



Age-friendly University
Global Network
A DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE TO
PROMOTE POSITIVE AND ACTIVE AGEING



DCU Age-friendly University Monthly Newsletter

May 2021

Our latest updates

A chara,
Now that the dark days of winter are over and the Summer has officially started in Ireland with the lighting of the Bealtaine Fire, the fire represents the end of the dark says and signifies unity and hope. We are delighted to announce our upcoming events for the month of May something to unite us and to look forward to until we can all meet in person again.



Hope you're all staying safe!

Christine O'Kelly, AFU Coordinator

THIS MONTH'S TOP NEWS

DCU AFU marks the Bealtaine Festival

DCU Age-Friendly University is delighted to mark the Bealtaine Festival with a 4-day event, with the launch of a suite of online engagements funded under DCU's Anam Initiative.

Monday May 24th: "Hello World" - A celebration of life in lockdown" – Virtual Podcast release

Tuesday May 25th: "Hello World" - A celebration of life in lockdown" – Virtual E-book release

Wednesday May 26th: 'Cultural Ageing- Ageing in and through the Arts' – Virtual Presentation by Dr Vera Gallistl from the University of Vienna

Silver Thread celebrate Bealtaine: "January to May, Stories from the Calendar" – Virtual Presentation and Reading from Silver Thread participants under Dr.Cathy Fowley's leadership.

Thursday May 27th: "Hello World" - A Celebration of Life in Lockdown" – Virtual Video release of videos recorded by AFU participants, staff and students from DCU.

Register now to be part of these events:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/dcu-afu-marks-bealtaine-festival-2021-tickets-151034222425> or email caoimhe.gilmartin@dcu.ie.

The full suite will be available on <https://www.dcu.ie/agefriendly> on **Friday, May 28th.**



Paint Along with Tom

Dr. McCloughlin is a Chartered Biologist & Assistant Professor in Biology & Education in DCU on the St. Patrick's campus.

Dr. McCloughlin will deliver a virtual demonstration-based course with participants painting along. This 5 week virtual zoom course will start on Tuesday, May 25th to June 22nd from 10 - 12pm each week. Dr. Cloughlin will be focusing on European orchids. The cost for the five weeks is €50.00.

Register using the link:

<https://forms.gle/coaQuHE3b8NbXAOy7>



Dublin Learning City is a member of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities and DCU AFU is delighted to have become a member of the Dublin Learning City Working Group.

Many will recall our participation in the Learning Festival in March. The working group is currently working on a plan to host a series of events throughout the year to encourage

participation in education for all ages.

For more information on the project please following the link here:

<https://www.dublinlearningcity.ie/about/#:~:text=Our%20Festival,city%20promoting%20learning%20for%20all.>

Call for Volunteers for the NEX Research Project

Would you be interested in taking part in a research study?

Our colleague Dr. Catriona Murphy in the School of Nursing and Human Development is seeking volunteers to participate in a research project.

This study will involve testing a combination of 3 technology types, over ten weeks, in your own home. These technologies include a voice-activated assistant (Alexa), a smartwatch and ambient sensors. We are looking for participants who meet the following criteria to take part in the study: — Healthy older adults (aged 60 years or older)

- Lives alone in the greater Dublin area or surrounding counties
- Is a smartphone user and has a broadband connection at home
- Is willing to install the study technology with remote support from researchers

If you are interested in taking part or would like more information, please get in touch

By phone 089 2653951 or email: nex@dcu.ie

AFU Global Network



On Friday, April 23rd last we hosted a meeting of the AGU Global Network "Covid 19 - Adapting and Innovating in Age-Friendly Universities". Over 95 registered for the event from our global membership (USA, Canada, South Korea, Czech Republic, Slovenia, the Philippines, UK and Ireland). It was a fantastic opportunity to share learning experiences and innovations relating to our approaches to COVID. It also generated discussion on life beyond COVID. We may not be able to return to exactly what we had before COVID.

However, it has presented new opportunities and bridged geographical barriers, which we hope will lead to greater collaboration between institutions and our AFU participants - watch this space for new things to come.

Upcoming News

More details to follow for some presentations we are organising for June.

We are also working on the educational programme for Semester 1 and currently have over 100 modules to offer for the next Semester. All modules will likely be a blend of face to face and virtual delivery depending on government guidelines. We will post all available Modules on the AFU website by the end of July, but timetables are only confirmed to us the week before Semester starts, and this year DCU Semester 1 will start on September 6th, so please check in on the website during the Summer to familiarise yourself with the options on offer.

Our next bulletin will feature an interview with AFU member and DCU representative on the Irish Senior Citizens Parliament.

Thanks to our AFU Team

Grainne Reddy AFU Admin Support
Caoimhe Gilmartin Marketing Intern
Dr. Cathy Fowley AFU Researcher

Don't forget to follow us and share on social media platforms
Facebook : DCU Age-Friendly University
Twitter: @agefriendlydcu
Website: www.dcu.ie/agefriendly

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