Guangming Yan is currently undertaking his third years PhD study in the area of polymers and drug solubility with his project entitled: Hot melt enteric targeted therapeutic delivery platform-Enhancing drug solubility through advanced polymer extruded drug delivery system.

➢ Enhancing the solubility and bioavailability of the drug as an amorphous solid dispersion.

➢ Developing a continuous downstream process to produce a finished, ready to package dosage form direct from the extruder.
Ke Gong holds a Bachelor Degree (Equaled in Hons) in Mechanical Engineering from ECUT, AIT’s collaborative university, and is currently undertaking a research masters in the area of polymers with his project entitled: Hybrid manufacture combining 3D printing and injection moulding in the pursuit of mass customization. The project aims to figure out the effect of parameters during injection moulding and 3D printing on the performance of combined products and the improvement of the final products.
Alan Mannion
Sowmya is a first year PhD student at AIT. Her research topic is "Artificial Intelligence for predicting Quality of Experience in immersive applications". She has completed MSc in Data Analytics from NUIG, Ireland and Bachelors in Electronics and Communication from VTU, India. She has worked in hardware industry for 5 years designing electronic products. She worked as an Intern at INSIGHT Center for Data Analytics, Galway Ireland and as Research Engineer at IMaR (Intelligent Mechatronics and RFID), ITT Tralee, Ireland. Her research interests are QoE, Emotion recognition, wearable sensors, Deep learning and federated learning techniques.
My name is Shuo Zhuo
I started my master in October 2017, and started PhD career in April 2020.
I am studying in the Material field, especially on 3D printing and photopolymersation.
Chung Xue Er (Shamaine) graduated from Athlone Institute of Technology in 2018 with a first-class honours BSc in Computer and Software Engineering. She was awarded 1st Place in AIT Project Expo 2017 for outstanding 3rd year project entitled “ALPHA Self-Balancing Robot”. Afterwards, she has continued with her research-based postgraduate degree in the same institute. Her current research, funded by the CONFIRM SFI Research Centre, critiques the state-of-the-art Human-Robot interaction methods with a focus on Augmented Reality teleoperation interface. As a first-year postgraduate researcher, she always enjoyed building and experimenting new things while working with industry partners to solve real world problems. In addition, she had a particular interest in robotics and Augmented Reality.
I'm a former Athlone I.T graduate, now pursuing a part-time research masters in Analytical Chemistry. I've several years’ experience in pharma and medical device but currently work in the laboratory services within the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. My research centres around the development of new analytical methods to support veterinary diagnosis. I'm passionate about development research because of the diverse challenges it presents and the immediate value it can bring to the wider world.
Farah Alwani binti Azaman is a PhD candidate in Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT), Ireland and currently conducting research focusing on developing biodegradable biomimetic and bioactive bone regeneration scaffolds by using biomaterials and osteogenic factors since 2018, funded by Enterprise Ireland and co-funded by European Regional Development Fund. In addition, Farah possessed a Bachelor of Science with Honours (BSc. Hons.) in Industrial Chemical Technology from Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia in 2017 and completed her industrial research training on thermochromic polymer blends in Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (JAIST), Japan in the same year, before pursuing her postgraduate studies in AIT. To date, Farah has published a collaborative paper from her industrial research training entitled "Design of Thermochromic Polymer Blends Containing Low-Mass Compounds" in Journal of Applied Polymer Science and attended several conferences throughout her postgraduate journey to present her research such as Bioengineering in Ireland (Bini) conference in 2019. Recently, Farah has published a book chapter in collaboration with the experts of Materials Research Institute (MRI AIT) entitled Orthopaedic 3D Printing in Orthopaedic Medicine in Polymer-Based Additive Manufacturing book published by Springer in 2019. Farah sets her hopes high that this research will benefit the world, specifically in leading towards better quality of life.
My name is Elaine Halligan and I started my PhD in October 2018. I am funded by SFI Amber. My project focuses on the development of smart 4D materials. I am under the supervision of Mr Conor Hayes and Dr Luke Geever.
Kevin Gavin

I am in the third year of my PhD research. My initial research examined the contribution of Gaelic football participation to the overall physical activity levels in Irish youth.

