

FOUNDATION DAY 2024

Celebrating Excellence, Community and Impact

This year, to celebrate the anniversary of South East Technological University's establishment on 1 May 2022, we launched Foundation Day, a new annual tradition of events to mark the designation of our University. This celebration will become a key date(s) in the University calendar in the coming years.

Foundation Day 2024 events took place from 23-28 May, featuring a 'multi-campus' conference held at SETU's campuses in Waterford and Carlow, and at the Wexford County Council offices in Wexford town. Each conference focussed on a specific theme from SETU's strategic plan, 'Connecting for Impact,' that align with the objectives of the 'Grand Challenges of the South East Programme.'



Speaking ahead of the Foundation Day events, Professor Veronica Campbell, President of SETU, stated, "Foundation Day 2024 is a wonderful opportunity for the SETU community to come together to celebrate our achievements to date, while looking to the future for the exciting possibilities that lie ahead. At these events in Waterford, Carlow, and Wexford, we will hear from our partners, stakeholders, staff, and students on the vision for SETU's future. Our strategic plan 2023-2028, 'Connecting for Impact' outlined our ambitions to become a leading global university with strong roots here in the south east region, positively impacting development and quality of life for our students and the wider community.



FOUNDATION DAY 2024

Celebrating Excellence, Community and Impact

These Foundation Day events specifically focus on how we can connect on the themes of health, workforce skills, and sustainability. I look forward to hearing from our expert partners, and our accomplished staff and students, who are making an impact in these areas, on how SETU can continue to fulfil its strategic aims.”

Each event also had a ‘Connecting for Community’ theme offering staff the opportunity to engage in a think tank session to provide feedback and discussion on SETU’s progress to date, what we have achieved, what we need to work on and what staff would like us to prioritise in the coming years.



Earlier in May, SETU, in partnership with the Wexford Arts Centre, presented the annual Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Art exhibition entitled ‘Aiteall – fine spell between two clouds’, which was officially opened by renowned Irish poet and Pulitzer Prize winner, Paul Muldoon.

SETU’s annual art exhibition also gave the nod to Foundation Day 2024 with a ‘Connecting for Inclusion’ themed exhibition, featuring work from SETU students entitled ‘Social Canvas’. Displayed in the Dr Billy Colfer Gallery, the ‘Social Canvas’ project was a collaborative project between SETU’s third-year Art and Visual Communication and Design students and members of various community-based groups in Wexford including Enniscorthy Men’s Shed, members of the Traveling Community, the Wise Dollies of Enniscorthy, Down Syndrome Enniscorthy, and Martina Leacy’s dance classes. The project illustrated the power of socially engaged art as a tool for social impact and collaboration.





NEW APPOINTMENTS

VP for Research, Innovation and Impact

SETU proudly announces the appointment of Prof Marie Claire Van Hout as Vice President of Research, Innovation and Impact.

With an extensive academic background and a track record in interdisciplinary global health research and knowledge transfer, Professor Van Hout brings a wealth of experience and expertise to her new role at SETU. Holding PhDs in Public Health from Teesside University and in Law from Liverpool's John Moore's University, along with a Master of Law from Dublin City University and Master of Science qualifications in health professions education, and addictions, Prof Van Hout exemplifies inter-disciplinary academic excellence.

Her portfolio includes publishing over 300 peer-reviewed journal articles and securing over €14 million in research funding from entities such as the European Union, Irish and UK Research Councils, and pharmaceutical industries.



Associate VP for Sustainability

As part of plans to educate for sustainable development, achieve our climate action targets, enhance biodiversity and support the green transition in the South East, SETU have appointed a new Associate Vice President for Sustainability. David Ryan is a graduate of University of Galway and was Head of the Department of Science and Health until 2014 before moving to the role of Assistant Registrar and then Director of the Office of Institute Planning and Research. Prior to assuming the role of AVP for Sustainability, David was Programme Director for the SETU PMO.



At SETU, we are dedicated to shaping a sustainable future in all our activities, from education and research to operations and campus development.



SETU NEWS & UPDATES

Extended Reality (XR) Industry Showcase

Walton Institute was delighted to host the inaugural SETU Extended Reality (XR) Industry Showcase on 7 May 2024 at ArcLabs Research and Innovation Centre in Carriganore, West Campus.

Industry representatives from across the South East attended the event which offered a unique opportunity to explore the future of technology and its potential for business with SETU's XR experts.



