly. Theory and practice go together here, as most modules feed directly into projects, and those that don't are explored through hands-on lab work.

Finally, students are regularly invited to events and seminars with local industry leaders, offering great networking opportunities and insights into future careers.

Find out more about our programmes Level 8 Electronic atu.ie/AU351, Mechanical atu.ie/AU350, Electric Vehicle Engineering atu.ie/AU354 or perhaps Level 7 Mechanical Engineering atu.ie/AU251



Electronic students shine at 2025 ATU Student Entrepreneur Awards



Two Electronic Engineering students from ATU Donegal have achieved major success at the 2025 ATU Student Entrepreneur Awards, securing 1st and 3rd place overall in this prestigious competition.

Conor Cleary was crowned overall winner for his innovative project, "A Low Power Wearable Non-Invasive Glucose Monitoring Unit with AI Insights." His ground-breaking design combines health technology with artificial intelligence, offering a non-invasive solution for glucose monitoring — an innovation with significant potential in the biomedical field.

Taking third place, Dylan Scott McBride impressed judges with his "Solar-Powered Soil Chemical Profile Sampling System with Online Monitoring & Notification with AI Forecasting." His project offers a sustainable, tech-driven solution to agricultural monitoring and environmental management.

Both students are in the final year of the BEng (Hons) in Electronic Engineering at ATU Donegal. Their achievements highlight the strong focus on innovation, entrepreneurship, and real-world problem-solving that defines the programme.

Electronic Engineering staff at ATU Donegal expressed immense pride in Conor and Dylan's success, noting that their work demonstrates the high calibre of students emerging from the course and the university's commitment to fostering technological innovation.

These outstanding projects not only tackle real-world biomedical and agricultural challenges but also show how engineering can shape a more sustainable and healthier future.

ATU Donegal continues to build a reputation as a hub of innovation and excellence, nurturing the next generation of engineers and entrepreneurs. The university invites students inspired by Conor and Dylan's achievements to explore the opportunities offered by the Electronic Engineering programme.

For more information visit: atu.ie/AU351

Congratulations to Conor Cleary and Dylan Scott McBride on their remarkable success.



ATU DONEGAL

EARLY EDUCATION & SOCIAL STUDIES

Health and Social Care degree receives CORU approval

ATU Donegal has announced that its Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Health and Social Care has been formally approved by CORU, Ireland's multi-profession health regulator. This recognition marks a major milestone, ensuring graduates are eligible to apply for registration and use the protected title of "Social Care Worker."

This is the third ATU programme to receive CORU approval, following similar successes at the university's Sligo and Mayo campuses. The achievement reinforces ATU's growing reputation as a leader in health and social care education in the West and Northwest of Ireland.

Dr Joanne Gallagher, Head of the Faculty of Science and Health at ATU Donegal, described the approval as a "collaborative achievement" led by Dr Nigel McKelvey, programme team members, practice educators, and students. She highlighted that this ensures students are trained to the highest professional standards.

Dr McKelvey, Head of the Department of Early Education and Social Studies said: "Social Care Practice is now a professionally regulated career under CORU. This programme equips students to be skilled, reflective, and responsible practitioners ready to meet the needs of



those accessing social care services."

As part of the course, students complete two 12-week placements, totalling 840 hours, during their second and third years, gaining essential real-world experience in the sector.

Programme Co-Ordinators Denise O'Boyle and David Friel emphasised the impact of the approval: "Graduates can now register as Social Care Workers,

giving them a professionally recognised qualification that opens doors across the sector."

This milestone further strengthens ATU's commitment to excellence in education and supports the growing demand for qualified Social Care Workers in Ireland.

To find out more about BSc Hons in Health and Social Care visit atu.ie/AU391

Students gain valuable experience at Aspace2 multisensory centre



We extend our sincere thanks to Tina and the dedicated team at Aspace2 Multisensory Centre for hosting an engaging and energetic session for our Year 2 and Year 3 BSc in Inclusive Practice for Special Needs Assistance students.

The hands-on experience provided invaluable insights and practical learning opportunities that will greatly benefit our students as they prepare for future roles in inclusive education and support.

To find out more about our BSc in Inclusive Practice for Special Needs Assistance visit www.atu.ie/AU290

ECCE students begin RealCare baby experience

First-year students of the Early Childhood Care and Health Education (ECCE) programme were introduced to their new classroom friends, RealCare Baby dolls Bonnie, Rian, and Dara as part of their Early Years Environment module.

This hands-on experience gives students a taste of the real-life responsibilities involved in infant care. During the second semester students each take their turn to care for the interactive babies for a full day, responding to their needs just as they would with real infants. The initiative is designed to deepen their understanding of infant development, care routines, and the realities of early childhood environments.

To find out more about the BSc (Hons) in Early Childhood Care and Health Education visit atu.ie/AU390



ATU Donegal students embrace Erasmus adventure in Norway



Leah McCleary, Laura Scanlon, and Maeve Gillen, third-year students enrolled in the BSc (Hons) in Early Childhood Care, Health and Education at ATU Donegal are currently spending a semester abroad at Queen Maud University College of Early Childhood Education in Trondheim, Norway, as part of the Erasmus+ programme.

The trio are making the most of this unique opportunity, both academically and culturally, as they immerse themselves in life at one of Norway's leading institutions for early childhood education. Alongside their studies, they have also been enjoying a range of extracurricular activities, including outdoor adventures and attending major local events such as the Nordic World Ski Championships.

To find out more about studying the BSc (Hons) in Early Childhood Care, Health and Education visit atu.ie/AU390

Health and Social Care students lead the way during Healthy Campus Week at ATU Donegal



Second-year Health and Social Care students at ATU Donegal took centre stage during Healthy Campus Week, proudly showcasing their innovative projects aimed at promoting health and well-being across campus.

The student-led initiatives covered a wide range of important topics, including Healthy Environments, Physical Health and Wellbeing, Healthy Eating, Sexual Health and Wellbeing, and Mental Health and Wellbeing. Each project reflected the students' dedication to promoting a healthier, more informed campus community.

Congratulations to all the students for their hard work and meaningful contributions to the week's success! To find out more about BSc in Health and Social Care visit atu.ie/AU391

ATU DONEGAL

LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Vet nurse students join mission to fight rabies in Cambodia

In October 2024, ATU Donegal lecturer Susie Law and three third-year Veterinary Nursing students – Ciara Fox, Emer Tinney, and Megan Ferry travelled to Phnom Penh, Cambodia to take part in a life-saving mission with the Worldwide Veterinary Service (WVS).

The team volunteered for Mission Rabies, a global initiative aiming to eliminate rabies through mass dog vaccination and public education. In just one week, the Donegal team vaccinated an incredible 1,800 dogs, helping protect thousands of people from this deadly but preventable disease.

Rabies kills around 59,000 people every year, mostly in Asia and Africa, with children the most at risk. Cambodia has one of the highest rabies death rates per capita in the world.

"Working with local teams and international volunteers, we vaccinated as many dogs as possible and educated the community on rabies prevention," said Susie. "It was tough work, but we made a real difference."

The experience gave the students hands-on clinical training in a global public health setting while also



contributing to an important cause.

It's yet another example of how ATU's Veterinary Nursing programme is preparing students to make an impact – not just locally, but globally.

If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, you can do so at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/mission-rabies-cambodia-veterinary-vaccination-program>

Donegal graduate combines passion for sheep farming with journalism

Rachel Gallagher from North Donegal, a recent BSc (Hons) in Agriculture graduate from ATU, is successfully blending her farming roots with a rising career in agricultural journalism.

Raised on a large mixed farm, Rachel's interest in livestock began early, particularly in pedigree sheep. Her family runs a flock of 200 pedigree Milford ewes, with a strong focus on

breeding top-quality rams for sales across Ireland. Alongside this, they also keep Dutch Spotted and Badgerface ewes, with great success in the show ring and sale ring, including lambs selling at up to €4,000 in 2024. The farm also runs a suckler and beef enterprise, with a mix of spring and autumn calving, selling weanlings and finishing bulls each year.

Rachel now works as a pedigree sheep and marts reporter with the Irish Farmers Journal, travelling across Ireland and occasionally the UK, covering shows and sales. She is also based part-time on Tullamore Farm, the Journal's demonstration farm, assisting with farm management and events.

Reflecting on her time at ATU, Rachel highlighted her final-year thesis as the most enjoyable aspect of the course, a passion for research and writing that shaped her post-college career. Her work placement also confirmed her preference for hands-on, on-the-road work rather than office-based roles.

Rachel believes the future of farming is looking brighter, with stronger beef and sheep prices renewing optimism among young farmers. Her advice to current students, "build strong networks, choose a thesis topic you're passionate about, and take every job interview as a learning experience."

The biggest challenge Rachel faced post-college was choosing between farming full-time and pursuing an off-farm career, a decision many young farmers find hard to choose between today. To find out more about Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Agriculture (Common Entry) visit atu.ie/AU371



Uncertainty to ambition: Omoye Omokhui's journey

Omoye Omokhui, 19, moved to Donegal from abroad three years ago with a passion for healthcare but was unsure of her exact path. After completing a PLC in pre-nursing due to her qualifications not being recognised for direct entry into medicine or dentistry, she discovered Dental Nursing and knew it was right for her. Now studying at ATU Donegal,

Omoye's favourite module is Anatomy and Physiology, where she enjoys learning about the bones of the face and the nerve supply to the teeth. Her course includes hands-on clinical placement, which has strengthened her confidence and confirmed her desire to work in dentistry. After graduating, she plans to work as a dental nurse while securing her citizenship, before going on to study Dentistry and achieve her dream of becoming a dentist.

Find out more about HC in Dental Nursing at atu.ie/AU173.



Malin graduate excels at ATU Donegal



Cormac Harte, from Malin, Co Donegal, recently graduated with an Honours degree in Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Science from ATU Donegal, marking the end of a fulfilling academic chapter and the beginning of a promising career in science.

Cormac's path to graduation was not without its challenges. He initially began his third-level education in a larger city, but rising living costs and the demands of travel prompted a return to Donegal. Determined to continue his studies, he explored his options closer to home and discovered the Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Science programme at ATU Donegal.

Relocating to Letterkenny, just a short distance from his hometown, proved to be the right move. "I never looked back," Cormac said. "I found accommodation near the campus and being close to home made the experience even better. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at ATU."

Always passionate about science, particularly chemistry and physics, Cormac found the programme to be the perfect fit. "The lab work was my favourite part," he reflected. "The facilities on campus were excellent, there was even a dedicated lab for analysing drugs and chemicals. That hands-on experience made the course especially engaging."

To find out more about our BSc (Hons) in Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Science visit atu.ie/AU373

ATU DONEGAL

NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

ATU and Ulster University host cross-border Student Mental Health Symposium

ATU, in collaboration with Ulster University (UU), hosted a Student Mental Health Symposium on Friday, 31st January 2025 at the ATU Donegal campus (Letterkenny). The event which is funded by the HEA North-South Research Programme, welcomed over 120 attendees, including academic staff, PhD researchers, students, HSE stakeholders, student support services, parents, and members of the public.

Paul Hannigan, VP for Cross-Border Engagement and Head of College at ATU Donegal, opened the event by highlighting the importance of early intervention and professional training in student support services; "There is a clear commitment to student mental health across both institutions, and events like this showcase the collaborative efforts to improve outcomes for students," says Paul.

Dr Elaine Murray (UU), Dr Louise McBride (ATU), Dr Margaret McLafferty (ATU) and James Sweeney (ATU) presented updates on the Irish Student Wellbeing and ADHD Project (I-SWAP). The project focuses on improving wellbeing and help-seeking behaviours among students with ADHD on the island of Ireland.