The next phase of my research will examine how to increase the physical activity levels attained during youth Gaelic football practice sessions, through a games-based approach coach education programme. Participation in sport throughout my childhood played a very significant role in my overall development, from athletic ability to personal and social ability.

I am very proud of my research as I believe it will have a really positive effect on youth players' experience of Gaelic football, and in turn have a long term effect on their lives.
I'm Emer O'Neill and I am finishing my third year of my postgraduate research. My study area is Toxicology. I am currently working with Bord na Mona and Bord Iascaigh Mhara to assess their novel use of peatland bogs for aquaculture processes and my main focus is whether the algae present can help provide and support a natural means of sustainability within the farm. Being a "Bogger" myself, I have grown up looking at miles and miles of peatlands stretching out all around me and I find it so interesting that they have the potential to be used to rear fish of all things. HOW COOL IS THAT...! Also, and I think more importantly, if this venture proves successful, we have the opportunity to save countless jobs as Bord na Mona will be ceasing peat processing entirely very soon subsequently putting hundreds of people out of work.
Andrew Healy holds a BSc in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Athlone Institute of Technology and is currently in his final year of his PhD. Andrew’s PhD is primarily focused on enhancing the understanding of additive manufacturing techniques, stereolithography and fused filament fabrication, and how such techniques may be utilized in the development of dosage forms for personalized drug delivery applications with relevant publications demonstrating his findings to date. Andrew’s inspiration and passion for his research derives from the ability to combine both technological advancements with his undergraduate studies in order to design and fabricate personalized dosage forms which may be tailored to meet the unmet clinical needs of the ever-ageing population.
My name is Sinéad O'Keeffe. I am a certified Athletic Therapist and I am currently in the final year of my PhD. My research is focused on the examination of the psychology of injury among Gaelic footballers. Mental health is an ever-growing concern in modern society and research shows participation in sport has many benefits for both our physical and mental health. However, injury can be a significant stressor for Gaelic footballers and can elicit symptoms of common mental disorders that can negatively affect recovery from injury. My research aims to provide Gaelic footballers with the necessary skills to manage their mental health when injured.
Qian Wang is a PhD student in SRI and currently it is the final year of her research. With strong ambition and interest, she starts the research project on how to achieve IoT edge computing for optimized usage of the limited network resources. There are four papers published until now and one journal paper is under developing.
My name is Lorcan Daly, I am almost into my 3rd year of my PhD investigating performance attenuation and the timeline of recovery in Gaelic games. It is great to have the opportunity to investigate the impact and demands of Gaelic games, while examining the characteristics players can work on to improve their performance and recovery. I have really enjoyed my work so far and I am looking forward to the next steps of the project.
Eduardo Lanzagorta Garcia
I am a postgraduate student from Mexico, currently on my second year of PhD in the area of polymer engineering. My project is about development of antimicrobial materials. I am highly motivated to contribute on finding solutions to current global issues through research, especially in an area that I find of great importance for the present and future, such as materials.
Cormac Ward holds a first-class honours degree in Sports Science, graduating from Athlone Institute of Technology in 2019. He is also a practising Strength and Conditioning coach, working within elite sporting environments in both hurling and rugby union. Currently, he is in his first year as a PhD candidate where he is investigating ‘The Development of Sprint Performance in Field Based Invasion Team Sport Athletes’. Cormac is both excited and motivated by his research topic given his interest in coaching and sports performance. He is determined to target current gaps within the literature and provide further valuable information to coaches regarding the development of sprint performance.
Jack Eakins
Microbiologist (Uni of Manchester) with an MBA from Athlone Institute of Technology/Coventry University.
25 years working in industry: Current role is Senior Director Global Technologies, STERIS.
Responsible for technology leadership in medical devices sterilization.
Member of CEN and ISO standards committees focused on terminal sterilization. Program Committee Member of Kilmer Conference 2016 and 2019.