SETU Extended Reality (XR) Industry Showcase (L-R): Stephen Barnes, Mixed Reality Lab Manager, Walton Institute; Dr Frances Cleary Head of the Mobile Ecosystem and Pervasive Sensing Division Walton Institute; Liam Fitzgerald ICS Technology Gateway Manager at Walton Institute; Dr Zeta Dooly, Lecturer, Researcher (Seerlab) School of Education and Lifelong learning SETU; Dr David Culliton Lecturer/Researcher engCORE, SETU; Ian Mills Extended Reality Technical Lead, Walton Institute; Daniel Hickey Junior Software Researcher, Walton Institute

Researchers and innovators from Walton Institute, Design+, engCORE, AMASE, IMI4, SABRE, SeerLab and compuCORE were on hand throughout the morning providing live hands-on, technical demonstrations including: immersive tourism experiences; VR and forest bathing; gamification and MR; virtual digital twins and more. While a number of insightful workshops provided an understanding of the practical applications of XR across a variety of industries.



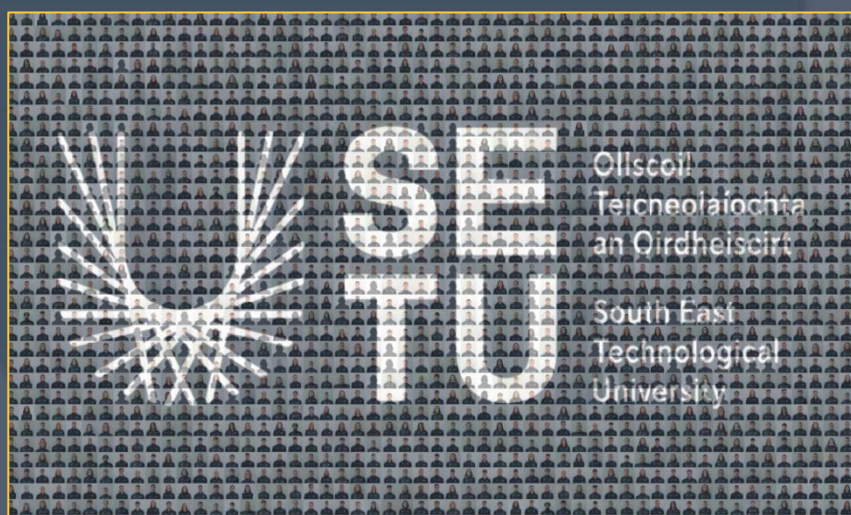
To stay updated with the latest news from South East Technological University, be sure to visit www.setu.ie/news



SETU NEWS & UPDATES

Sports scholarships campaign showcases integration and celebrates student success

SETU has a strong reputation for provision of premium sports scholarships. Over the last year, the sports offices on each campus have been working on an integrated campaign to raise awareness of the scholarship application process and align resources to provide the best experience for applicants.



SETU Sports Scholar headshot Wall of Fame showcasing every sports scholar for 2023/24 academic year.

The Sports Scholarship programme is an athlete-led development strategy that is adapted to each athlete's unique requirements with the help of a network of support services and expertise. The programme is continuously growing and students have received sports scholarships in a wide range of sports.

Additionally, SETU is dedicated to fostering athletic excellence among students with disabilities. This year's integrated campaign to encourage scholarship applications features a scholarship wall of fame showcasing a headshot of every sports scholar for the 2024 academic year. The campaign will also include a series of Q&A videos featuring SETU sports scholars discussing their experience of the scholarship programme so far. The wall of fame and Q&A videos will be linked to a targeted social media campaign which will be live in the coming weeks.



SETU NEWS & UPDATES



SETU's brand triumphs at Transform Awards Europe 2024

SETU's brand clinched prestigious gold awards at the Transform Awards Europe 2024, held recently in London. The collaborative efforts of SETU's chosen brand agencies, Red Dog and MCCP, were honoured for their exceptional work across two categories: **Best Corporate Rebrand following a Merger or Acquisition** and **Best Visual Identity from the Education Sector**.

Upon receiving news of the win, SETU President, Prof Veronica Campbell said, "I'm delighted to hear that SETU's brand was successful in receiving two gold awards at the 2024 Transform Awards. This speaks to the outstanding work of our team and partners at Red Dog and MCCP who worked tirelessly to bring our visionary brand to fruition.

"This work began long before our official designation as South East Technological University in 2022, and has continued as the brand has developed and fully come to life in its new era. It is a proud moment to see our rebranding objectives realised, solidifying our position as a leading Irish technological university. This award is a testament to our commitment to delivering outstanding education and making a meaningful impact worldwide."

