

Notes to Editor:

The call for applications for funding under the SFI Discover Programme Call 2014 was published in mid-2014 for projects to take place in 2015. 90 applications were received and 39 projects have been awarded funding. The total funding awarded stands at €1,336,987 for 2015 and €271,402 for 2016 bringing the overall total to €1,608,389. The 39 projects to be awarded funding under the SFI Discover Programme will also receive funding from Industry and other organisations as SFI Discover provides up to 50% of the costs of projects. Projects were recommended for funding through international peer review panels.

Organisation	Project Title	Location	Value of SFI contribution	Project Summary
Atlantic Corridor	SWIM - Science With Inspirational Mentors	Midlands	€9,000	This project aims to increase participation in STEM education and careers in our region, which currently has a low level of participation and has been associated with economic difficulties in terms of attracting FDI and developing next-generation indigenous companies. The suite of activities will specifically focus on the Life Sciences sector in the region, which has strong potential for cluster development and growth. The activities in this project will address economic and educational disadvantage whilst also focussing on the potential the region has in the Life Sciences sector.
School of Physics, Trinity College Dublin	DART of Physics	Dublin	€50,000	<i>DARTofPhysics</i> aims to zap the curiosity of Dublin commuters with physics through interactive advertisements. Posters placed on the DART and in DART stations are designed to generate a 'wow' moment through leading statements and challenges, encouraging commuters to continue their physics journey on our website. <i>DARTofPhysics</i> seeks to spark a city-wide conversation on physics, to change the public perception of physics and capture its relevance and beauty.
The Rediscovery Centre Ltd	"Let's Talk Science Festival!"	Dublin (Ballymun)	€22,875	This project will deliver a science festival in Ballymun to promote STEM to local residents and families. The festival will run over a weekend in late June / early July, including a launch event on the Friday night and a range of activities on the Saturday and Sunday aimed at different age groups. The festival would include interactive hands-on workshops, family games, poster displays and potentially stalls/stands from relevant community organisations involved in STEM.
Scouting Ireland	Scouting STEM - exploring and discovering the world about us	National	€24,300	The objective of this project is to provide an educational programme resource to young people in Scouting Groups countrywide. The resource will provide both young people and adult Leaders with fun based – learning by doing discovery elements, activities and interactions that allow young people in non-formal educational environments to discover and explore STEM related activities. Scouting is a unique educational space with a

				'learning by doing' ethos and methodology built on peer to peer interactions, fun, friendship, leadership and challenge.
Calmast	Bealtaine Living Earth Festival 2015	Waterford	€4,000	The Bealtaine Living Earth Festival is a week-long festival celebrating the natural heritage, environment and science of the Southeast. It seeks to engage and educate the public in issues relating to biodiversity, wildlife-awareness and stewardship which is achieved through events which educate, inform and entertain.
AMBER	Science LIVE! - virtual tours of Irish science centres	Dublin / Online	€23,600	Science LIVE! provides interactive online, guided tours of science centres in Ireland. The virtual tours will give primary school classes direct access to Ireland's leading research facilities and scientists, inspiring them to think positively about science careers.
Dublin Institute of Technology	SwitchOnSTEM.ie : Resources to support Higher Education engagement activities	National	€39,000	<p>The aim of this project is to enhance Irish Higher Education (HE) STEM Engagement with second level students through providing a complete set of freely available resources for hands-on activities that can be used by HE staff and students at engagement events, thus removing barriers to participation in STEM engagement.</p> <p>An experienced inter-disciplinary team from five Institutes of Technology, from three provinces nationally, will design high quality demonstrations, select equipment for purchase and develop resources in collaboration with a UK based HEA National STEM Project funded researcher, and with the assistance of a developer employed by the project. Each resource will include equipment and consumable lists, an instructional video and a manual/operating procedure, safety information and technical information explaining the science and linking it to the Irish curriculum, thus providing a uniquely Irish dimension.</p>
NUI Galway	Cell EXPLORERS - national expansion of a sustainable public engagement model	Galway - expanding to Dundalk, Athlone, Limerick	€120,000*	NUI Galway Cell EXPLORERS is a proven successful programme delivering STEM activities regionally and nationally. It is running a sustainable model for STEM outreach and public engagement in higher education institutions. Underpinning Cell EXPLORERS sustainability is the use of student volunteers, who deliver outreach activities to the general public. A key development is the national expansion of the model by starting volunteer teams elsewhere in Ireland. Partner teams located in higher education institutions in the Munster, Leinster and Ulster regions will be established and trained by the Galway Cell EXPLORERS team. The national partners will then run primary and secondary school visits in their geographical areas.