In Year 3 of my PhD in Microbiology. Looking at the development of Vaporized Hydrogen Peroxide for sterilization of medical devices. Examining the inactivation kinetics and using innovative tools like Flow Cytometry to do so. Our industry uses long established ISO standards that are based on science conducted decades ago. I hope my work brings some new insights and demonstrates the opportunities for further insights and understanding with the latest tools and techniques.
My name is Adrielle, I am an engineer and currently doing my MSc in software here in Athlone Institute of Technology. I am doing research on Quality of Experience of immersive virtual reality environments. Additionally, I am working with spatial audio and trying to understand how we perceive sound in VR.
Marina Bandeira is a PhD candidate on a joint program between the Materials Research Institute – AIT and the University of Caxias do Sul – UCS (Brazil) under the supervision of Dr Declan Devine and Dr Janaina Crespo (UCS). Marina received a degree in Chemical Engineering awarded by UCS in 2017. Her research is based on the green synthesis of metal oxide nanoparticles and polymeric films. The aim of her project is to develop antimicrobial coatings for biomedical applications in order to prevent infections and improve tissue regeneration.
BSc (Hons) Exercise, Health & Nutrition  MSc Applied Sports Nutrition  Registered Sports Nutritionist  1st Year PhD Student  Investigating Sports Nutrition & Female GAA Athletes
Keran Zhou is a first year PhD student in MRI and started her studies in October 2019.

She is studying about bone regeneration and infection control.

She finds learning new information very interesting.
Amit Hirway

I am a post-graduate researcher in the Department of Computer Engineering. Currently, I am in the second year of my research and aspire to transfer to the PhD register. My research aims to investigate whether multimodal datasets (eye-gaze, head-pose, heart-rate, electrodermal activity) captured from users as they consume immersive content, can be used to predict their QoE (Quality of Experience) and Visual Attention in 360° video experiences enhanced with different types of audio. The inspiration comes from the lack of such a dataset with multisensory experiences in the research community for 360° content production, storage and transmission. Also, a QoE evaluation will help to understand new paradigms in terms of Immersion and Presence.
My name is Shiyu Xiao. I joined AIT in Oct 2019 I'm studying context-aware computing. My project title is Design of a Context Aware Security Policy Language. My supervisor is Dr Brian Lee.
My name is Katie Quigley and I am currently in the third year of my PhD in bovine genetics at AIT. My project aims to investigate the frequencies and effects of major gene variants on production in traits in Irish beef and dairy cattle while also identifying novel genes and pathways associated with growth, development and meat quality through the use of integrated genomics and genome-wide approaches. The advent of new genomic technologies and the increasing environmental challenges in the Irish cattle industry has influenced and instilled my interest in genetic sciences.
Shaun graduated with a first class honours in BSc (Hons) Sport Science with Exercise Physiology from Athlone Institute of Technology in 2019 and is currently a 1st Year PhD Candidate. He is investigating the effects of sprint interval training on performance in team sport athletes.
Ciara Buckley is in the second year of a structured PhD programme. The focus of this research is to develop a more efficacious treatment for peripheral nerve injuries which affect approximately 1 million in Europe and the US each year. By 3D printing biomaterials, a personalisable conduit can be produced which can encourage and protect regenerating nerves.
My name is Bhagyabati Moharana. I am in 1st year of my research. The main objective of my research is to investigate the usability and utility of using VR for collaborative design. From childhood, I always get fascinated and dream of going into different world in my imagination. But now I can create the imaginary environment myself using virtual reality technology. Every day I learn how to create an immersive environment where several people located in different places come together and design a product. My interest in the technology inspires me to get deep into the technology.
ISMIN IZWANI BINTI ZAINOL ABIDIN