Representing SETU at the event, Dr John Power, Brand Manager, said, "Our aim was to create a brand that embodies SETU's excellence in delivering higher education in Ireland and globally. We wanted the brand to demonstrate the university's core values and to serve as a true reflection of its identity. With successful launches both domestically and internationally, SETU's brand now resonates globally."

Europe's only celebration of rebranding

The Transform Awards is Europe's only dedicated celebration of rebranding, repositioning, and brand development. It recognises best practice in the brand development work of businesses and organisations across the continent. The awards acknowledge creative and strategic excellence and provide a platform for organisations to tell their stories, and to discuss reputational change. Its recognition of SETU's branding work underscores the university's commitment to excellence and innovation in brand evolution.

For more information on Transform Award winners 2024 [click here](#). To learn more about SETU's brand, [click here](#).



SETU NEWS & UPDATES

SETU Careers Development Centre wins six in a row at the National gradIreland and AHECS Awards in Dublin

SETU's Careers Development Centre recently won the Association of Higher Education Guidance Services (AHECS) award for **Supporting Student/Graduate Employability** at the gradIreland Graduate Recruitment Awards 2024.

The gradIreland Awards is an annual event that celebrates achievement and promotes excellence and innovation in graduate recruitment. These awards serve to recognise the vital contribution companies and third level careers services make in the Irish graduate market.

SETU's winning submission, "Feature Friday", ran through the Careers Development Centre social media platforms, Instagram and LinkedIn, took proactive steps to enhance employer and student engagement through a weekly showcase of leading employers across all disciplines answering student's main recruitment related questions. Employers also provided valuable advice and practical guidance on employability and recruitment strategies including sourcing and applying for opportunities, application tips, interview preparation, sought after skills and insights into hybrid/remote working opportunities. This initiative facilitated interactions between students and 196 employers across two academic years including well-known entities such as Jameson, Enerpower, Vodafone, The Boland Group, Public Relay, For Purpose and RehabCare. Complemented by on-campus events, Feature Friday involved 125 submission in 22/23 and 145 in 23/24 across all disciplines.

Sorcha Walshe, Senior Careers Administrator commented "I am delighted to accept this award on behalf of the Careers Development Centre team. This project aimed to bridge the gap between students and potential employers and meet students "where they are at". The initiative reached students from first to final year, allowing employers not only to connect with imminent graduates but also raise awareness among students in the early stages of their studies. The format, with weekly posted content that was easily accessible and saved online, resonated well with students, offering them the flexibility to review the information at their convenience."

Sorcha was joined by Angela Collins, Head of Careers/Careers Advisor and Averil Wall, Careers Administrator in accepting this award at Dublin City's Mansion House on Thursday April 25, 2024.





SETU NEWS & UPDATES

Academic Affairs

Academic Council Committees

The following committees of Academic Council have been established and are meeting:

- Taught Studies Programmes, Teaching and Learning Committee
- Research and Research Programmes Committee
- Student Experience Committee
- Joint Quality Committee

The Joint Quality Committee is a joint committee of both Governing Body and Academic Council.

SETU Annual Quality Report

SETU's Annual Quality Report for January to August 2023 has been submitted to QQI (Quality and Qualifications Ireland). The report has been published on QQI's website, along with the Annual Quality Reports for all other Irish HEIs.

CINNTE Review

The Institutional Profile has been sent to QQI for the international panel. Thanks to the work of almost 100 staff and colleagues in workgroups, the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report is in the final stages of production.

University of Sanctuary Designation

SETU has been designated as a University of Sanctuary. SETU already offers a number of scholarships to refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants and this formal designation confirms our commitment to upholding the values of equality, diversity, and inclusion across all aspects of university life.

To learn more about the University of Sanctuary initiative [click here](#).





SETU NEWS & UPDATES

Chat to SETU Activities

SETU has launched its CAO Change of Mind campaign to support potential students in making the right decision regarding their CAO options.

The dedicated Chat to SETU team will be available every day from Monday, 24 June right up to the Change of Mind deadline on Monday, 1 July to answer students', parents,' and guardians' queries and concerns during this time.

Since August of last year, the experienced support team has answered over 14,000 queries via our Chat to SETU. Over the coming weeks they are on hand to answer questions related to students' CAO options across a multitude of platforms.

SETU is offering a live chat service via WhatsApp to coincide with the CAO Change of Mind deadline. Students can text their query to 085 856 7484 or alternatively via our webchat on SETU.ie.

Our Chat to SETU team will also answer questions live on Instagram stories from 9am to 5pm Monday, 1 July Join the conversation on our Instagram page @setuireland.