Science on Stage in Ireland	Science on Stage inspiring engagement in science	National / online	€7,100	Science on Stage is a European initiative designed to encourage teachers from across Europe to share best practice in science teaching (www.science-on-stage.eu). The primary aims of Science on Stage are to provide a forum for teachers to exchange teaching ideas for the sciences; inspire and enthuse science teachers and provide teachers with access to quality science teaching resources and ideas.
Gallomanor Communications Ltd	I'm a Scientist/Engineer, Get me out of here!	Online	€29,000	<i>I'm a Scientist</i> is a free online event where school students get to meet and interact with scientists. It's a free X Factor-style competition between scientists, where the students are the judges and lead the project. Students challenge the scientists over fast-paced online live CHATS . They ASK the scientists anything they want, and VOTE for their favourite scientist to win a prize of €500 to communicate their work with the public.
Insight Centre for Data Analytics	Thesis in 3 (Tin3) 2015	National	€7,750	Thesis in 3 is an annual event where postgraduate students from research institutions across Ireland present their research in a series of concise, rapidly paced talks consisting of 3 slides, in 3 minutes. Open to the public, the event showcases current world-class research happening in Ireland via bite-sized chunks including Regional Semi-Finals and a National Final.
Network of Excellence for Functional Biomaterials	Chimera - art and science project	Galway	€20,000	The Chimera Art and Science Project aims to educate the public through a range of public engagements in Galway and later Dublin including talks and demonstrations, an artist residency programme and exhibitions exploring tissue engineering.
Kite Entertainment	Brain Freeze 2	Broadcast (CBBC and RTE)	€60,000	Brain Freeze is a kids TV series that delves into science topics via a unique blend of puppetry, animation and top notch comedy writing.
AMBER	EngAGE with Science: An intergenerational public engagement programme	Dublin	€15,000	Institutions of higher education and research centres often struggle with how to engage others in a manner that maximises the flow of ideas across society. <i>EngAGE with Science</i> is an intergenerational community learning programme which powers social progress by bringing primary school students, teachers, researchers, and older people together to consider and debate developments in science.



Science Gallery	Science Includes Me - Transition Year mentoring programmes that bridge science, the arts and design	Mainly Dublin	€35,708	Science Includes Me seeks to advance the development of compelling ways to support STEM engagement among young adults especially those from non-dominant learner communities which traditionally have a low uptake of informal learning programmes.
Lewis Glucksman Gallery	Boolean Expressions: Contemporary art and mathematical data	Cork	€12,500	<i>Boolean Expressions: Contemporary art and mathematical data</i> will be an internationally significant exhibition of contemporary art curated by the Lewis Glucksman Gallery in collaboration with colleagues from the College of SEFS (Science, Engineering and Food Science) UCC. The exhibition will examine themes relevant to the legacy of George Boole who was the first Professor of Mathematics at Queen's College Cork.
St. Patrick's Festival	SFI Discover Science Zone at The Festival Big Day Out	Dublin	€40,704	An SFI participative 'Science Zone' presented at the St Patrick's Festival Big Day Out event on Sunday 15/03/2015 as part of Ireland's national holiday celebrations. The SFI Discover Science Zone will feature an extensive programme of activity from 12 noon to 6 pm that will appeal to children from 4 to 15 years of age. Workshops, discovery, shows, quirky displays will be packed into the bustling participatory zone.
CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory	Cosmos at the Castle: The Space for Science	Cork	€35,000	This project will extend capacity to provide engagement with informal STEM learning through the introduction of an integrated suite of physical hands-on experiments. These family friendly experiments will encourage visitors to explore the concepts behind space science, complemented by a new video exhibit focused on Irish space scientists and STEM careers.
CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory	All You Need Is Space - A Festival Of Space Science	Cork	€8,100	Science Week 2015 at BCO will offer a comprehensive collection of participatory experiences. The week will see activities specific for primary and second level students including hands-on scientific workshops, live control of a telescope in California, visits to our tower top telescope dome, scientific equipment demonstrations, live link ups with scientists in Tyndall National Institute and other space-science laboratories, and STEM career information.
Galway Education Centre	EXCITED - The DIGITAL Learning Movement	National	€244,000*	EXCITED – The Digital Learning Movement, www.EXCITED.ie , will become the umbrella group for a range of Digital programmes both nationally and internationally. The movement will continue on a permanent basis the