Dr Louise McBride, Head of Department of Nursing and Healthcare, noted ongoing collaboration between ATU and UU, including a new Research Ireland-funded initiative, and stressed the need to keep student services informed by best practice evidence.

The symposium's keynote speaker, Gareth Hughes – a leading psychotherapist and university mental

health expert – delivered insights on the current landscape of student mental health, highlighting key challenges and the importance of holistic university-wide approaches.

This successful event demonstrated ATU and UU's ongoing commitment to advancing student mental health supports and furthering cross-border collaboration in research and practice.

Mairead shares her wisdom with future nurses



ATU Donegal was proud to welcome back recent graduate Mairead Langan BSc (Hons) Intellectual Disability Nursing & RNID to the Letterkenny campus. Mairead returned to chat with final-year students and share tips on academic success and scholarships.

Her visit was extra special, as staff and classmates celebrated her recent achievements – including receiving the 2024 Department of Nursing & Healthcare Academic Excellence Award.

Mairead was also Highly Commended at the Global Undergraduate Awards, placing in the top 10% in Ireland for her outstanding literature review.

A brilliant role model for future nurses!

Discovering a passion for Mental Health Nursing through inspiration and insight at an open day



Theo Mc Cardle is a Mental Health Nursing Student at ATU Donegal. Theo was unsure about what area of study he was interested in and attended an Open Day to explore his options.

"I had no idea what I wanted to do in my last year of secondary school and at an Open Day event I decided to go to a talk for Mental Health Nursing as I had multiple family members in that line of work. Hearing from student and lecturers, I realised I was more interested than I thought especially in terms of helping people and understanding different aspects of mental illness," says Theo.

Work placement for me has been great. It's the person to person engagement that I find most fulfilling and placement allows me to achieve this.

Nursing is a job that can be practiced in many countries so I'm hoping it will allow me to travel.

Find out more about Mental Health Nursing at atu.ie/AU381. Keep informed about Open Days atu.ie/opendays

Global Nursing Exchange

The Department of Nursing & Healthcare at ATU Donegal recently welcomed Dr Catherine Thomas, Prof Julia O'Neill, and nursing students from Worcester State University (WSU), Massachusetts, as part of a

long-standing academic and cultural exchange.

This initiative has been in place since 2016, providing international collaboration, academic improvement, and cultural understanding. The WSU

visitors participated in classroom discussions with ATU students from General, Intellectual Disability, and Mental Health Nursing programmes, including a debate on healthcare experiences and outcomes in Ireland versus the USA. They also engaged in a Health Promotion 3km walk with the Wave Programme and visited clinical sites such as Letterkenny University Hospital, Donegal Hospice, and local community health services.

Cultural highlights included visits to Glenveagh National Park, the Derry St. Patrick's Day Parade, and Donegal's stunning coastline, all enjoyed during a week of beautiful spring weather.

The exchange offered students and staff a chance to expand their global perspective, share professional knowledge, and explore collaborative research opportunities. ATU nursing students are set to visit WSU in the next academic year, continuing this partnership that supports the development of healthcare professionals.



ATU DONEGAL

STUDENT LIFE

Discover Donegal

The Letterkenny campus is in the heart of Letterkenny town centre. Letterkenny is a lively town that offers a wide range of international cuisines from your favourite regions, a vibrant nightlife scene that caters for every mood and genre. Whether you are looking for a traditional Irish pub, stylish cocktail bar, live music scene or an active nightlife, you will find it here. In addition, you'll find an 8-screen cinema and the Aura Leisure Complex, which houses a 25m

pool, tartan track and full equipped gym. Shop until you drop with excellent shopping options that suits every style, ranging from independent shops to high street brands and for arts and culture enthusiasts there is the Arena 7 Entertainment Complex, An Griannan Theatre and a Regional Cultural Centre which incorporates an art gallery, an auditorium and full cinema facilities.

Our Killybegs campus is located in Ireland's premier fishing port which is rich in



tradition and heritage. Perhaps one of Ireland's most scenic campuses, its unique location incorporates spectacular scenery and harbour views. Students that study in Killybegs enjoy and prosper through small class sizes while experiencing a personal approach to learning in a comfortable and welcoming environment.

Donegal has been voted the fourth best region to visit in the world (Lonely Planet) and is home to Ireland's most scenic areas including some of the

highest sea cliffs in Europe, rising an astonishing 600m above the waves in Sliabh Liag.

Enjoy a relaxing walk around the country's second largest national park, Glenveagh National Park or take a hike and enjoy the beautiful views from the top of Mount Errigal. Visit one of the most beautiful lighthouses in the world at Fanad Lighthouse or choose one of the countless picturesque beaches at Marble Hill to Murder Hole all of which is located along the famous Wild Atlantic Way.



SU Breakfast Club offered students a strong start to their day

This year, the Students' Union (SU) proudly ran the SU Breakfast Club, an initiative designed to ensure students started their days with a nutritious and energising meal.

Open every morning from 8:30am in An Dánlann, the Breakfast Club provided free cereal, porridge, and a variety of breakfast treats to all ATU students. The initiative was especially appreciated during a time when many were feeling the pressure of the ongoing cost of living crisis.

Alternative milks were also made available, ensuring that students with dietary requirements could enjoy a breakfast that suited their needs.

The Breakfast Club proved to be more

than just a food service, it became a place where students could gather, connect, and begin their day in a supportive, welcoming environment.

"This was one of our ways of helping students manage both their well-being and their finances," said an SU representative. "It's important that no student has to skip breakfast because of cost."

The SU Breakfast Club was well-received by the student body, and its success highlighted the importance of such supportive initiatives on campus. Students left each morning feeling more prepared to face the day ahead with full stomachs and lifted spirits. Well done to all involved.



Road safety week



ATU Donegal Students' Union, in partnership with Donegal County Council, RSA Ireland, and An Garda Síochána, hosted Road Safety Week on the Letterkenny campus. Students engaged in activities like the Road Policing Jeep, Life Saver Programme, RSA Shuttle Bus, and safety talks. Thanks to all who supported this vital initiative.

Outdoor wellness café brings campus community together

This year, the campus community embraced the sunny weather with a special outdoor edition of the Wellness Café. Students gathered to unwind, enjoy refreshing tea, and take in the fresh air during a relaxing afternoon. The event featured a variety of activities, including painting, lively conversations, and even some football fun.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the event such a positive and enjoyable experience!



Gníomhaí Gaeilge



This year ATU Students' Union Donegal took part in Gníomhaí Gaeilge. This is a mentorship, training and awards scheme for students who would like to improve their Irish and increase the use of Irish on their campuses. The scheme is coordinated by Conradh na Gaeilge, USI and sponsored by the HEA. The Union worked closely with their mentor Caolán (pictured) all year to ensure our native language was incorporated into its work. Irish signage in the SU shop, Irish greetings in emails, Pop-Up Gaeltachts and cúpla focail on their social media platforms all year.

Ghlac Aontas na Mac Léinn OTA Dhún na nGall páirt i Gníomhaí Gaeilge i mbliana. Seo scéim mheantóireachta, oiliúna agus gradaim do mhic léinn atá gníomhach leis an nGaeilge sa tríú leibhéal agus dóibh siúd gur mhaith leo an Ghaeilge a úsáid níos minice ar a gcampas. D'obair said go dlúth lena mhéantóir Caolán (sa phictiúr) i rith na bliana. Níos mó Ghaeilge sna ríomhphoist, ar na meáin shóisialta, cúpla Pop-Up Gaeltacht and comharthaí Gaeilge sa siopa SU.

The awards ceremony took place on Thursday 10th April in the Mansion House Dublin, where the SU took home a Silver Award in the Students' Union Category and Kevin ATU Donegals SU's President took home an Individual Award also.

Comhghairdeas libh!

Accommodation



Donegal is one of the most affordable regions to live, work, study and travel around, offering a variety of student accommodation with the cost of living being considerably lower than the national average.

There is no on-campus accommodation, however, there are several alternative options available such as digs, houses to rent on a shared basis, in addition to the variety of apartment complexes built specifically for the student market in Letterkenny.

Both campuses are quite central which makes commuting simple for students as most accommodation is within 10 minutes' walk of each campus. Every year, the Students' Union (SU) generates and updates a list of available student accommodation. This list is then sent out automatically to students who receive an offer from ATU Donegal and is also available online from early August of each year. Students are advised to begin the search for accommodation early as demand can be high.

ATU SLIGO

BUSINESS

Tourism and Event Management students get broad experience

Every year, ATU Sligo's Business in Tourism and Event Management students are exposed to different aspects of business, tourism and events through a variety of practical focused modules.

This year students visited EPIC, The Irish Emigration Museum, in Dublin and teamed up with Sport with Business students as part of their Guiding and Adventure Tourism module, visiting regional tourism sites including Knocknarea Mountain, Carrowkeel Megalithic Cemetery and Culleenamore Beach. Other trips over the past two years have included The Shed Distillery, the Hive Technology Enterprise Centre, Drumhorney Woodland Hideaway and Kylemore Abbey. For those wishing to travel further afield, there are options to complete work placement in destinations including the USA, France, Germany, Spain, Greece, Hong Kong and Turkey as part of the Erasmus+ programme.

Students also organise events as part of the Year 3 Event Project Management module. This year they organised the very successful ATU's Fittest Faculty event, a similar style event to RTE's popular Ireland's Fittest Family series. Last year, students organised the Hazelwood 5km Fun Run.



These professionally planned events expose students to event design, health and safety, insurance, marketing, procurement and much more.

The Business in Tourism and Event Management degrees at ATU Sligo provide graduates with a broad and exciting platform to build a successful career. As the basis of the degree is in business, this will always open huge job opportunities. Tourism is Ireland's largest indigenous industry and the world's fastest growing sector,

accounting for 1 in 10 jobs globally. Ireland welcomed more than 6.5 million overseas visitors in 2024, with that figure forecast to substantially increase in the coming years.

Finally, a recent Event Industry of Ireland report stated the events industry annually generates more than €3.5bn towards the Irish economy and employs an estimated 45,000 workers. For more information on ATU Sligo's tourism degrees visit atu.ie/au905 (Level 8) and atu.ie/AU803 (Level 7)

Sport with Business students highlight the positives of variety



Following research with current students, an increase in applications to study Sport with Business (Level 8) and Applied Sport with Business (Level 7) in ATU Sligo has been attributed to the range of options available upon graduation. Graduates can secure careers as PE teachers, high level sports coaches, health professionals, take up marketing and management roles in a wide variety of businesses and sectors, become entrepreneurs and much more.

The variety of options is evident in the range of work placements students secure each year. Work placements include working with Connacht GAA as Development Officers, PE teaching, coaching with Sligo Rovers, working at the ExWell Medical rehabilitation centre, business roles in a variety of organisations, fitness instruction in state-of-the-art gyms and Erasmus+ placements to destinations including Spain and Germany.

Students stated how they love the mixture of classroom and practical teaching, from digital media and sports marketing to athletics and disability sport inclusion. Outdoor modules take place in settings such as Benbulbin and Strandhill, whilst professional coaches work with students as they gain coaching awards with sports bodies including the GAA, FAI, IRFU, Athletics Ireland and Basketball Ireland. Students can also secure sports industry qualifications including fitness instruction and swim teaching.

The consultation proved to be very positive. It highlighted the importance of giving students varied modules throughout their studies and lots of options when they graduate, two key ingredients in these very popular Sport with Business degrees.