In addition, the CAO Helpline is available Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 4pm over the same period. (Waterford Campuses: 051 845653, Carlow Campus: 059 9175173 or 059 9175174, Wexford Campus: 053 9185814).

Further information is available on SETU's online hub at www.setu.ie/cao. Chat to SETU's services will also be advertised through national and regional press and radio, billboards, social media campaigns and targeted messaging.

Students can book a guided tour of our campuses from Monday, 24 June to Friday 28 June. The service will run daily on all our campuses across Waterford, Carlow, and Wexford from 10am to 3pm. Tour times and further details can be found at www.setu.ie/events and booking is essential.





SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Climate Action

Following on from the successful revamp of the Business building on the Cork Road campus by our SETU Estates team, and as part of SETU plans to achieve net zero, a retrofit of the Burren building on the Kilkenny Road campus commenced this week. Supported by the Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation [Pathfinder](#) Programme through DFHERIS, DECC, SEAI and the HEA the works include new roof finishes, insulation and waterproofing, air source heat pumps and peak load gas boilers, as well as upgrades of hot water calorifier, air handling units and an LED lighting system. Work will be completed in September and will result in a significantly improved Building Energy Rating and a 50% reduction in carbon emissions.

Education for Sustainable Development

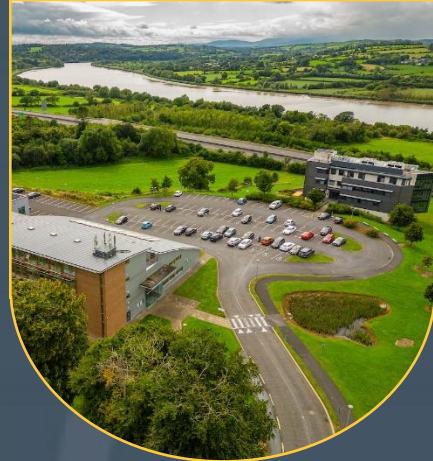
Supporting Ireland's national strategy on [Education for Sustainable Development](#) (ESD to 2030), a number of N-TUTORR supported resources are available in SETU including for example, the Student Digital Backpack and the SDG course on the N-TUTORR [platform](#), the ESD masterclass for staff ([link](#)) and the Curriculum Development Framework. In addition a second SATLE funding call focusing on innovations in education for sustainable development, digital transformation and academic integrity has just been made to promote and support the embedding of ESD and inclusive and sustainable principles and practices in our SETU curricula.

Biodiversity

The inaugural SETU [Biodiversity](#) Forum, an initiative of the Department of Land Sciences and led by Dr Denise O'Meara, took place in May. The event brought stakeholders from across the South East together to share information on projects, initiatives, and ideas to enhance biodiversity and sustainability practices within the region. Dr Úna FitzPatrick from the National Biodiversity Data Centre ([NBDC](#)) provided the keynote and there were also contributions from the Bioregional Weaving Lab, Teagasc, the DAFM, Mount Congreve, Tirlán, and Waterford Council. The next meeting of the forum will take place on 5th July, from 10am until noon in the SETU Arena, Carriganore, and all are welcome. Please contact Dr Denise O'Meara (denise.omeara@setu.ie) to confirm your attendance.



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SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Connecting for Sustainability

Ms Oonagh Buckley, Secretary General of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications was the keynote speaker at the SETU Foundation Day '[Connecting for Sustainability](#)', conference in Wexford. The event examined SETU's response to Ireland's Climate Action Plan, and particularly the opportunities which the green transition presents for communities across the South East as well as the potential of offshore renewable energy in meeting Ireland's energy needs.

SE TU Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Oirdheisirt South East Technological University

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY 2 ZERO HUNGER 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 4 QUALITY EDUCATION 5 GENDER EQUALITY 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION 14 LIFE BELOW WATER 15 LIFE ON LAND 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

THE GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SETU SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

setu.ie

Sustainability in the Arts

The 2024 multi-campus SETU [Sustainability in the Arts Festival](#) took place recently and involved multidisciplinary student collaborations from the areas of music, visual art, graphic design, culinary arts, languages, and internationalisation, all coming together to showcase their unique perspectives on how the Sustainable Development Goals apply to them. Festival lead Dr Hazel Farrell also welcomed Ireland's former UN Ambassador David Donoghue, one of the main authors of the United Nations Global Sustainable Development Goals ([UNSDGs](#)) and Dr John Barimo of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network ([link](#)).



