

# The Irish Research Scheme for Teaching



1. What is  
this?

# National Research Scheme



- Teachers and Teaching
  - Action Research
- Creating a Community of best practice





## 2. Tell me more...

# Year 1: Pilot 2016-17

- 4 Research Groups.
- Focus:
  - How best to do this.
  - Realistic targets
  - Sponsorship

# Irish Research Scheme for Teaching

February 15, 2017 | chrisspatrickf | Edit



## Home

### Launching the Trinity Irish Research Scheme for Teaching 2017-18

This blog marks the launch of the Irish Research Scheme for Teaching. It is a project that has been a long time in the making, and one that will, in time, lead to a greater focus on academic enquiry and collaboration across the teaching spectrum. The initial focus of this project is in the arena of English Language Teaching but it is hoped that wider participation from the teaching community will be encouraged.

This research scheme is an independent, not-for-profit project designed to encourage teachers to take control of their own professional development through the means of academic research. It is modelled on similar schemes which are in progress in the UK and in Australia to which the creation and structure of this scheme draws heavily. Both of these projects have been very successful in aiding the professionalization of the language teaching industry in their respective countries and it is hoped that this scheme will be of similar value to Ireland.

This scheme will be sponsored for its inaugural year by Trinity College London. They will provide academic aid to participants, a



Home

Moments

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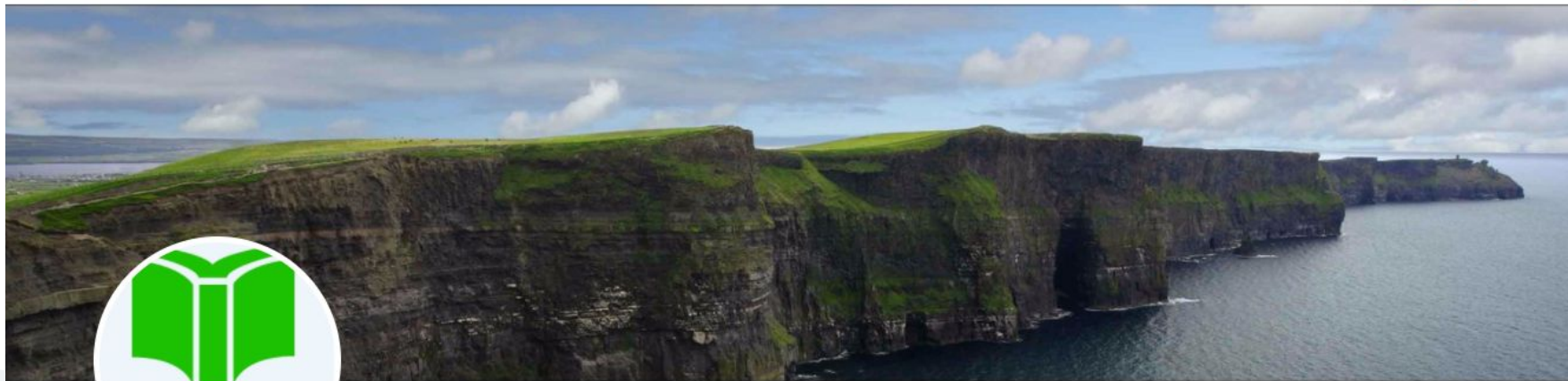
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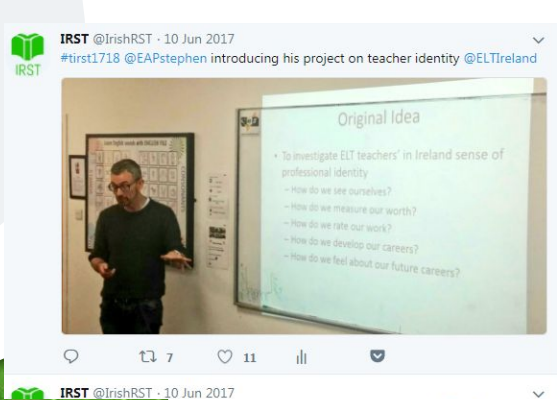
## Year 2: 2017-18

- Launched at ELT Ireland Conference 2017
- Trinity on board as sponsor
- Timetable laid out
- 9 participants, 6 finished

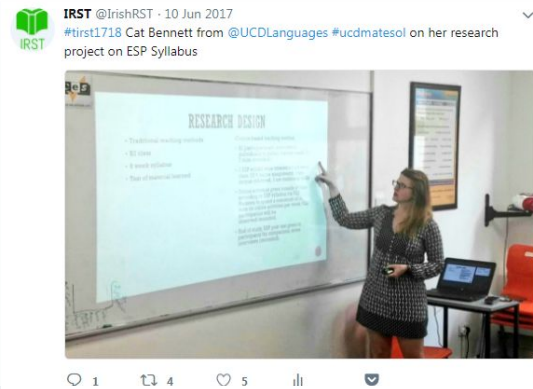


## Initial Brief:

Think of a research area, topic, question that you might be interested in researching



# June 10<sup>th</sup> 2017






**IRST** @IrishRST · 10 Jun 2017

#tirst1718 @BenBeaumont9 from @Trinity\_SELT on the report structure of this years project.