I am from Malaysia, currently in my second year of postgraduate study, waiting to transfer from Master to PhD. My project is a multi-disciplinary research. It is inspiring for me as I get to learn how drug works from the molecular level and up until how it will help the patients. Plus I get to work with professors that are experts in their field.
My name is Eimear Kelly, I am a PE + Irish Teacher from Clare. I am in first year and have just begun my PhD journey 2 months ago. I have a strong interest in Sports Promotion and Physical Activity, and my research will aim to identify Role Models within the Irish Context. I hope to identify who they are, what traits they possess, who they influence and how much impact it has on sports involvement. This will be done in partnership with Sport Ireland in rolling out a National Survey, and then using the largest sporting platform available in Ireland which is the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association who play a large role in local communities all over Ireland. Having played camogie for both my club and county since a young age, I can see first-hand the positive impact it can have on a young female’s life. This research will focus mainly on females, and will give the much needed evidence to whether Female Gaelic Athletes are influential to younger female players, or will other Role Models such as parents, coaches, peers, and teachers play an instrumental part. There is a gap in literature on the impact of Role Models on PA and Sport in Ireland and I hope that my research will shine a light on those who can influence others at a local level, and in turn increase the overall participation of females in Sport in Ireland.
My name is Yvonne Cortese and I am a 3rd year PhD candidate studying catheter associated urinary tract infections as part of the Materials Research Institute (MRI) and Bioscience Research Institute (BRI) in Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT). My research project is cofounded by AIT and my industry partner Teleflex®, which is a multi-national medical technology provider. Throughout my research I have developed a novel in vitro urethra model to assess prototype urinary catheters designed by my industry partner. My model has been published in the Journal of Applied Microbiology and offers new tool for innovation in the medical device industry. My research has inspired me to create more robust testing methods for industry and academic research to support advances in medical equipment design and ultimately better health outcomes for patients.
My name is Clodagh Reid and I am a 3\textsuperscript{rd} year PhD candidate in the area of engineering education and spatial visualisation. I am a qualified post-primary teacher of Engineering, Technology and Design and Communication Graphics. Following my degree I assumed a postgraduate research position in Athlone Institute of Technology and became a member of the Technology Education Research Group (TERG). My research aims to investigate the relationship between spatial visualisation and problem-solving performance in engineering education. To date I have developed an approach to monitor cognitive abilities associated with problem solving and a method to investigate performance factors objectively throughout a problem-solving experience. The research inspires me to continue towards understanding how spatial ability relates to performance in engineering because of the potential significance of its findings. Spatial ability acts as a barrier to underrepresented cohorts entering engineering education. Through understanding this relationship, appropriate mechanisms can be put in place to support the development of spatial ability and increase inclusivity and diversity in engineering education.
Hi my name is Guilherme, I am a Biomedical Engineer and Postgraduate Researcher at Software Research Institute, AIT. I am currently working with the development of an immersive VR application to test the impact of video quality on perceived QoE of self-driving cars. For this, I have developed a simulation of a street in Athlone with two different methodologies: one applying Photogrammetry - a novel technique used to create 3D content, using photos that provides photorealistic environments - and the other using a "low-poly" approach with textures applied on Blender-modeled meshes, that provides a scenario that looks less real (similar to the content provided by other simulations within the same scope). Users will test this application in VR and the results comparing both modalities will allow further investigations to evaluate Autonomous Vehicles (AV) technologies in the VR scenario that promotes the highest QoE. Moreover, it will also be used to highlight QoE as a user-centered science that provides reliable methodology for subjective and objective quality metrics, allowing to assist the development of technologies in the AV domain.
Kiera holds an undergraduate degree in Sports Science with Exercise Physiology from AIT and is currently in her final year of studying for her PhD. Kiera’s PhD project, which is funded by the European Space Agency’s PRODEX Programme and Enterprise Ireland, is focused on examining the impact of 60 days head-down-tilt (HDT) bed rest on the metabolic physiology of young, healthy males. More specifically, Kiera is examining changes in the circulating concentrations of novel biomarkers of insulin resistance to determine the role of these circulating proteins in the change in insulin sensitivity as a result of prolonged inactivity. In addition to this, Kiera is investigating whether reactive jump training (<4 minutes/day), performed during bed rest, can alleviate the metabolic disturbance known to occur with bed rest. This research is being conducted as part of the “Reactive jumps in a sledge jump system as a countermeasure during long-term bed rest” (RSL) study funded by ESA at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR).
My name is Megan Fallon and I started my PhD in October 2016. I studied Pharmaceutical Science in AIT which influenced me to pursue a research postgraduate degree. My project involves the development of novel biomaterials for nerve regeneration.
Mairéad Teehan graduated with a Bachelor of Education and specialisation in Physical Education from Mary Immaculate College Limerick in 2019. She is currently in her first year of her postgraduate studies, and is investigating the feasibility of having a full time Physical Education teacher in primary schools.
Eoghan Hynes has recently transferred onto the PhD register at AIT. He is researching Quality of Experience (QoE) in Augmented Reality procedure assistance and training applications. He is inspired by the use of modern technology to evaluate user QoE.
Kevin Masterson