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CROSS CAMPUS INITIATIVES

TU RISE Update

As part of the TU RISE project there is a number of newly launched initiatives of which include;

- 19 [Research Sabbaticals](#) – Call is currently open all applications to be submitted by 5pm on 20 June, 2024.
- 10 [Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) – Call is currently open All applications must be sent to TURISE@setu.ie by 5pm on 31 July 2024.
- 20 Professional Doctorates in Design
- 10 PhD Scholarships
- 20 Digital Masterclasses
- 4 Rural enterprise networks

SETU Offerings to enterprise and TU RISE initiatives are detailed in our [Industry Brochure](#).

Pure Extended to all SETU Campuses

The Office of Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies is delighted to announce that Pure (SETU's Current Research Information System) has been rolled out across the Carlow and Wexford campuses.

We now have over 380 profiles from researchers across all campuses in SETU. Pure is designed to advance research performance, grow global reputation, expand funding streams, and enable collaboration both nationally and internationally.

The Pure portal offers a publicly accessible, fully searchable, and navigable interface, with information drawn directly from SETU's research management system, where fellow researchers, and potential partners can find information about the University's academic and postgraduate researchers, research activity, and research outputs.

If you would like more information on Pure, please contact Pure@SETU.ie

To access the Pure portal and explore SETU's research please [click here](#).





CROSS CAMPUS INITIATIVES

SETU startX Showcase

On 9 May 2024, the inaugural SETU startX Showcase took place in the beautiful National Opera House in Wexford. SETU startX is the University's new pre-accelerator programme catering to innovators in the region looking to test their ideas through this powerful pre-accelerator programme, delivered by Resolve Partners. There were four cohorts of participants, aligned to the four Enterprise Ireland Technology Gateways in SETU; namely, Design+, ICS at Walton Institute, PMBRC and SEAM. There were 24 participants on the programme including students, new founders and established businesses who were seeking an innovative edge to their activities.

SETU Research Postgraduate Conference

This year's conference was held at the Cork Road campus with the theme "**Leading Connections for Research Impact**". The yearly Research Postgraduate Conference aim was to celebrate the work of SETU's postgraduate community whose researchers continue to push boundaries across disciplines. The event took place at the O'Connell Bianconi Building on 5 June 2024. Across the day, there was a number of students from a range of disciplines presenting their research and two exciting lightening poster presentation sessions. Over 60 students presented on the day which spanned from Health Sciences to Humanities, Arts, Computing, Engineering, Sciences and Business.

EU-CONEXUS

EU-CONEXUS at SETU would like to thank colleagues that interacted with and supported the team this year. We look forward to working with you all again next semester. EU-CONEXUS Seed Funding is now closed. 19 applications in total were submitted with SETU being a partner on 7 of those. The next round of [Seed Funding](#) will open in January 2025.

The [EU-CONEXUS Mobility fund](#) is open throughout the year. It supports a range of opportunities including invitation of international guest speakers to SETU for a conference or event.

EU-CONEXUS EENVIRO Research Conference titled "Sustainable Solutions for Energy and Environment" will run from 29-31 October 2024. Further details available [here](#).





CROSS CAMPUS INITIATIVES

Humanities Horizons: 'AI-Play'

A new CPD initiative called Humanities Horizons launched this month to cover a broad range of topics of interest to Humanities staff and the broader university community.

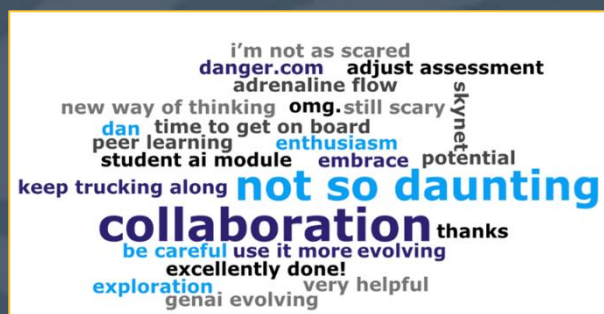
The first in the series, entitled 'AI Play', was delivered by Hazel Farrell on Wednesday, 15 May 2024 with the aim of giving participants an opportunity to explore the possibilities and challenges of Generative AI collaboratively in a relaxed environment. Areas of focus included:

- Understanding Gen AI
- Practical Examples for Teaching, Learning & Assessment
- Guided Exploration
- Student Use
- Reflection & Discussion

These sections were interspersed with interactive activities using Vevox and Padlet. There was full attendance and good interaction on the day. Impact can be measured from the following word-clouds displaying reactions from the start and end of the session.



What comes to mind when you think of Gen AI?



What is your key takeaway from today?