Accounting graduates secure employment with major companies



ATU Sligo Accounting student Joy Sabellano, who secured a three-year training contract with Eisner Amper Ireland.

ATU Sligo's accounting graduates continue to be in very high demand, securing employment with major companies nationally and regionally. Over the past two years, graduates have been hired by Big 4 companies Deloitte, KPMG and Ernst & Young. Other national companies graduates have progressed to include Grant Thornton and Irish Rail.

They have also been successful with regional companies including Mulhern Leonard, Gilroy Gannon, Porter and Company, Russell Brennan Keane and Aurivo. This year will see three final year students take up employment with Eisner Amper Ireland who are opening new offices in Sligo in September 2025. Final-year students receive numerous offers of employment, often prior to completion of the degree.

The three-year BA (Hons) in Accounting offers excellent exemptions from the professional accountancy exams, ensuring ATU Sligo students are experiencing high demand for their skills.

For more information on the BA (Hons) in Accounting degree, please visit atu.ie/AU902

Digital Marketing is one of the fastest growing in-demand skills

Digital marketing is one of the fastest growing in-demand skills, ranking in Coursera's top 10 list in their Job Skills of 2024 report as published by Forbes. The report also noted that the industry will be worth \$1.5 trillion by the year 2030.

Professions within digital marketing are set to witness a 6% increase in growth by 2032, higher than the average job growth rate. The digital marketing industry is strongly spurred on by consumer trends, particularly on social media, with an estimated 76% of consumers browsing and purchasing items via social media. In 2024 alone, there were 5.04 billion social media users worldwide.

Throughout their studies, ATU Sligo equip Marketing students with the necessary skills to be at the forefront of this exciting and ever-evolving industry. Modules such as Social Media and Digital Marketing Planning, Digital Content, e-Commerce and Creative Marketing Practice employ the latest digital technologies and techniques.

Another very important aspect of ATU Sligo's Marketing degree is work



placement. In Year 3, students complete an 8-week work placement. Each year, students complete their work placements in a variety of sectors including fashion, sport, renewable energy, finance, accounting, engineering and education. The broad range of sectors further highlights the

need for skilled marketers. Marketing professionals are also securing roles in attractive locations. Cities like New York, Los Angeles, London, Paris, Singapore and Sydney have all seen an influx of fresh marketing talent. Many of our graduates are taking advantage of these worldwide work opportunities.

Business and Irish degree targeted at meeting teaching and language skills shortage



Developed in collaboration between ATU’s Sligo and St Angelas campuses, the three-year BA (Hons) in Business and Irish degree will help address skills shortages in the Irish language.

The Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021 has targets whereby 20% of public sector employees will be proficient in Irish by 2030.

There is also a shortage of qualified secondary school Irish subject teachers. A TUI survey of principals and deputy principals in 104 schools across the country in late 2023 found that 89% of schools experienced recruitment difficulties in the previous 12 months. Irish was in the top five most difficult subjects to recruit qualified teachers in.

According to statistics from the Department of Education as published by RTÉ in March 2025, 4,657 unqualified individuals were employed in post-primary schools in the 2023/2024 school year, highlighting the shortages that exist not only in Irish.

BA (Hons) in Business and Irish graduates may progress to a Professional Master of Education (PME) to become secondary school teachers of business and Irish. This degree aligns with the requirements of both subjects.

Graduate employment opportunities exist in arts and culture, public sector organisations, ICT, financial services and marketing. There are also a variety of roles in communication and media, where the Irish language is core.

For more information on the BA (Hons) in Business and Irish, please visit atu.ie/AU906

ATU SLIGO
BUSINESS

Business and ICT students attend week-long project in Eindhoven

Five final year BA (Hons) in Business and ICT students took advantage of the opportunity to attend a week-long Business Multidisciplinary International Project in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. Sarah Keon, Niamh Magee, Ciarán Ward, Tatianna Schmidtova and Nadine McLoughlin travelled to the Dutch city in April 2025 where they were joined by students from other European universities.

Throughout the week, the ATU Sligo students and their European counterparts addressed the theme, ‘Transforming from a Linear to a Circular Economy’. Students collaboratively worked in multidisciplinary teams to help businesses become more circular. Students were also encouraged to put forward a business idea and pitch it to a panel. Other activities over the course of the week included a cultural tasting evening, dinner at an outdoor food truck, a cultural exploration of Eindhoven, a company presentation by Phillips and a visit to the Phillips Museum.

There is currently a shortage of accredited computer science teachers in Ireland, and a worldwide shortage of ICT skills, meaning ATU Sligo graduates are in very high demand.

The BA (Hons) in Business and ICT degree offers students a pathway to



becoming a secondary school teacher of both computer science and business. A 2023 report highlighted there were just 34 accredited computer science teachers in Ireland before the start of the school year in 2022. The report highlighted that in 2022 only 15.6% of post-primary schools offered computer science as a Leaving Certificate subject despite the computer science curriculum being designed and published in 2017.

The Department of Skills and Education,

alongside the Higher & Further Education and Training Sector, are working with industry to meet Ireland’s high-level ICT skill needs. As set out in the ‘Technology Skills 2022: Ireland’s Third ICT Skills Action Plan’, they will deliver an additional 3,200 high-level ICT graduates per annum above the existing planned increase in provision to 2022.

For more information about the BA (Hons) in Business and ICT, please visit atu.ie/AU901

Endless possibilities with a Business degree

A degree in business opens a wide range of dynamic and exciting career opportunities. ATU Sligo offer programmes in this area at Level 8 and Level 7. In Year 4 of the BBus (Hons) in Business, students may specialise

in Human Resource Management, Marketing or Finance. Work placements, Erasmus+ opportunities, professional accreditation, real-life projects and guest speakers are a big part of these degrees. This

ensures graduates have the necessary skills to start their own business, take up a management position in a multinational company, become a marketing executive and so much more.

Trips and talks for Law and Business students

Earlier this academic year, BA (Hons) in Law and Business students from all years of study enjoyed a guided tour of the Central Criminal Courts in Dublin. Students and lecturers attended a careers talk by the Courts Service

and by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Students then had an opportunity to sit in on several criminal cases, including a jury trial in relation to white collar fraud and a murder trial. This allowed them to experience

first-hand the role played by the judge, jury, solicitors, barristers, court clerk, Gardaí and witnesses. The trip also included a visit to Kilmainham Gaol.

ATU’s Sligo campus welcomed Tom MacSharry, Solicitor,

Councillor and Mayor of Sligo, who delivered a very insightful guest lecture on the Criminal Courts to students. He spoke about the hierarchy of the Criminal Courts in Ireland and his personal experience of working in the Criminal Courts at

local and national level. He was accompanied by Law and Business graduate Catherine Rastegaieva, who spoke with students about her experience to date as an employee of Tom MacSharry Solicitors.

Guest speaker Cathy Shivan, Director of Insolvency Supervision at the Corporate Enforcement Authority (CEA), also delivered a guest lecture this year. Cathy spoke with students about the establishment, functions and investigative capabilities of the CEA.

Students also attended an Employment Law Briefing at the Sligo Park Hotel. Here they received an informative talk from Alastair Purdy & Co Solicitors covering the latest developments in Employment Law.

For more information on the three-year BA (Hons) in Law and Business degree, please visit atu.ie/AU915



ATU SLIGO

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Demand for Social Care Workers in Ireland has never been so high

The demand for social care workers in Ireland has never been so high, driven by a range of factors including an aging population, increasing awareness of mental health issues and a growing emphasis on community-based care.

Speaking to RTE 1 in February 2024, Tusla CEO Kate Duggan spoke about the shortage of social care workers in Ireland. Kate noted Tusla had reached their funded workforce but due to a shortage of social care workers throughout Ireland and Europe, there is an inadequate supply. She said Tusla would ideally need an additional 200 social care workers.

Discussing special emergencies arrangement for children, Kate outlined that since the agency was established more than a decade ago referrals had doubled to 90,000 in 2023.

TTM Healthcare, a major recruitment company whose headquarters are in Ennis, state that social care is one of the fastest growing job categories. They place thousands of individuals in permanent jobs annually.

On 1 December 2025, the title social



care worker will become a legally protected title in Ireland.

The BA (Hons) in Social Care Practice at ATU Sligo has been approved by the Social Care Workers Registration Board as attesting to the standard of proficiency required for registration for social care workers. This was the first Social Care

Practice programme in Ireland to secure its (Professional Regulator) CORU approval. Students regularly graduate with job prospects awaiting them because of the integral professional practice placement modules in Year 2 and Year 3. ATU Sligo also offer a CORU approved Master of Arts in Social Work.

English and Psychology degree awarded PSI accreditation



The BA (Hons) in English and Psychology is the first degree at Atlantic Technological University to be accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI). This ensures that the degree meets the highest standards for undergraduate, pre-professional education and training in psychology. Graduates who meet the requirements of the PSI do not need to complete a conversion programme and may progress to a Taught and/or Research Psychology Masters, and Doctoral Programmes. This three-year Level 8 degree enables students to think critically and acquire a deep understanding of the human condition and human behaviour. Career opportunities are significant and diverse. Graduates may also apply to undertake a Professional Master of Education (PME) to become a secondary school teacher of English. To find out more, please visit atu.ie/AU917

Sociology and Politics graduate now Chief Strategy Officer in Michigan

BA (Hons) in Sociology and Politics graduate Seamus Bannon has progressed to the position of Chief Strategy Officer in the City of Flint's Government Offices in Michigan. Seamus moved to the USA in 2020 and previously held several positions including Grants Management Officer and Program Director, which involved the implementation of a \$5 million Federal Grant. In his current role, Seamus identifies funding opportunities, develops strategy plans and implements programs that enhance the city's overall effectiveness and address critical priorities. During his time studying Sociology and Politics, Seamus completed his work placement in the European Parliament in Brussels. Learn more about this degree by visiting atu.ie/AU916



Seamus Bannon, graduate of the Sociology and Politics programme.

Countless opportunities for Early Education and Care graduates

The BEd (Hons) in Early Education and Care degree offers countless opportunities for graduates, and Shannan Mulrooney is proof of that.

After graduating in 2015, Shannan moved to Ras Al-Khaimah in the United Arab Emirates to work as a Primary School Teacher in the International School of Choueifat. After teaching for three years in Ras Al-Khaimah, she moved to Dubai to work as a Primary School Teacher once again, this time in the Emirates International School. During her

time in the UAE Shannan also completed a PGCE in Primary Education through the University of Sunderland.

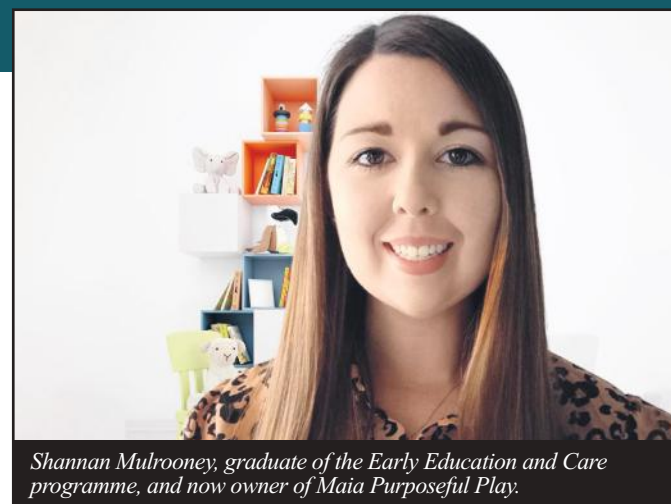
Shannan then decided it was time to move back to Sligo where she joined Little Pathways Crèche as a Room Leader before taking up employment as a Primary School Teacher for over two years.

