Law School breaks €1 million barrier in externally funded research income
Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly Research Newsletter from the School of Law here at UL. 2016 proved particularly successful in research for the Law School with numerous high quality books, articles, conferences and engagement with wider society. However, I thought it significant to concentrate this issue on the impressive scale of successful funded research applications by the School. This success was built around a tightly crafted Research Strategy that focused on thematic research strands based in two primary research centres within the School. In a discipline not known for a tradition of funded research projects, the School’s success in earning over €1 million is an outstanding tribute to the faculty at the Law School.

School of Law REPP Project: €567,000

Professors Friel and Kilcommins successfully tendered for a ground-breaking partnership with the Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

The project which was launched in September 2016 is fully funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. Sean Redmond, a civil servant from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs has been seconded for three years to lead this project. The Research Evidence into Policy and Practice (REPPP) project is a new type of venture, moving from a relationship with government departments based on commissioning individual research projects to a longer term strategic relationship, jointly tackling complicated policy challenges.

In addition to Dr Redmond’s appointment to the Law School, two further post doctoral positions have been fully funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

Minister Katherine Zappone
HHRG was awarded a prestigious funding grant from the European Union Directorate-General Justice under its Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme. The grant was made to support projects to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, and the project itself seeks to determine best practices for preventing hate crime.

**CCJVS : €51,000**

Dr Andrea Ryan, Dr Susan Leahy and Professor Shane Kilcommins of the Crime Justice and Victim Studies were successful in a bid for a Project by the Centre for Constitutional Law, Athens under: National or transnational projects to support victims of crime Justice Programme. The project involves partners from 7 EU Member States, Greece, Bulgaria, Estonia, Cyprus, Italy, Austria and Ireland, and the total award for the project is €226,540, of which the share for the University of Limerick is €51,144. Andrea will act as lead researcher and project manager.

**ICEL: Horizon 2020**

Finbarr Murphy, Martin Mullins, Raymond Friel

Recently, in collaboration with Dr Martin Mullins and Dr Finbarr Murphy from KBS, Professor Ray Friel was part of two successful bids under the Horizon 2020 programme. Both Cloud LSVA and ViDAS are investigating the technology and risk/liability issues for semi-autonomous vehicles within a trans European multidisciplinary framework. The amount to UL was over €450,000.

Entitled “The Life Cycle of a Hate Crime”, the project proposes to examine the application of criminal laws and sentencing provisions for hate crime across 5 EU Member States, capturing best practice in the tools utilised to combat hate crime across Europe in relation to both the strategies of legal intervention and the implementation of these rules. The Group was awarded over €160,000. Jennifer Schangeppe of the Law School is co-Director of the HHRG at UL.
Dr Johnny Connolly will be joining the Law School as a postdoctoral researcher under the supervision of Professor Shane Kilcommins. His research project, co-funded by the Irish Research Council and the Irish Council for Civil Liberties to the value of €99,000, is titled Developing a comprehensive human rights based response to drug and gang-related crime and community violence in Ireland. Johnny is currently a visiting research fellow at the School of Social Work and Social Policy in Trinity College.

Dr Sean Redmond, Adjunct Professor in the School of Law, and Professor Shane Kilcommins were successful in attracting €91,000 research funding from the Irish Research Council open call for research for policy and society. The research will examine the value of data held in the Irish Youth Justice System.

Dr Lydia Bracken, Lecturer in Law, secured €4,700 in IRC New Foundations Scheme
This funding will be used to run an international conference on Contemporary Issues in Family Formation in UL in September 2017.

IRC PhD Scholarships
Hope Davidson: Co-supervisors Dr Eimear Spain/Jennifer Schweppe
Dearbhaile Flynn: Co-supervisors Dr Eimear Spain/Professor Shane Kilcommins.
Eoin Guilfoyle: Co-supervisors Dr Susan Leahy/Professor Shane Kilcommins

**Government of Saudi Arabia**

**PhD Scholarship**

Nada Balto
Supervisor Dr Kathryn O’Sullivan

**School of Law March 2017**