3. But I don't  
know how  
to do Action  
Research...

# Training and Support



- Training Day
- Recommended reading
- Online support
- Group
- Drafting and Feedback





# Ideas?



# Use of L1 in TBL

## A Research Project

by Peter Lahiff

*Academic L*

The Class of 2017-18

June 27, 2017

Researcher 1:

chrisspatrickf

Edit

Peter Lahiff is an experienced course designer, teacher trainer and academic manager who has worked in ELT for 18 years. He is course director on Dublin's first Trinity Cert. TESOL, and is Academic Director of Future Learning, where he develops and implements innovative technology enhanced summer language courses for young learners.

## Project Title: Use of L1 in TBL

Reader

write

THE  
ENGLISH  
STUDIO  
LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Development

July 11, 2017

chrispatrickf

Edit

The Class of 2017-18

Research 2: Liam Tyrrell is an Academic Coordinator at English Studio Dublin with responsibility for CPD, while also working as a course tutor on Trinity Cert. TESOL. He has been working in ELT since 2009 and completed DELTA in 2016. He is an active member of various ELT associations and has presented at national and international conferences.

Project Title: Attitudes to Development

Irish Research Scheme for Teaching

Blog at Word

Cu

# INCREASED LEARNER MOTIVATION AND AUTONOMY IN CORPUS-BASED NEGOTIATED SYLLABI

Cathryn Bennett\*\*

Irish Researcher

Class of 2017-18

July 25, 2017

Researcher 3:

chrisspatrickf

Edit

Cathryn Bennett is a passionate and creative ESL teacher for over 9 years in Europe and Asia. She has taught test preparation, developed materials and designed summer camp curricula. Currently completing her master's thesis in TESOL on learner motivation in online ESP syllabi, other research interests include corpora, syllabus design and technology in language learning.

Custom

# Facebook, Edmodo or your own personal blog?

Which do students find most engaging, and what activities engage them most online?

## Class of 2017-18

August 24, 2017

chrisspatrickf

Edit

Researcher 5:

I'm Keith Murdoff, I'm an English Language teacher, an ELT maker and activist, a member of ELT Advocacy and the Chair of the Unite ELT branch. I've been a teacher for 14 years, and during that time I've worked as a Cambridge ESOL speaking examiner, a TIE written examiner, I've been the DOS of a busy small school in Dublin, I've worked as a primary level EL teacher for 3-5-year-olds in Spain, I've designed syllabi for several Dublin schools and this is my first action research project. I currently teach in IBAT College Dublin, where I will be conducting my first action research project.

Irish Research Scheme for Teaching

# GOING NUCLEAR



## CAN RAISING STUDENT AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR STRESS IMPROVE PERCEIVED INTELLIGIBILITY?

STEPHEN BRUCE  
ISOBEL BURKE  
STEPHEN EASLEY-WALSH

Class of 2017-18

September 5, 2017

chrisspatrickf

Edit

Researcher(s) 6:

**Stephen Bruce** has worked in ELT for 16 years. He currently manages the Pre-Master's Programme at Dublin International Foundation College where he also teaches Research Methods and English for Academic Purposes. He holds an M.Phil in ELT from Trinity College Dublin, an MA in Philosophy from NUI Maynooth and is currently doing an MEd in TESOL EAP with Sheffield Hallam. Stephen tweets @EAPSteve and blogs at [www.eaping.blogspot.com](http://www.eaping.blogspot.com)

Project Title:t

'Can *Project Based Learning* improve learning outcomes in a rolling enrollment context?'



Image source: <http://dreamstime.com>

## Project Aims

- Identify whether Project Based Learning, incorporating reflective practice, can improve learning outcomes in a rolling enrolment context
- Explore the pivotal role of project constraints





What do you  
want to know?

# 4. Framing your Question

Is it...



1. Useful/Usable (to you in your context)?
2. Answerable (to a degree)?
3. Practical (in terms of evidence seeking)
4. Specific (drilling down into the core)
5. Appropriate (to the learners in that level)

# Thanks!



**Chris Farrell**

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<https://irishresearchscheme forteaching.wordpress.com/blog/>