Following her return to Sligo, Shannan also returned to education and completed ATU's MA in Leadership and Advocacy in the Early Years whilst continuing to

work. This ultimately led to Shannan setting up her own business, Maia Purposeful Play.

Maia Purposeful Play facilitates child-led play classes and workshops to enhance children's holistic development through carefully planned playful experiences.

Our Early Education and Care degree is one of only three Higher Education Institutions in Ireland offering this focused education curriculum. Learn more by visiting atu.ie/AU919



Shannan Mulrooney, graduate of the Early Education and Care programme, and now owner of Maia Purposeful Play.

ATU SLIGO

COMPUTING



Minister officially opens new computing facilities

Minister Patrick O'Donovan, TD, officially opened three significant developments at ATU's Sligo campus in May 2024, which included new computing facilities. New high-tech computer teaching labs give students access to the latest advancements in technology. The labs are part of an €18 million 4,000 sq/m extension, turning a single floor building into a modern four storey complex.

Video games sector continues to rapidly expand

ATU Sligo's Games Development graduates are in high demand as the gaming sector sees a staggering surge in popularity. A recent Global Games Market Report estimates that the number of people playing video games is over 3.38 billion.

In 2023, worldwide movie box office receipts were \$33.9 billion. In the same period, the global games industry was worth \$184 billion. Unlike movie productions, games are geared towards ongoing development over a long term. This often involves hundreds on a team producing immersive and engaging experiences that keep gamers coming back for more.

Further proof of gaming's growing presence in popular culture was when Disney bought a \$1.5 billion stake in Epic Games, the maker of Fortnite.

A report published by the Financial Times, following

analysis by global consultancy firm Bain and Company, predicts that global revenue for the games development industry will grow more than 50% by 2027. The gaming industry is estimated to generate more money than the movie and music industries combined.

Digital gaming is a priority sector for IDA Ireland, with a Digital Games Tax Credit in place to further accelerate this industry. Black Shamrock, the company behind some of the world's most popular action-adventure games for PCs and consoles announced it would grow its Dublin studio into a 200-strong team. They are now part of a wider umbrella of studios called Virtuos who help co-develop some of the biggest games in the industry with 22 studios across the world in China, Singapore, France and the USA.

One of the biggest endorsements of Ireland as a location for building a games



studio came when John Romero chose Galway as the base for his company Romero Games. Romero is games industry royalty, having originally developed the game series Doom.

Here in Sligo, a new €1.9m gaming hub at the SocoLab in Strandhill provides a flexible workspace for companies working in the digital gaming

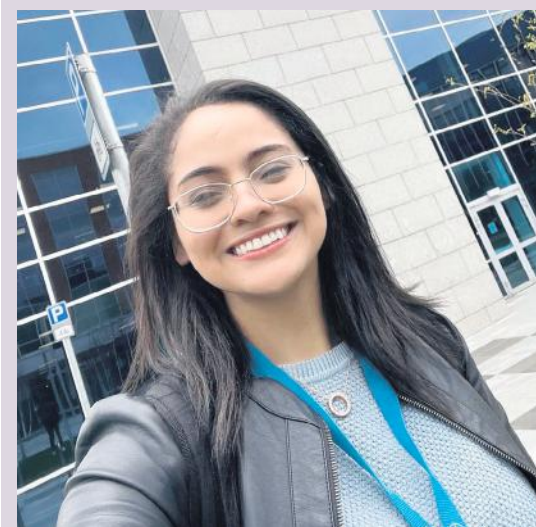
sector. The hub helps entrepreneurs start and scale innovative gaming businesses. There is capacity for 20 different gaming companies and can support a further 40 companies through the establishment of a digital games cluster in the northwest. It aims to become an international digital gaming development hub.

Why choose Computing in ATU Sligo?



- Our programmes are developed with industry experts. We equip students with the skills employers want.
- A common first year across all our computing programmes gives students more flexibility.
- Industry based project in Year 3.
- Three-month work placement on all computing programmes.
- 70% of students gain full time employment from their work placement.
- State of the art facilities, with new computing labs opened in 2024.
- There is a computing graduate shortage in Ireland and globally.
- Graduate salaries of over €35k.

Jessica Henry secures Dell Technologies employment through work placement



Software Development graduate Jessica Henry secured employment as a Full-Stack Software Engineer with Dell Technologies as a direct result of her university work placement. Jessica commenced her role as a Software Engineer with Dell Technologies in March 2023 in what was initially a three-month work placement as part of her studies.

However, this turned into six-months as the multinational technology company extended her contract until the end of August 2023. At this point, as Jessica was about to commence her final year of study in ATU Sligo, Dell Technologies offered her full-time employment providing she completed her honours degree. Jessica took up full-time employment with Dell Technologies in August 2024 having completed the BSc (Hons) in Software Development, graduating with a First Class Honours Grade 1.

All ATU Sligo Computing degrees include a three-month work placement, with an option to complete this abroad as part of the Erasmus+ programme. Over 70% of students gain employment as a direct result of their work placement.

Huge demand for Cyber Security graduates

The 2021 ransomware attack on the Health Service Executive (HSE) in Ireland further highlighted the need for graduates within the area of cyber security. Internationally, there is a severe shortage of cyber security professionals and the World Economic Forum estimates a global shortage of more than 4 million cyber professionals in 2025.

The cost of a data breach can end up being enormous, with both direct and indirect expenses. The largest data breach to date had more than ten billion account records compromised. These records contained sensitive data about individuals. IBM have stated that the global average cost of a data breach is \$3.86 million. The

HSE attack saw 700GB of files stolen and a ransom of almost \$20m demanded.

The cyber security eco-system has evolved and grown at an exponential rate over the last number of years and is a critical aspect for all sectors of our economy. Paul Brady, Director of Enterprise Information Security, Optum Ireland says "As society becomes more dependent on technology, the impact of a cyber-attack will be much greater than just financial or reputational. We need graduates to help deliver cyber security solutions."

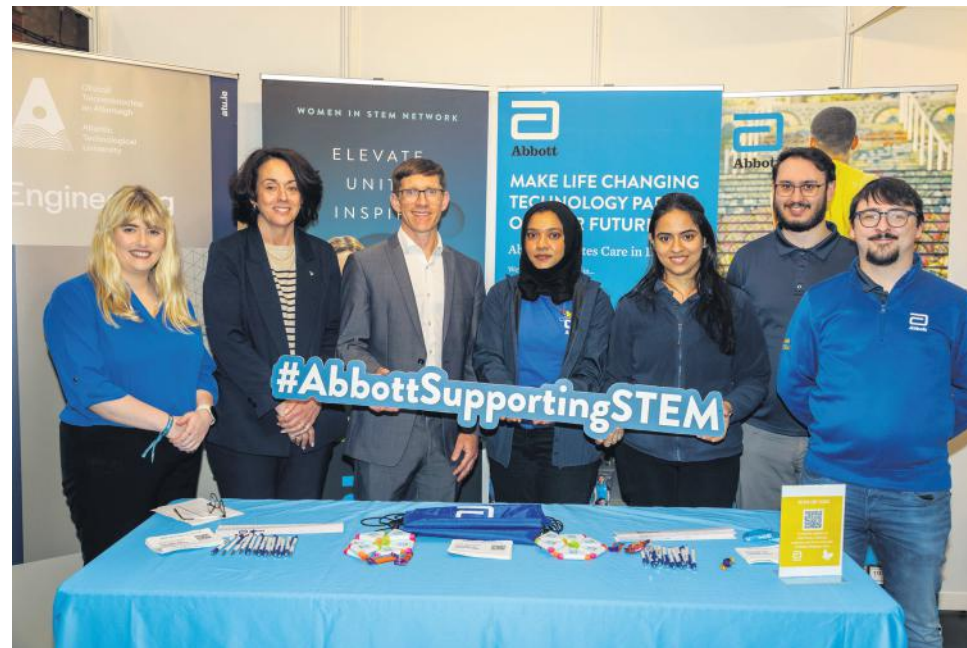
ATU Sligo's degrees in Computer Networks and Cyber Security are available at Level 8 (AU956) and Level 7 (AU846). We equip students with the skills to work anywhere within this vitally important area and aim to play our part to help ease the skills shortages in cyber security. A qualification in cyber security can lead to an exciting and varied career in an array of industries, with graduates commanding high salaries.



ATU SLIGO

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

Sligo Engineering and Technology Expo 2025



The Sligo Engineering and Technology Expo returned to ATU's Sligo campus in May 2025. The Expo is an interactive, information sharing

event which is an exciting collaboration between ATU and industry. The 2025 Expo showcased projects of final year ATU students, ranging from energy saving

solutions to robotics, and was attended by a wide range of companies including Fortune 500 industry leaders. This allowed students to network with potential employers.

Management positions and WorldSkills finals for Construction graduate



BSc (Hons) in Construction Project Management and Applied Technology graduate Nathan Wray has worked in management positions across a range of projects since graduating. He secured employment as a Project Manager with Fern Engineering immediately after his final exams in May 2023. In this role, Nathan managed the development of a brand new state-of-the-art orthodontics clinic in Sligo Town. In February 2024, he took up a position as an Assistant Project Manager with Vision Built which has seen him work on modular school projects for the Department of Education. Nathan manages a team which provide high-quality and energy-efficient modular school buildings across Ireland.

Nathan also competed in the WorldSkills finals for carpentry in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, placing second or third on three occasions.

ATU Sligo offer construction programmes at Level 8 (AU946 Construction Project Management and Applied Technology) and Level 7 (AU837 Advanced Wood and Sustainable Building Technology). These degrees blend traditional practical skills with modern construction approaches and include real-life projects, professional accreditation, work placement plus lots more.

Quantity Surveying graduates shape the world

Graduates from ATU Sligo's Quantity Surveying degree continue to work on major projects across the globe. After completing his studies, Brian McHenry gained employment with McAleer & Rushe in Northern Ireland where he worked as a Graduate Quantity Surveyor on several projects including the development of a Hampton by Hilton Hotel in Bath, England. Brian then took his qualifications to Australia where he is now employed as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor with Kapitol Group in Melbourne. He is currently working on a large defence project for Hanwha Group. He previously worked on a major data centre project for Microsoft where his role involved tendering internal finish packages and managing several sub-contractor accounts.

After she graduated, Kristina McGrath moved to New York, USA where she began work as an Estimator with Eurotech Construction before gaining employment with One Key LLC as an Estimator and Project Manager. Following five years employment with One Key LLC, Kristina then moved to COYLE where she worked as Project Estimator for three years.

In late 2024 Kristina moved into a management position with Rider Levett Bucknall RLB, where she is currently employed as a Cost Manager. During her time in New York, she has worked on iconic buildings including 3 World Trade Center, the New York Public Library and the Brooklyn Nets refurbished training facility.



Site visits integral to Civil Engineering degrees



Site visits are an important element of ATU Sligo's Civil Engineering degrees as they allow students to gain real-world experience. This academic year students visited Bonham Quay in Galway to see this large-scale development first-hand. They received talks from Patricia Staunton, Regional Director of Cushman & Wakefield Ireland, who offered an overview of the project, and Cathal Whoriskey, Senior Contracts Manager at John Sisk & Son, who delved into the technical aspects of real-world engineering challenges and solutions.

Students also visited Future Cast and Vision Built. Here they learnt about concrete and 3D printing, the technology that goes into the panelised and volumetric methods of construction, and lots more.

ATU Sligo's Civil Engineering degrees also include work placement, real-life multi-disciplinary projects with students from other construction related degrees, practical learning in high-tech labs and professional accreditation.