				cross-sectoral engagement that it championed during EU Code Week 2013 http://vimeo.com/81054753 and the Digital Learning Festival in Dublin Castle https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDCfQqCO4QM
Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre	Medicines in my Life	Limerick	€40,500	The aim of this project is to use formal (at school) and informal (at a museum/public space or festival) teaching and learning to familiarise pupils and the wider public with science. The goal of this project is to take STEM education beyond the confines of the classroom and school into the wider community.
CoderDojo Foundation	Child Protection; creating the infrastructure to ensure the future sustainability of CoderDojo Ireland	National	€69,527*	<p>CoderDojo is a child centric movement of coding clubs for young people between 7 and 17. Dojos are set up, run and lead by volunteers or 'Champions'. At Dojos young people learn how to code, build websites, play with hardware, electronics and more. Within a Dojo there is a focus on community, peer learning, collaboration, mentoring and an emphasis on openness, helping others and showing how coding is a force for change in the world. Most importantly CoderDojo is about encouraging creativity and having fun in a social environment.</p> <p>Building on current practices in place at Dojos, this project is concerned with building robust Child Protection infrastructure to ensure the future sustainability of all Irish Dojos. With incoming changes to Child Protection legislation in Ireland, without this project there is a high risk that the future of CoderDojo in Ireland will be threatened.</p>
Royal College of Surgeons In Ireland (RCSI)	Debating Science Issues Competition - National Semi-Finals & Final 2015	National	€4,885	Debating Science Issues (DSI) is a high-quality, established collaborative schools' public engagement project that has consistently shown value for money in Ireland where no other schools' science debate project of its scope and nature exists. Strong, successful partnerships exist between the nine collaborators. Workshops delivered in schools engage students in discussion in an impartial, round-table forum, explore stakeholders' views, delve into the surrounding issues and transport students from their text books to a contemporary, applicable setting where all the answers are not at hand. The workshop series activates science and non-science students to research the topics further and prepare for the debates.

Biomedical Diagnostics Institute	BioBoxes: Engaging hospitalized children in Biomedical Science & Health	Dublin	€20,271	BioBoxes is a hospital-based biomedical science programme for young people (10-15) and their families. Each BioBox integrates practical science activities with mobile learning applications focused on four STEM themes. The BioBox concept will enable the programme to be accessible at the hospital bedside as well as the hospital school.
Trinity College Dublin	Student2Scientist: Coding Junior-Cycle Science in Space	Dublin	€21,300	Student2Scientist (S2S) will provide teacher development workshops and curriculum development, focusing on space science-themed coding projects, using the educational Scratch language. Additionally, we will work with faculty in the Trinity College Dublin (TCD) School of Physics to develop an innovative curriculum for the undergrad physics laboratory, using this 'coding with science' model of teaching.
Trinity College Dublin	Smart World / Full Life	Dublin	€7,500	This project aims to develop innovative ways of engaging the public in activities and conversations with researchers from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields through a series of online and live events. The live Smart World/Full Life events will take place during Discover Research Dublin on 25 September 2015, an evening where Trinity College Dublin's research institutes and laboratories will be open to the public with a multifaceted programme designed to stimulate discussion and debate around every aspect of research.
Project Arts Centre	Prototype Festival 2015: Playful Engineering Strand	Dublin	€10,000	Prototype is a brand new 3 day festival of Playful Design and Novel Interactions (beginning in 2014) inviting local and international designers and artists to host a selection of games, exhibits and playful interventions in Project Arts Centre (PAC) and beyond.
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Letters of 1916: Community Engagement	National	€5,593	This grant will provide members of the general public with a unique opportunity to engage with advanced ICT methods. Using content from The Letters of 1916 online project and taking advantage of public interest in the 'Decade of Centenaries', community engagement events will motivate atypical audiences to more deeply engage with Web 2.0 technologies.
Insight Centre for Data Analytics	The All-Ireland Apps4Gaps competition	National	€3,500	Apps4Gaps is an All Ireland competition aimed at encouraging young people to provide ideas and create applications that will demonstrate innovative and fresh ways of exploiting the Open Data freely available from the Census 2011 that could benefit society in such areas as transport, housing, planning, education, communications and health.