I am a postgraduate researcher going into my final year of a PhD program. I am looking at select bioactive compounds for their suitability as alternative treatments for bacterial infections, with great emphasis on biofilm-associated infections, a commonly tackled issue in the medical device industry. There has been a growing need for alternatives to antibiotics, due to the ever increasing threat of antimicrobial resistance. With the data gained to date, this project is showing great contributions towards the development of such alternatives.
Tomasz Szank

I am a postgraduate researcher at Bioscience Research Institute, AIT. My research focuses on the investigation of herbal products for anxiety and depression. I am currently in the second year of my PhD and looking at safety and neuromodulatory effects of traditional herbal medicine, *Rhodiola rosea* in vitro.

*Rhodiola rosea* as an adaptogen shows neuromodulatory, antioxidant and immunomodulatory activities. However, little is known about which bioactive constitutes contribute to those claims. Research isn't easy, but very rewarding and to date, we gathered some interesting results.
Akash Rajguru is a Software Researcher at Software Research Institute, Athlone Institute of Technology, Ireland. He is currently pursuing his part-time PhD and obtained his MSc in Software Engineering (2019) from Athlone Institute of Technology. Akash’s research interest is in developing decentralised applications which includes blockchain, cloud computing, edge computing and distributed computing.
My name is Niamh Higgins and I'm in my second year of my research project. My project looks at the faecal microbiome of dairy cattle. There are many elements of this project that inspire me, especially as I come from a veterinary nursing background. This project incorporates the areas that I have a passion for: animal health, genetics and the farming industry. My motivation is that this project could have a future impact on the health of our farm animals.
My name is Xi Lan and I am a PhD student in AIT. At present, I am learning some algorithms about artificial intelligence systematically, and investigate the feasibility of using multi-agent deep learning as an approach for solving cooperative multi robot system challenges in smart manufacturing.

I had a lot of communication with several doctoral supervisors with profound views on artificial intelligence due to my graduation project. In addition, I like robots very much, so I was determined to do research in the field of artificial intelligence.
My name is Stephen Jacob and I am in the second year of my PhD. The basic idea behind my research project is how the areas of process mining and deep learning can improve cyber security situational awareness in a microservices based software application. My overall PhD, particularly the element of process mining, has inspired me to seriously consider a career as a researcher in the field of data mining, the examination of pre-existing data to discover new data.
My name is Han Xu, I am a first year research student come from materials institute, the main aspect of project work has been the design and development of an overprinting process that allows the easy and reproducible overprinting of injection moulded parts using a fused filament fabrication 3D printer. And this is fully interesting and challenging process for me to utilize the additive manufacturing technologies to have a new attempt on studying of drug release with tailored dosage forms.
Daniel Fitzpatrick holds a first class honours in BSc (Hons) in Toxicology and Analytical Sciences from the Athlone Institute of Technology. As an undergrad, Daniel focused on how a food additive called semicarbazide causes cancer and is in the process of publishing this work. Daniel is currently in his first year of postgraduate research in the areas of polymer engineering and regenerative medicine. Developing medical devices to meet the ideal requirements outlined by medical experts is what keeps Daniel focused and motivated.
My name is Lin Zhang, I am a postgraduate student from SRI office. The MSc programme started in September 2018 and aimed to finish in August 2020. Currently, the research is in Month 22 by 8th June 2020. The aim of the MSc research is to evaluate Ethereum performance and identify the bottlenecks that Decentralized Applications (DApps) may encounter while interacting with the Ethereum blockchain. So far, all of the researchers focus on the Ethereum system, my research centre on the user experience, currently, none of the person studying this direction.
Lauryn Bracken, graduated with a BSc. (Hons) in Pharmaceutical Science from AIT in 2019. Lauryn is currently in her first year of postgraduate research in Organic Chemistry at AIT, under the supervision of Dr Noreen Morris and Dr Sean Reidy. Lauryn is currently working on modifying the Dakin-West (DW) reaction in order to produce new fluorinated chiral keto-amide compounds. Future work will focus on biocatalysis - more specifically, treating the DW products with the following enzymes; carbonyl reductases (CREDs), imine reductases (IREDs) and transaminases (TAmS), to asymmetrically synthesize chiral amine and diamine compounds. Lauryn is delighted to be joined by industry partners Almac Group and Arran Chemical Company.
Debora Pereira Salgado