Common Entry Engineering degrees



ATU Sligo's engineering degrees at Level 8 and Level 7 allow students the opportunity to study a variety of modules before making an informed decision of which area of engineering to specialise in. No matter which engineering degree a student enters ATU Sligo to study, they have the flexibility to switch their specialism if they wish. At Level 8, students have the option to choose between Robotics and Automation, Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. At Level 7, the options are Precision Engineering and Design, Mechatronic Engineering, Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.

ATU SLIGO

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

Mechanical Engineering students spend week studying in Germany

Mechanical Engineering students, accompanied by lecturer Declan Sheridan, attended a one week Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) in materials technology and processes at Esslingen University of Applied Sciences near Stuttgart in Germany earlier this academic year. ATU Sligo were joined by universities from South Africa, Sweden, Poland, Cyprus, Greece, Finland and Malta.



Throughout the week, students took part in advanced labs, practicals and lectures. Topics covered included fatigue analysis in metals, additive manufacturing of metal components and deep drawing of metal.

Students toured the Porsche manufacturing plant where they were brought around the production line to view how the Porsche Cayenne and 911 vehicles are assembled. They also visited Trumpf manufacturing and research campus, where

they learnt about the high technology field of lasers and 3D printing.

Other activities across this jam packed week included a tour of the Bosch manufacturing site, tours of the Mercedes Benz and Sinsheim Technik museums, a walking tour of Esslingen and a trip to Heidelberg.

In October 2025 another group of Mechanical Engineering students will participate in the week-long programme.

New robotics facilities



ATU Sligo's robotics labs were recently upgraded, ensuring students have access to the latest cutting edge technologies. New state-of-the-art technologies include a heavy-lift payload drone, the Aurelia X8 Standard, and two industrial Mitsubishi robots. Also included as part of the upgrades was a Remotely Operated Underwater Vehicle (ROUV). The BlueROV2 is a 6-thruster vectored configuration with open-source electronics and software. Finally, students also have access to a new 7-Axis Collaborative Robot. The xArm 7 robot arm is the top-of-the-range solution from the UFAC-TORY xArm series. It features seven degrees of freedom and provides human-like flexibility and rapid motion. It can conduct complex operations such as robotics research and filming.

Mechatronics students part of Kempten University exchange



This year marked the 10th anniversary of a relationship between ATU and Kempten University, Germany. Students from ATU Sligo's Mechatronic Engineering degree benefit from an annual exchange programme with Kempten University. The exchange allows students to build up international connections and immerse themselves in a new learning environment.

Earlier this year, ATU Sligo students and lecturers spent one week in the German university. Students attended lectures in mobile robotics, process automation and metrology, gaining valuable knowledge from Kempten's faculty. There were also factory visits to several high-tech industries in the region, trips to renowned museums, tours of regional cities and social events throughout the week.

Kempten University students and lecturers then visited ATU Sligo in May 2025. Students participated in labs and lectures and visited local factories. The German and Irish students also enjoyed nights out in Sligo and took part in a range of activities to further foster friendships.

ATU SLIGO

SCIENCE

Fascinating studies for Forensics students



There is never a dull day studying Forensic Investigation and Analysis at ATU Sligo. Some practical highlights include experiencing target practice and analysing gunshot residue at Lough Bo shooting range, a simulated murder scene at the Clayton Hotel in Sligo, undertaking the forensic investigation of a car and spending an informative day at the State Laboratory.

Throughout their studies, students engage in lots of practical learning experiences. Alongside those mentioned above, students also train in molecular biology techniques for the development of DNA profiles, complete expert witness training and learn how to test for toxins and illicit drugs.

Environmental Science graduates have role to play in solving global issues

The latest science from the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicates that greenhouse gas emissions need to be cut by 43% by 2030, compared to 2019 levels. Global temperatures are rising, with 2024 being the warmest year on record. Sustainability and

climate change, as we all know, are major global issues.

ATU Sligo's Environmental Science with Ecology graduates play a key role in identifying solutions and making change. Throughout their studies, students are equipped with the skills needed to have a positive

impact on the future of the planet.

In August 2024, 11 students from ATU Sligo's Environmental Science with Ecology, Creative Design and Business degrees participated in the Sustainable Futures Summer University hosted by Mid

Sweden University

The Sligo campus students joined counterparts from universities in Sweden, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland to work on transdisciplinary group-based projects. Sustainability topics included ecological management, circular design, gaming for the future, electric vehicles and climate change. Students worked together daily to research and solve problems and face the complex challenges around sustainability. At the end of the two-week summer school, each group presented their project findings.

There is a high focus on practical learning throughout Environmental Science with Ecology in ATU Sligo. The degrees also include professional accreditation, work placement, Erasmus+ opportunities, fieldwork, access to high-tech labs, site visits and lots more. The employment rate within environmental science is extremely high, with most Environmental Science with Ecology students securing jobs before they complete their final exams.



Scott Kilker: Physiotherapy in Australia

ATU Sligo Health Science graduate Scott Kilker continued his studies at York St John University to become a fully qualified physiotherapist and has enjoyed a very enviable career path to date.



After graduating with a BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy from the UK University, he worked as a musculoskeletal physiotherapist in a private practice in Manchester for one year. During this time, he also worked part-time as an academy physiotherapist for Oldham Athletic F.C. He then moved to Australia, where he secured employment as an MSK Physiotherapist at Total Physiotherapy in Sydney and was also the lead physiotherapist for New South Wales GAA. Now in his third year in Australia, Scott is a musculoskeletal physiotherapist with AG Physio in Cairns.

ATU Sligo's Health Science degrees include a wide variety of modules, which means students have the flexibility to choose many pathways when they graduate. Some pursue further study in physiotherapy, occupational therapy, radiography and speech and language therapy. Others take up employment in health and physical activity related areas including sports development, sports science, physical activity promotion, health promotion and much more. Graduates can also pursue a range of Level 9 and Level 10 postgraduate studies.

New teaching gym opening in September 2025



A new teaching gym for ATU Sligo's Health Science and Sport with Business degrees will open in September 2025. An extensive cardiovascular training suite has been installed, which includes Concept2 rowing machines, stationary bikes and ski ergometers as well as high-spec treadmills and cross-trainers. The commercial grade resistance exercise suite includes dual-purpose fixed-weight machines to target all major muscle groups, a functional training cable machine, as well as heavy-duty half racks, Olympic weightlifting platforms and specialised training bars.

In addition to the fixed weights, an array of free weight equipment includes a range of weight benches, portable squat racks, dumbbells, barbells, tri-grip plates, kettlebells, slam-balls, medicine balls and a fully stocked body-pump station. A central sprung-floor space facilitates flexible work, fitness testing or group activity sessions to take place comfortably.

Clinical Measurement
Physiologists on the
Critical Skills
Occupations List



ATU Sligo lecturers in Clinical Measurement Physiology Tanya Byrne Pratt and Paul Nolan, with Karen Dobbyn, Director of Professional Development & Chair of the Academic Accreditation Council for the Irish Institute of Clinical Measurement Physiology (IICMP).

Clinical measurement physiologists are in very high demand to meet a growing skills shortage, with the demand forecast to significantly grow in the coming years. The latest Irish Government’s Critical Skills Occupations List, published in September 2024, included clinical measurement physiologists.

Clinical measurement physiologists are highly qualified healthcare professionals who work as part of the interdisciplinary team treating patients. They perform specialised diagnostic tests, detailed assessments and continuous patient monitoring.

Some clinical measurement physiologists work in invasive areas such as operating theatres. Most of this work is hospital based but there are increasing opportunities to work in the community with the development of community based diagnostic hubs.

ATU Sligo’s BSc (Hons) in Clinical Measurement Physiology degree is one of only two in Ireland, and the only one which allows students to train in all five disciplines: gastrointestinal, neurology, vascular, respiratory and cardiology.

This degree was developed in collaboration with the Irish Institute of Clinical Measurement and allows graduates to work anywhere in the world. There is also a huge demand for this profession globally.

For more information, please visit atu.ie/AU973

ATU SLIGO
SCIENCE

Occupational Safety and Health students lead the way with Rovensa Next

Year 4 BSc (Hons) in Occupational Safety and Health students successfully completed a landmark project in collaboration with Rovensa Next, a pioneering company in biosolutions for sustainable agriculture based in Co. Donegal. Students custom-built an ISO Integrated Environmental, Health and Safety Management System. This represented the culmination of knowledge and skills learnt through four years of enquiry-based learning, providing a tangible solution that merges academic expertise with industry innovation.

Through hands-on experience and direct engagement with industry, students demonstrated their ability to navigate complex workplace challenges and



contribute to evolving safety standards. A dynamic panel discussion seen students, academic mentors and Rovensa Next management

reflect on their experiences, emphasising the impact of co-created learning and collaborative problem-solving. With enquiry-based learning

at the heart of ATU Sligo’s degree, graduates leave with a competitive edge, ready to take on leadership roles in occupational safety and health.

Ireland continues to be the third largest exporter of pharmaceuticals in the world

Ireland continues to be the third largest exporter of pharmaceuticals globally, accounting for €116+ billion in

exports annually, according to IDA Ireland. In April 2025, RTÉ reported that over 50,000 people are



employed in BioPharma companies in Ireland, with 90+ companies operating here.

Indeed, 19 of the world’s top 20 pharmaceutical firms are based in Ireland. The demand within the pharmaceutical and medtech industries for skilled graduates is at an all-time high. ATU is an industry leader contributing to the research and development of this sector to ensure Ireland has the skilled workforce required to ensure we remain a global innovative leader within this ground-breaking industry.

Sligo is recognised as a rapidly developing hot spot for the collaborative clusters that develop from operational and

research excellence between education and industry. These collaborative clusters in pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical devices and diagnostics have been a key element behind the remarkable growth in this sector.

Graduates from ATU Sligo’s Biomedical Science and Pharmaceutical Science with Drug Development degrees often receive offers of employment before their final exams. They are now working for major companies such as Abbott, AbbVie, Pfizer, Eli Lilly, Johnson & Johnson, Baxter and Allergan, to name a few.

Human Nutrition students develop healthy products as global market rapidly expands

Human Nutrition students were busy over the past few months with their Food Product Development module. They developed several products that are nutritious, tasty and sustainable, and presented these in a showcase. Student products included gluten-free, high protein, plant-based and vegan offerings.

As outlined by LinkedIn, the 2024 Health Food Market Report valued the global health food market at over \$450 billion and is projected to grow to a value of over \$645 billion by 2032. This growth is fuelled by

changing consumer preferences, increasing health awareness and the rise in lifestyle-related diseases. We only need to visit our local supermarket to see first-hand how our shelves have evolved, and continue to evolve, with more options than ever before.

Gluten-free products, followed by dairy-free and plant-based alternatives, dominate the market. There is a growing number of people diagnosed with food intolerances and allergies alongside those choosing products for lifestyle reasons.

Elsewhere, clean label foods made with minimal and natural ingredients, protein supplements essential for muscle building and weight management, and low-sugar and sugar-free options all continue to flourish.

This is great news for our Human Nutrition graduates as not only can they pursue careers in this exciting industry, but they also have the skills to work in a variety of food and nutrition industries or pursue further studies in multiple areas, including dietetics.