Tyndall National Institute	MakerDojo	Cork	€45,282	MakerDojo will be a hardware or 'hacker' style club where the public can explore science and technology in a hands-on, self-directed fashion. Tyndall National Institute, Biomaker Fórma and DesignerDojo have come together to contribute their expertise in materials, devices, biotechnology and 3D design to deliver a new type of science/technology-based Maker activities. At the MakerDojos the public will experiment with various types of technology hardware, thereby fostering discovery, experimentation, collaboration and innovation, aiming towards a culture of garage inventors and entrepreneurs.
ICS Skills	Tech Week	National	€145,000*	Tech Week is an initiative of the Irish Computer Society, the national body representing IT professionals in Ireland, and its charitable arm, ICS Skills. Tech Week will educate and inform students, parents and the public about the variety and potential of studies and careers in computing and other technology fields.
Waterford Institute of Technology	The Robert Boyle Summer School 2015	Waterford	€6,000	The Robert Boyle Summer School will take place in July 2015 in the heritage town of Lismore. Ireland has for many years popular summer schools that influence the "national conversation". These celebrate literary or artistic figures among the best known being the Merriman and Magill Summer Schools. The Robert Boyle Summer School asserts science onto this stage and in the national consciousness. The school celebrates Lismore-born Boyle a seminal figure in the establishment of modern science. It uses Boyle to examine science and its place in our lives. While it attracts many with a STEM background, it is aimed at "informed lay people" and intended to be a place where scientists and non-scientist can meet and explore the place of science in our society. It consists of lectures, interspersed with guided walks, costumed recreations of Boyle's important works, debates and discussions.
Stop.watch television Ltd.	INSIDERS, a children's television series about STEM to be broadcast by RTÉ.	Broadcast	€226,000	INSIDERS is a STEM television series of half-hour shows for 7 to 13 year olds. It will be broadcast on tRTÉ, the dedicated children's schedule on Ireland's national television station, RTÉ. It will also be broadcast on RTÉ's digital platforms, including its on-line player and You Tube channel.

				<i>INSIDERS</i> will take an entertaining but educational look at the science, engineering and technology behind the events and places loved by kids. From a big match to a theme park, from a movie studio to a music festival, <i>INSIDERS</i> will give its audience an access-all-areas pass, tapping into their innate curiosity and thirst for knowledge along the way.
Learning Hub Limerick	Science Hub Limerick	Limerick	€15,000	The Science Hub project seeks to maximize public engagement with STEM subjects. The main target audience of the project are those with limited access to quality science education resources, particularly young people from the ages of 8--17 and their parents. The main strands of the project include science club and workshops, industry visits and a youth café link up project.
British Council Ireland	FAMELAB IRELAND 2015	National	€24,050	Famelab is the world's leading competition to discover the best new voices in science and to equip them with the skills and confidence required to effectively engage and inspire audiences about STEM now and in the future. Since 2007, Famelab has successfully identified, trained and mentored over 5000 young communicators from 24 countries and has supported them in breaking down barriers that may exist between science and society.
Rough Magic	BEES; A Musical by WillFredd Theatre	Dublin	€41,804	Rough Magic / WillFredd Theatre will research, develop, rehearse and perform a piece of musical theatre for ages 6+ called BEES. There are 101 native bee species in Ireland. Bees are important pollinators ESSENTIAL for food security and diversity of food in our diet as well as Irish native plant biodiversity. Through collaboration with botanists at Trinity College, Dublin and beekeepers, WillFredd will investigate the life styles and cycles of the Honeybee (<i>apis mellifera</i>), Bumblebee (<i>bombus</i> species) and Solitary Bee (various genera) species.
Ballyhoura Development Ltd.	Limerick's Buzzing: Citizen Science Project	Limerick	€31,540	A citizen's science project based in Limerick, focused on wild bees and pollination. Engaging people of all ages and backgrounds in science. Scientists, the general public and schools working in partnership on this citizen's science project.
Cork Electronics Industry Association	Cork Electronics Industry Association - George Boole 200	Cork	€48,000	The Cork Electronic Industry Association (CEIA) has been engaged in a STEM Education Outreach Programme since 2004. As University College



(CEIA)				Cork is celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of George Boole in 2014, CEIA will develop a roadshow for second level students to highlight the important link between the mathematics of George Boole and the Electronic Devices of Today. This would be a year-long programme and the target audience will be 2 nd , 3 rd and TY students to ensure the correct choice of subjects at senior cycle for a career in Engineering and STEM.
University College Dublin	UCD Science Expressions	Mainly Dublin	€35,000	UCD Science Expression is a dynamic public engagement programme leading the field in public engagement in Ireland. The programme includes an annual film festival and a children's interactive programme in partnership with the Ark Children's centre.

****Funding awarded to 2014 & 2015***