B.A (Hons) degree in Biomedical Engineering at Federal University of Uberlândia – Brazil

PhD candidate (3rd year) in Software Engineering at Athlone Institute of Technology – Ireland

Interested in Assistive Technology, Immersive technology, digital signal processing and Quality of Experience.

Fan of classical and indie music and retired rugby player

The motivation to do research came from the passion to solve problems. I got inspiration when I saw my dad solving problems in his work, he is a role model for me.
Katja Magdelena Osterwald
I studied a BSc. in Sport Science in Germany. Previously I have worked as a Senior Biomechanist and Research Assistant in a worldwide renowned Sports Medicine department, at the Sports Surgery Clinic in Dublin (SSC). Through this position I have extensive experience of 3D motion capture using Vicon Nexus, force plates (AMTI and ForceDecks), isokinetic dynamometry (Cybex Norm) and I have been exposed to both Electromyography (Delsys Trigno) and inertial measurement units (IMU) (TurningSense and Shimmer, Xsens) as well as analyzing and reporting back results to elite athletes and patients.
Currently I am undertaking a PhD in the department of Sport and Health Science in the faculty of Science and Health in Athlone Institute of Technology in the field “Biomechanics of resisted sprinting”.
Colette Breheny – Lecturer in AIT in all aspects of polymer and mechanical engineering with over 17 year’s industry polymer and mechanical engineering experience. Has established an extensive network of distinguished world-leading industry and clinical partners.

Second-year Polymer PhD researcher in one of the largest polymer materials processing research groups (Smart Polymers Research Group) in Ireland at the Materials Research Institute in AIT. Research involving an extensive study into the development of novel smart colour change polymer materials via various melt processing techniques.

The area of smart polymers has many exciting applications, including but not limited to the medical device, food packaging and automation industry.
Aoife Murtagh graduated from AIT with a BSc. in Health Science with Nutrition in 2019 and is currently in the first year of her postgraduate research under the supervision of Dr Patricia Heavey and Prof Clement Higginbotham. Aoife is working on novel ‘smart’ drug and nutrient delivery systems for patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), using hydrogels that can be modified to target the specific features of IBD. Patients with IBD often suffer from side effects due to the drugs used to treat and manage IBD and various complications associated with the disease. This project will have the potential to increase the therapeutic efficacy of IBD treatment and management and reduce the risk to some complications, making this an exciting area of research.
Bor Shin Chee

Final year Ph.D. student in Polymer Engineering. My research study is about developing novel polyvinyl alcohol hydrogels for biomedical and drug delivery applications. Specific research interest in nanotechnology, especially in nanomaterials.
My name is Declan Colbert and I have been registered as a PhD candidate for roughly 8 months. Prior to this I completed 2 years of research at MSc level and prior to that gained an honours degree in pharmaceutical science. The main inspiration that drives me in my research is having an opportunity to make a real-world advancement in animal health and to show my niece and nephew that if you work hard and don't give up on your dreams then you can achieve amazing things.
Hi my name is Emer Coughlan and I am a masters research student in Athlone Institute of Technology. I am currently researching sentiment analysis and machine learning with natural language processing. Until I started this area of research I never realised how we take information and the meaning behind it for granted as humans. What most of us do so easily is a rather complicated exercise for machines. By working in this domain it has shown me how we interact and consume the excessive amount of data on a daily basis and how this can be interpreted on many levels.
Hanna Jasinska