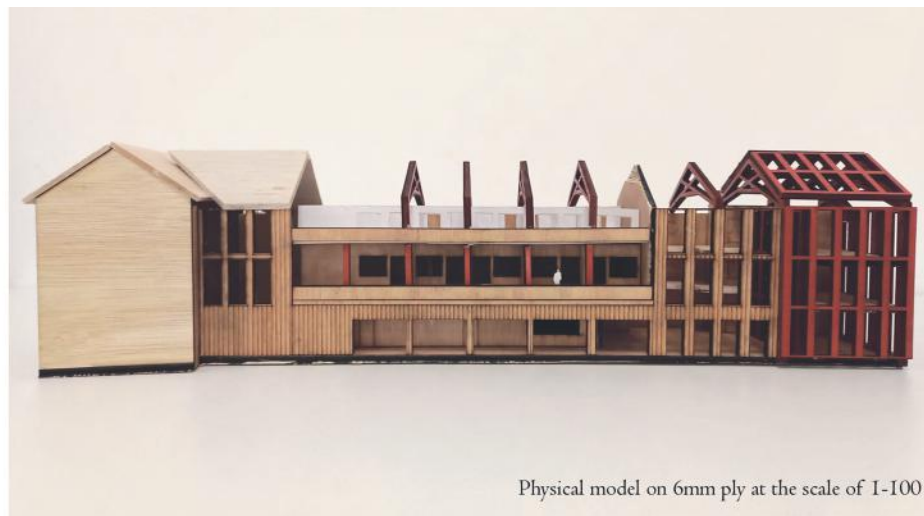
ATU SLIGO

ARTS, DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

Flora Berki wins Interior Educators Award



Interior Architecture and Design student Flora Berki claimed first place in the progressing student category at the Interior Educators Awards in London earlier this academic year. Flora's project, titled The Neighbourhood, addressed climate emergency and sustainability. The

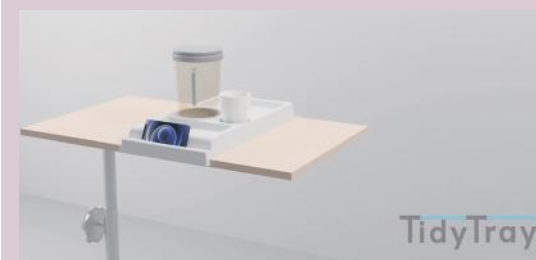


Physical model on 6mm ply at the scale of 1-100

Neighbourhood is a transformative hotel concept located in the old Savoy cinema in the heart of Sligo town, drawing upon an ideological approach to a greener and more connected urban environment and the desire for a sustainable shift in the hospitality sector. Judges commented "This project

blew us away. A transformative hotel concept, rich in materiality, demonstrating a careful understanding of the reuse of the site". As a result of this win, Flora's project was featured in online design publication Dezeen which is the world's most influential architecture, design and interiors magazine.

Award-winning Creative Design graduate



Creative Design graduate Siobhán Daly was the HSE Spark Design on the Front Line competition winner in 2024 for her Tidy Tray design. The Tidy Tray addresses a need for patients, while staying in hospital or nursing homes, to be able to organise and take care of their personal items. Siobhán's product reduces patient stress while also saving staff members precious time on their rounds.

Siobhán was also a runner-up in the Products and Services category at the Universal Design Grand Challenge competition for her Tidy Tray design, receiving an award at a ceremony which took place at the Aviva Stadium in October 2024. Each year, the Centre for Excellence in Universal Design (CEUD) at the National Disability Authority (NDA) runs the Student Awards Competition. Siobhán graduated from the BA (Hons) in Creative Design degree in November 2024.

New facilities for Performing Arts shows



ATU Sligo's Performing Arts students have access to a new €18 million creative teaching hub with state-of-the-art performance facilities, the ideal setting for producing and performing multiple shows each year. Opened in early 2024, facilities include two large black box theatres, production design studios, costume design studios, a dance studio, computer aided design and fabrication studios, and rehearsal spaces.

The facilities ensure studying Performing Arts at the Yeats Academy of Arts, Design and Architecture (YAADA) is an especially rewarding experience leading to great employment prospects in the expanding film, TV and theatre industries. This year students have produced and performed numerous shows including Cyclops, The Investigation and Home Away From Home. For some shows, Performing Arts students collaborate with students from other YAADA degrees including Writing and Literature.

Architecture degree receives RIAI accreditation

The BArch (Hons) in Architecture degree at ATU's Sligo campus officially became Ireland's newest Architecture programme following The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) Accreditation Procedures and ratification by the RIAI Council on Friday October 18th 2024. This designation positions ATU as the sixth university in Ireland offering an RIAI-accredited qualification in architecture.

Uniquely located in the Northwest on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, architecture at ATU Sligo draws deeply from its geographical setting. As the only architecture programme in Ireland not situated in an urban city centre, it benefits from its position on the Atlantic edge, an area known for its dramatic landscapes and rich cultural history.



Lecturers write, direct and produce film TWIG

Yeats Academy of Arts, Design and Architecture lecturers Marian Quinn and Tommy Weir released their film TWIG in 2024 to much acclaim. The film, written and directed by Marian and produced by Tommy is a crime drama starring Sade Malone. It is a modern-day adaptation of Ancient Greek tragedy Antigone, set in the ganglands of Dublin.

TWIG world premiered at the 2024 Dublin International Film Festival (DIFF), where it was selected as the festival's opening film, before being released across Ireland in June 2024. The film also featured at several other festivals including the Woodstock Film Festival in New York, Dinard Festival Du Film in France and the Irish Film Festival in London. Award nominations for TWIG have included Best Irish Feature Film at the DIFF and Best Narrative, Best Cinematography and Best Editing at the Woodstock Film Festival.

Marian and Tommy lecture across the Writing and Literature, Performing Arts and Fine Art programmes in ATU's Sligo campus.

Fine Art graduate exhibits at RDS Visual Art Awards

Fine Art graduate Kyle Fairbanks was one of only ten artists in Ireland shortlisted to exhibit at the 2024 RDS Visual Art Awards in Dublin. Kyle's exhibit saw him recreate one of his drawings, titled Midnight Diner in 3D rendering using recycled cardboard, styrofoam, wood, paper and acrylic paints.

The RDS Visual Art Awards is the most important platform for visual art graduates in Ireland. It provides a curated exhibition opportunity and a

significant prize fund of over €40,000, as well as vital exposure for emerging visual artists as they move into early professional practice.

The exhibition took place at the RHA Gallery and ran from Friday November 22nd 2024 to Saturday January 18th 2025.



ATU ST ANGELAS

Nutrition, Food and Business Students develop innovative food products

As part of their studies, final year BSc (Hons) in Nutrition, Food and Business Management students undertook their New Product Development (NPD)

module, allowing them to develop a product from idea concept, right through to prototype development and product launch. Students create original food products

which they believe offer true market potential, while meeting realistic demands for the average consumer. Alongside developing the food product itself, they develop

food packaging, labelling and a business plan.

These ideas follow every step of the NPD process towards establishing a real food business - from trialling the sensory attributes of the product, its nutritional value, branding and costing - students get a real sense of how food businesses operate and how everyday products make it to the marketplace. Students then get to present their ideas at the NPD Showcase hosted on campus to industry experts, highlighting the creative and entrepreneurial skills gained through their degree.

Following each presentation, the judging panel were tasked with the tough decision of awarding students and their products. This year's overall winner was Helen Walsh from Meath with her product 'Mochi Nua - Ice-cream mochi with an Irish twist'.

Interested in exciting career opportunities in the food sector? Check out www.atu.ie/AU989



Pitching their taste for success, ATU St Angela's BSc (Hons) in Nutrition, Food and Business Management final year students with their innovative food products.

ATU St Angelas - your home for Home Economics

For over 70 years, ATU St Angelas has been delivering Home Economics Teacher Education and continues to offer concurrent teacher education degrees that are renowned when it comes to national reputation and exceptionally high standards of students and graduates. As the National Centre of Excellence for Home Economics, the degrees offered enable students to undertake a qualification that is not only recognised nationally by the Teaching Council of Ireland but also on a global scale with graduates who are in high demand.

Recently, the campus hosted a visit from Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, James Lawless TD, providing an opportunity to highlight the significance of Home Economics as a platform for delivering important life skills and for educating future generations on the challenges faced, from societal to global issues.

Studying Home Economics with ATU means students gain excellence in practical skills from over 30 subject expert



Home Economics Student Teachers, Sarah Whelan and Ciara Wood, with Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science James Lawless TD, and BED Programme Director, Paula Doherty.

academics across the Schools of Home Economics and Education, enabling them to build competence and theoretical knowledge for the

classroom. Each year, students get to experience school placement, which is integral to learning and confidence-building, allowing initial student

teachers get a true sense of teaching subjects they are passionate about.

For more, check out www.atu.ie/campus/st-angelas

Home Economics Artisan Enterprise showcase

BA (Hons) in Home Economics students recently hosted their Artisan Enterprise event on campus where they showcased a unique display of social and commercial toolkits and products and how these can be used to address challenges in the home, family or wider community.

The Artisan Enterprise module allows students to develop a concept within the Home Economics field, demonstrating a variety of skills aimed at developing a social or commercial enterprise product.

This year's showcase included textile products to support wellbeing in primary school children, lavender infused products to promote sleep, handcrafted portable textile playsets, and gym clothing and accessories for women. While in the area of food and nutrition, recipes were developed to offer nutritional support for those suffering from for haemochromatosis, menopause, perimenopause and polycystic ovary syndrome. Students also created ready-made artisan spice bombs and tasty vegan treats. The event doubled up as a fundraiser with all donations going to Women's Aid, Ireland.

Graduates of the BA (Hons) in Home Economics are in demand in community and industry settings with some opting to progress to further postgraduate opportunities in areas including education, health promotion, health coaching and wellbeing, community development, child development, food innovation and textiles, craft and design.

For more, check out www.atu.ie/AU990

Consider Intellectual Disability Nursing



Seamus Beirne, BSc (Hons) Intellectual Disability Student Nurse, ATU St Angelas

Intellectual disability nursing is based on the principles of human rights, equality, person-centredness and empowerment. Registered Nurses Intellectual Disability (RNID) collaborate with the person with an intellectual disability and their family, advocates and members of the multi-professional and multi-agency teams to enable the person with to live within their community.

Second year student, Seamus Beirne, describes his learning journey so far. "I have wanted to be a nurse for as long as I can remember. From a young age, I recognised the importance of having empathetic, dedicated professionals in our society to support people with additional needs and to promote their independence and quality of life - and that is exactly what Intellectual Disability Nursing embodies".

"For anyone considering this degree, know that you will be supported by dedicated staff, both on campus and throughout your practice placements in the community".

For more, check out www.atu.ie/AU992

SLIGO STUDENT LIFE



Sligo: A vibrant town with stunning surroundings

Sligo is the perfect setting for an unforgettable student experience. From sushi, vegan and tapas to Mexican, Italian and Thai, Sligo's thriving culinary scene ensures there is something to suit every taste and budget. There are nightlife options for every mood, so whether you are looking for a traditional Irish pub or a

trendy cocktail bar, a live music venue or an energetic nightclub, you will find it here. A ten-screen cinema has all the latest blockbusters whilst The Hawk's Well Theatre, The Model and The Factory host a diverse range of arts and entertainment weekly. For the shopping enthusiast, independent shops are nestled in between popular

high street brands, catering for everything from clothes to computers and vintage to vinyl. Famous for its connection to W.B. Yeats, Sligo is also home to a range of literary and cultural options. World class beaches at Strandhill and Rosses Point or the tranquil beauty of Lough Gill, provide the perfect place to get away

from it all. Sligo's rural landscape includes the world-famous Benbulbin Mountain, the Queen Maeve trail on Knocknarea, woodland walks such as Hazelwood and Slish Wood, megalithic sites in Carrowkeel, the beautiful wilderness of the Ox Mountains and so much more.



SLIGO

EVENTS CALENDAR

Below is just a taste of the variety of events and festivals which take place in Sligo.

Sligo Farmers Market	Weekly
Sligo Races	Various
SO Funny Comedy Festival	February
St. Patricks Day Parade	March
Western Drama Festival	March
Carney 10k and Sligo Half Marathon	April
Wild Atlantic Shanty Festival	June
Sligo County Fleadh	June
Cairde Sligo Arts Festival	July
Sligo Jazz Project	July
Sligo Rally Stages	July
Black Pig Festival	July
Yeats International Summer School	July
Sligo Pride Festival	August
Hagstravaganza	August
Warriors Run	August
Sligo Summer Festival	August
Sligo Baroque Festival	September
Sligo Live	October
ATU Halloween Haunting	October
Spilt Milk Festival	November
Christmas Markets	December

Sligo has some of Ireland's most affordable student accommodation

With a diverse range of options available, Sligo has the perfect accommodation to suit every individual. The cost of student accommodation is also much more affordable than many of Ireland's other university towns and cities, with this also reflected in the cost of living. There are several purpose-built student villages in Sligo, all within easy access of both campuses. Some student villages offer a laundry service, whilst others have smart TV's and free Netflix.

Digs accommodation is popular with those moving away from home for the first time, as students live with a local family and meals may be provided. With an excellent selection of private apartments and houses, private rental is popular with students wishing to live

- with friends. Whilst most students live close to campus, some choose the hustle and bustle of Sligo town centre or the stunning natural beauty of Strandhill and Rosses Point.
- Please visit the ATU Sligo Students' Union website www.atussu.ie for more information on the accommodation options available or email support@atussu.ie for assistance with your accommodation search.
- Student Villages**
Gateway Apartments – Lakewood Letting
www.gatewayapartments.ie
- Gateway Apartments- M&C Property**
www.mcp.ie/gateway-apartments

- Ard Nua**
www.ardnua.com
- Uni Rooms @ Ard Nua**
www.unirooms.ie
- Yeats Village**
www.yeatsvillage.net
- Clarion Village**
www.thevillageclarion.com
- The Grove Student Complex**
www.thegrovesligo.ie
- Lake Isle Luxury Apartments**
www.lila.ie
- St. Angela's Lakeside Aparthotel**
www.sala.ie

ATU CLUBS & SOCIETIES



Joining a club or society is a great way to meet people with similar interests, try out something new or pursue a passion. We encourage students to join at least one club or society, and with a huge variety to choose from, ATU has something for everyone. These cover everything from frisbee to fine art, music to motorsport and photography to politics. Also, new clubs and societies are formed every year which means students can even start their own.
 University life is more than just study. It is also about having fun and making friends. Clubs and societies play a big role in this. Joining one can often be the start of a new passion or a lifelong friendship. Clubs and societies days are held across our campuses early in the university year. This is an opportunity for students to sign up to as many of them as they like. ATU subsidise clubs and societies so that they are free, as are most of the activities they offer.

Tea Society
What does your society do? The aim of the Tea Society is to provide a space for students to hang out and chat over a hot beverage. Sweet

treats are also on the agenda.
Who is it for? The society is open to everyone. Some students may find it challenging to get involved with a sports club or special interest society, so this is the perfect solution.
How often do you meet? Once or twice a week.
How much do members pay? The Tea Society is free.

Chess Club
What does your club do? We meet up together to play chess, learn chess and socialise. Our players have all improved their knowledge of chess. We also hold chess tournaments in the university and compete in national competitions.
Who is it for? Anyone interested in chess, no matter what level they play at.
How often do you meet? Twice a week.
How much do members pay? It is completely free.

E-Sports Society
What does your club do? E-sports is a special branch of digital gaming which plays competitively, commonly for rewards in tournaments or for regional and worldwide titles.

Who is it for? This society is a space for students who are looking for digital gaming in any way.
How often do you meet? Twice a week, both online and on-campus, with on-campus meet ups usually being something casual for trying new things.
How much do members pay? It is completely free.

Harry Potter Society
What does your club do? We meet regularly to chat and share all things on Harry Potter. We plan lots of exciting events like a Sorting Hat Ceremony, Annual Christmas Yule Ball, Harry Potter movie and book days, Harry Potter themed activity days and lots more.
Who is it for? Anyone with a love and interest for Harry Potter.
How often do you meet? Once a week.
How much do members pay? It's free.

Agricultural Science Society
What does your club do? The aim

of the society is to bring agricultural science students or any student with an interest in agriculture closer together through meetings, events, trips, a charity ball and much more.
Who is it for? Anyone interested in Agriculture - farmers or not!
How often do you meet? Once a month
How much do members pay? It is free.

International Society
What does your club do? The aim of the society is to get to know the many different cultures we have across our university, go on amazing trips and play lots of fun games.
Who is it for? A society where everyone is welcome.
How often do you meet? At least once a week.
It is completely free.



Below are just some of the Clubs and Societies at ATU

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| American Football | Soccer | Frisbee Games |
| Archery | Surf | Go Karting |
| Athletics | Swimming | Harry Potter |
| Badminton | Table Tennis | International |
| Basketball | Volleyball | Law |
| Boxing | Agricultural | LGBTQ+ |
| Chess | Science | Literature |
| Cricket | Animation | Mature |
| Diving | Astronomy | Music |
| Equestrian | Bushcraft | Neurodiversity |
| GAA | Cheerleading | Politics |
| Golf | Christian Union | Photography |
| Handball | Dance | Robotics |
| Karate | Debate | Rock Climbing |
| Kayaking | DJ | Skate |
| Motorsport | Drama | Tea |
| Mountaineering | Environmental | Vegan |
| Rowing | Eurovision | |
| Rugby | Fashion | |

*Clubs and Societies available will vary across individual campuses

ATU SPORT

ATU athletes win multiple national titles



medal in weight for distance. Caoimhe and Claire, along with fellow Sligo campus athlete Alix Joyce, were also successful at April's IUAA Track and Field Championships in Santry Stadium, Dublin. Alix won gold in the women's 3000m steeplechase, Caoimhe took silver in the women's triple jump and Claire claimed bronze in both the women's discus and weight for distance. That has not been the only success for Caoimhe, Claire and Alix this calendar year as they also medalled at the Athletics Ireland National U20 and U23 Indoor Championships in March. Alix won gold in the 1500m and silver in the 800m, Caoimhe claimed the national title in triple jump and Claire won bronze in weight for distance. Ben, Caoimhe, Claire and Alix are all recipients of an ATU Sports Scholarship.



Athletes from across ATU's campuses have had lots to celebrate following a successful year of competition so far. In February 2025, the National Indoor Arena in Abbotstown, Dublin, hosted the Irish University Athletics Association (IUAA) Indoor Track and Field Championships. Ben Edeh, a student from ATU's Galway City campus, delivered an impressive performance to win the men's 400m final. Finishing second in Heat 3 with a time of 49.39 seconds, Edeh's strong performance earned him a spot in the final, where he capitalised on his momentum to clinch the title. At the same championships, two students from ATU's Sligo campus also returned home with medals. Caoimhe McDonagh won silver in triple jump, and Claire Kennedy also secured a silver



ATU Galway beat Rathmines College to win FAI Freshers Invitational Cup



After a tight first half affair, with Rathmines really putting ATU under pressure, ATU Galway turned on the style in the second half of the FAI Freshers Invitational Soccer Cup Final, beating Rathmines College 5-1 in Athlone on the 6th of March 2025. After a scoreless first half, second half strikes from captain Dan Duffy, Darcy Ngodjo, Alex Murphy and a Thomas Daly brace concluded a quality 45 minutes.

Matthew McCole clinches sixth university title and seventh national title



PhD student and ATU Sports Scholar Matthew McCole delivered a stellar performance at the Irish Third Level Boxing Finals in March 2025. The finals took place at the National Stadium High Performance Gym in Dublin, where McCole clinched the Senior Light-Middleweight (71kg) title in a thrilling contest against MTU Cork scholar Henriksson. The victory marks McCole's sixth university title and his seventh national title overall. This remarkable accomplishment secures his position among the elite of Ireland's boxing scene. McCole, who studies on ATU's Donegal campus, continues to make waves on the international stage as well. In the latter part of 2024, he competed for Ulster High Performance Boxing in the prestigious Golden Belt Tournament held in Targu Mures, Romania. There, he faced fierce international competition and made it to the semi-finals where he narrowly lost out in a unanimous decision.

Jenna Gallagher represents Ireland at European Kickboxing Championships

ATU Sports Scholar Jenna Gallagher represented Ireland at the WAKO Senior European Kickboxing Championships in Athens earlier this academic year. Jenna, who studies the BSc (Hons) in Human Nutrition degree on the Sligo campus, was competing at her first senior European championships. An accomplished Team Ireland athlete, Jenna had previously represented her country at junior level on the world and European stage. The former Mercy College Sligo student has won multiple national titles and fights out of her local kickboxing club in Collooney.



ATU Galway's Annual Sports Ball and Awards



ATU Galway hosted their annual Sports Ball and Awards in the Clayton Hotel in April, recognising individual and team performances following a successful sporting year. Students, staff and coaches were joined by ATU President Dr Orla Flynn along with special guest, Galway Senior Hurling's captain and ATU Sports Scholar Conor Whelan.

The evening kicked off with the presentation of the Club Person of the Year awards, each voted for by individual competitive clubs at ATU Galway. Winners were honoured with unique ATU Galway All Star Jerseys. The spotlight then turned to the ATU Galway Team of the Year, awarded to the triumphant Ladies Football Team. Wrapping up the ceremony was the prestigious ATU Galway Sports Personality of the Year accolade, bestowed upon Volleyball club member, Darren Ajayi.

Brother and sister travel to Japan with Team Ireland for World Championships

Siblings Lucas and Isobel Thornton, who are both ATU Sports Scholarship recipients, represented Ireland at the JKA World Championships in Takasaki, Japan, in October 2024. No strangers to the world stage, the pair have represented Ireland at numerous international tournaments. Lucas and Isobel both study at ATU's Sligo campus and are Team Ireland athletes fighting out of the Sligo Shotokan Karate Club.



ATU Sligo GAA win league title

The ATU Sligo Junior Men's Football Team were crowned 2024 Higher Education GAA Senior Football League Division 4 champions. The team won all three group games defeating ATU Galway, University of Galway and Mayo College of FE in the process. They then travelled to Garda College Templemore in late November and had a fantastic 4-9 to 1-10 win in the quarter-final. A 2-10 to 1-9 semi-final win over DCU Glasnevin campus set up a final showdown against DCU Drumcondra, which the ATU Sligo team won 1-12 to 2-5.

Elsewhere in GAA, the ATU Sligo Men's Freshers A Football Team progressed to the semi-final of the All-Ireland Freshers A competition for the first time in 15 years and the Men's Intermediate Football Team were Intermediate Championship finalists. The Ladies' A Football Team advanced to the quarter-final of the Lynch Cup, having been promoted this year after winning the Moynihán Cup last year, and the league semi-final, having also been promoted to Division 3 this year. The Ladies B Football Team progressed to the semi-final of the Lagan Cup.

ATU SPORT

ATU Annual Charity 5K



ATU Donegal's Letterkenny campus hosted the annual charity 5K on Tuesday April 1st. More than 250 runners and walkers participated raising a substantial €3,420 for Pieta House Northwest. The increasingly popular event, now in its 13th year, welcomes all abilities and is

open to the community, general public, staff, students and children.