I am MSc in Science in Computing, ITB (2015) and MSc in Psychology, 2018 (DCU). Currently I have started my research on Department of Nursing and Healthcare and principle supervisor Dr Des Cawley and support supervisor Dr Niall Murray. I am particularly interested in clinical psychology and the use of modern technology in this field. Therefore, the search for opportunities to use technology can support diagnostic or therapeutic methods and also contribute to the implementation of innovative psychological assessments methods. It should be noted that the technology allows for non-invasive monitoring, measurements or tests, which is often very helpful in the case of studies for particularly vulnerable populations (ageing population, dementia diseases, and cognitive impairment). The aim for my next stage of the research is: to elicit the ques through pupillary response which may indicate stress and negative emotions among clients (people) with early stage Alzheimer Disease (AD) which may reduce or slow down the progression of disease in AD patients. The most important is to implement and develop new methods of preventive and therapeutic measures to counteract stress and reduce stress effects, which may improve the functioning and further life of patients with AD. The reason for undertaking a scientific research is its short- or long-term importance for health and for the needs of health care of the society in which the research will be conducted.
Ismael Chimello dos Santos is a research student in the Faculty of Business and Hospitality. Ismael holds a Bachelors Degree in Production/Industrial Engineering from University of Caxias do Sul in Brazil. He began his postgraduate studies in AIT in March 2020 and is investigating how Small and Mediums Enterprises can benefit from the current trend toward digitalisation. Digitalisation is not just about acquiring IT equipment and system but it is also about changes to fundamental business processes and models. SMEs need to adapt to compete in the increasingly digital world but recent research has identified a gap in the supports available to SMEs when compared to their larger counterparts. Ismael’s research aims to investigate this gap and identify the supports required to help SMEs overcome the associated challenges.
Jeferson holds a bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from the University of Santa Cruz do Sul (UNISC) and a master's degree in Pathology from the Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre (UFCSPA), both in Brazil. Currently he is a PhD. candidate in Biosciences at UFCSPA, with part of his research being carried out in the Materials Research Institute at the Athlone Institute of Technology. His fields of study include cancer cell biology, nanotechnology applied to drug delivery systems, polymer engineering, pharmacology, toxicology, *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays with emphasis on the healing, anti-inflammatory, cytotoxicity, genotoxicity and gastroprotective activities, analysis of natural compounds by HPLC and phytochemistry.
Ashima Chawla

Currently I am pursuing my PhD titled, Deep Neural Networks for Anomaly Detection. The work has been sponsored by Irish Research Council in collaboration with Industrial partner Ericsson. This work is very much aligned with my previous work experience and caters to creating solutions for future challenges. My Industrial PhD is expected to gain practically relevant knowledge and enhance my skill set to adapt to new problem solving solutions.
Laura Gabriela Rodriguez Barroso is a PhD student in Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT), Ireland since 2018. Laura’s research, co-funded by the Government of Ireland and AIT, focuses on the development of a versatile monitoring technique based on gold-edge coated triangular silver nanoparticles to detect and monitor essential protein activity.

Laura received her BSc in Biotechnology Engineering from Tec de Monterrey, Mexico in 2017 and then carried out an internship in a bimolecular laboratory in Puebla, Mexico for the processing of medical samples. In addition, Laura was awarded a certificate in Genetically Modified Organisms Regulation from the Ministry of Agroindustry and Quilmes National University in Buenos Aires, Argentina before starting her postgraduate studies in AIT. To date, Laura has presented her research work in several conferences such as Bioengineering in Ireland (BINI) in 2019 and 2020, as well as in the 6th International Conference on Material Science and Smart Materials (MSSM) 2019 in the United Kingdom.

Laura is eager to keep working and developing this research to keep sharing her findings with the scientific community and benefit society.
Graduate School Team
Lorna, Amanda, Susan

GOOD LUCK EVERYONE