ATU Sports Centre manager, Helen Kennedy said "ATU Donegal's annual charity 5K is an ever-growing community event which welcomes everyone and all abilities. This year, ATU Donegal, along

with our sponsor PGIM, were delighted to support Pieta House Northwest. All participants' entry fees and donations have raised much needed funds to sustain these vital services." Next year's Charity 5K which will be held on April 14th, 2026.

ATU Galway Camogie win first ever Ashling Murphy Cup



ATU Galway's Camogie Team made history in February after winning the first ever Ashling Murphy Cup in a brilliant display of Camogie against opponents Queens University Belfast at the Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence in Began. Captain Ava Lynskey set the tone by scoring a goal in the opening minute of the game. This set ATU Galway up nicely as Abbey Massey found the net shortly after in the 6th minute. Points from Ava Joyce, Ava Lynskey and Ciara Burke gave ATU Galway a 2-11 to 2-3 lead at the halfway point.

There was no doubt about the outcome after a move involving Katie Gilchrist, Ava Joyce and Neasa Daly concluded with Ava Lynskey getting her second goal. Although Queens University kept the fight going, two points each from Ava Lynskey and Ava Joyce ensured ATU Galway always had a healthy lead and they romped home to victory on a scoreline of 3-15 to 3-4.

ATU SPORT

ATU Galway Ladies Football Team prove too strong for Marino



ATU Galway were crowned the 2025 Ladies HEC Donaghy Cup champions following an emphatic 4-10 to 0-10 victory over Marino in Queen's, Belfast.

Captain Keeva McDonnell's early goal helped them build a 1-7 to 0-5 interval lead before further green flags from Allannah Devereux, a Saoirse Delaney penalty and Eimear McMahon wrapped up the victory.

It's their first victory since the University's success in 2019 and completed a ladies' Gaelic games double following ATU Galway's Ashling Murphy Cup camogie victory in February.

ATU Sligo win Fergal Maher Cup

ATU Sligo's senior hurlers were crowned the 2025 Electric Ireland Higher Education Fergal Maher Cup champions following a 2-14 to 0-12 victory over Ulster University (Coleraine/Magee). The final, played at the Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence in Began, was redemption for last year's final, where ATU Sligo were beaten by Ulster University.

Player of the Match, James Murray, was ATU Sligo's hero in the final as the Meath hurler notched an impressive 2-11. Also on target were Lorcan O'Malley (0-2) and team captain Oisín Murray (0-1). ATU Sligo went into the half time break two points clear, 1-6 to 0-7, but a dominant second half display ensured their Ulster rivals had no answer. The back line on the day put in a fantastic display to ensure their forwards had the foundations to flourish.

The victory sealed a remarkable year for



the ATU Sligo team and management, who posted a 100% record in this year's competition with victories over ATU Donegal, ATU Connemara, RCSI and Ulster University. The ATU Sligo team was

comprised of players from all over Ireland and supported by Nick Freyne (manager), Sean Freyne (coach), Brian McCann (selector) and Michael Harte (ATU Sligo GAA Development Officer).

Successful Intervarsities for ATU Sligo Karate Team

The ATU Sligo Karate Team finished third at the 2025 Karate Intervarsities, which were held at Maynooth University on Saturday April 5th. The team, which included three ATU Sports Scholars, finished the day with seven medals. Lucas Thornton won gold in both the individual and team Kumite, with his sister Isobel winning silver in individual Kumite and bronze in individual Kata. Wiktoria Jagielska won silver in individual Kata and bronze in team Kata, and Eoghan Lang claimed silver in individual Kumite.



Keri Loughrey named Donegal Sportswoman of the Year



Year 1 Sport and Exercise student Keri Loughrey has been crowned local WomanSport.com Donegal Sportswoman of the Year and Female Sports Star of the Year 2025 at ATU Donegal following an outstanding debut season on and off the pitch. Keri played a crucial role in ATU Donegal Women's Soccer Team's remarkable campaign, leading the side to victory in the prestigious O'Regan Cup. Her skill, work rate and leadership quickly made her a standout player and a driving force behind the team's success.

Her individual achievements have also caught attention beyond the university game. After an impressive spell with Sligo Rovers FC, Keri swapped red for blue and recently put pen to paper and moved to Northern Ireland Football League (NIFL) Premiership side Linfield. This marks a major step forward for the Republic of Ireland underage international where she will be targeting more silverware in the upcoming season.

Aengus Flanagan wins gold for Ireland



Aengus Flanagan, a Sport with Business student from ATU's Sligo campus, won two gold medals for Ireland at the Swansea International Open earlier this year. Aengus was selected for the Irish Intervarsity Team and secured his victories in the 100m and 200m Butterfly events. He is also a recipient of an ATU Sports Scholarship for swimming.

Fionán Ruane selected for Irish Para-Athletics Academy



Fionán Ruane, who studies Performing Arts at ATU’s Sligo campus, has been selected as part of Paralympics Ireland Para-Athletics Academy. In February 2025, Fionán attended the Sport Ireland Institute to take part in a day of testing, training and life skills as part of the programme. He also recently participated in a warm-weather training camp with Paralympics Ireland athletes in Portugal.

The Para-Athletics Academy focuses on the development of talent identification, profiling and monitoring protocols in para-athletics. Fionán is a former pupil of St Joseph’s Secondary School in Foxford, Mayo and is an ATU Sports Scholar.

Aoife Brophy competes in International Handball Tournament



Home Economics and Biology student Aoife Brophy competed at the USHA (United States Handball Association) Collegiates Tournament in Portland, Oregon, from February 19th to 23rd 2025. The USHA Collegiates Tournament is the largest collegiate tournament in the world, with almost 200 players entering from both the USA and Ireland. This was Aoife's third time attending, having won the Women's Open 9-16 Final at the same tournament in Minnesota in 2024. Earlier in 2025, at the Irish Collegiates Tournament, Aoife finished second in both the Ladies A One Wall and Singles categories and reached the Women's Open Doubles semi-finals. The Laois student also won a 2025 Leinster Junior Doubles title.

A talented handball player, Aoife has previously won the Leinster and All-Ireland Junior Singles 60x30 title, reached the Junior All-Ireland Singles semi-final in the 40x20 and won the She's Ace Ladies A Singles title in 2023.

ATU SPORT

ATU Alumni aim to be included in Ireland’s 2025 Women’s Rugby World Cup squad



ATU Alumni Nicole Fowley and Clíodhna Maloney are aiming to be included in Ireland’s 2025 Women’s Rugby World Cup squad. The pair were both part of the Irish squad for this year’s Guinness Women’s Six Nations and are expected to be in Head Coach Scott

Bemand’s plans for the World Cup. The tournament, which is being held in England from Friday August 22nd to Saturday September 27th, will see Ireland take on New Zealand, Japan and Spain in Pool C. They begin their tournament against Japan on Sunday August 24th in Northampton.

Out Half Nicole, who hails from Sligo, plays her club rugby with Connacht, whilst Galway native Clíodhna plays for the Exeter Chiefs as a Hooker. Nicole and Clíodhna both studied the BBus (Hons) in Sport with Business during their time at ATU’s Sligo campus.

ATU Donegal Women’s Soccer Team crowned O’Regan Cup Champions and Sports Team of the Year



The ATU Donegal Women’s Soccer Team are this year’s ATU Donegal Sports Team of the Year. The side, coached by Brid McGinty, started the season off in strong fashion with positive outings in the WSCAI Division 1 against ATU Sligo and TU Dublin. They reached the semi-final of the league competition, losing out to eventual winners Maynooth University.

The side then entered the FAI O’Regan Cup in Semester 2 and reached the final of the competition with great victories over Dundalk IT and Maynooth University (after penalties). In the final they came up against a strong Queen’s University side, and despite Kerri Loughrey’s opener, they found themselves 2-1 down after 30 minutes. However, up stepped Caoimhe

Heron for ATU Donegal to score an equaliser putting ATU Donegal ahead before the half-time break.

In the second half, Heron found the net twice more to ensure the result was never in doubt. A spellbinding performance in front of goal for the young forward secured the O’Regan Cup for ATU Donegal with a 5-2 final scoreline.

ATU SPORT

ATU Alumni part of Team Ireland at Paris 2024 Olympics

ATU Alumni Lauren Cadden and Dean Clancy represented Ireland at the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris, France. BSc (Hons) in Health Science and Physical Activity graduate Lauren was part of the Women's 4x400m relay squad, whilst former Applied Sport with Business student Dean competed in the Men's 63.5kg category. For Lauren and Dean, who both studied at ATU's Sligo campus, this was their first Olympic

Games.

The Women's 4x400m relay team finished an agonising fourth in the Olympic Final as they were narrowly pipped to the bronze medal, coming in 0.18 and 0.40 seconds behind bronze and silver medallists Great Britain and the Netherlands. For Dean, a heartbreaking split-decision loss to three-time Olympian Obada Al-Kasbeh in the preliminary round of the 63.5kg weight division ended



Lauren Cadden

his games. When the point deduction was considered, the fight was tied on two of the judges' scorecards. Lauren and Dean remarked that they learnt a lot from competing at their first Olympic Games as their focus now turns towards the path to the 2028 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, USA.

For Lauren, the Olympics is a standout moment in a remarkable two years. She was a member of the Ireland

Women's 4x400m relay team which won silver at the 2024 European Athletics Championships in Rome and made her individual senior international debut at the 2025 European Athletics Indoor Championships in the Netherlands. Most recently she competed for Team Ireland at the 2025 World Athletics Relays in China, helping her country qualify for the 2025 World Athletics Championships in Tokyo later this year.



Dean Clancy

Erin McConalouge to represent Ireland at U18 Women's Six Nations



Year 1 Agriculture student and ATU Sports Scholar Erin McConalouge has continued to raise the bar this season as she collected the Ulster Girls' Youth Player of the Year award and was one of the first Women's National Talent Squad players this year (a new IRFU programme running across the four provinces) earning herself a call up to represent the U18 Ireland Women's Rugby team in the Six Nations.

Erin is no stranger to the international stage, with previous experience representing Ireland at U18 in both 15-a-side and 7-a-side tournaments as well as a senior team experience in the Dubai Invitational 7-a-side tournament in November 2024. The young player has been able to achieve all this alongside obtaining her undergraduate programme at ATU Donegal and playing club rugby at Inishowen RFC.

ATU students represent Ireland Colleges and Universities Team

Atlantic Technological University students Rasheed Yeboah and Kevin Jordan were both selected to represent the Irish Colleges and Universities Soccer Team for matches against the French Universities and the Irish Defence Forces this year. Ireland had a narrow 2-1 victory over their French counterparts in Nance, France on December 11th. The team had a more comfortable

3-0 win over the Irish Defence Forces on January 29th.

Rasheed, who studies Sport with Business on ATU's Sligo campus, plays his club football with Sligo Rovers and Kevin, a Sports and Exercise with Physical Education student from ATU's Donegal campus, plays his club football with Finn Harps. Both players are also recipients of an ATU Sports Scholarship.



ATU Sports Scholarship applications are open

The ATU Sports Scholarship programme provides supports to talented student athletes in recognition of their need to balance both sporting and academic commitments. Our sports scholarships include financial benefits of up to €3,000 per annum. Non-financial benefits include free or reduced rate access to sports facilities, access to sports science supports, free ATU branded sports scholarship gear, plus lots more.

ATU Sports Scholarships are awarded across a wide variety of team and individual sports. No matter what your chosen sport is, if you think you could be eligible, then we encourage you to apply. The next application closing date is Thursday, June 5th. For more information or to apply, please visit atu.ie/sports-scholarships

ATU Sports Scholarship Programme

Open for Applications



Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh
Atlantic Technological University