WITS at a Glance July 2018

WITS Vision: A society where women have equal opportunities, experiences & recognition in STEM.

Our Values: Fair play, Evidence-informed, Generosity, Progress-driven

Our Mission: A voluntary, independent organisation advocating, connecting and acting for women to benefit society as full and vital participants in STEM

Our Goal: To grow our profile and membership and collaborate with like-minded organisations to progress our mission of advocating, acting and connecting to have women as full participants in STEM

WITS 2017 summary
Membership was ~500 members... with an attendance of 403 at 16 WITS events, & ... > 20% more social media followers/members.

WITS Patron
President Michael D Higgins

WITS – some key features
Founded 1990 by Mary Mulvihill science journalist (1959-2015). Members are from:
- all ages STEM students to retirees.
- all areas of STEM.
- across sectors – public and private

We aim to recruit, retain, return, revere and remember women in STEM.

WITS Honorary members
2017 Professor Jane Grimson Fellow Emeritus & Professor of Health Informatics, TCD.
2014 Professor Dervilla Donnelly Emeritus Professor of Phytochemistry at UCD.
2000 Ms Kitty Kelly founder member, retired science teacher.

WITS Corporate Members
ESB, Accenture, Silicon Republic
Science Gallery Dublin, Growth Potential
MongoDB, Ergo, Janssen Biologics
Globoforce

What we do
Run events for members – talks, workshops.
Develop and respond to STEM and gender policy at local and national level e.g. WITS Action Manifesto.
Circulate our regular newsletter WITSWORDS.
Celebrate women in STEM e.g. plaques for women scientists and publications.
WITS is a member of The National Women’s Council of Ireland and The Wheel.

Past chairs
Mary Mulvihill, Dr Ena Prosser, Sadbh McCarthy, Dr Marion Palmer, Mary Carroll

Things we have done
2015 Mary Mulvihill Lecture held annually
2011 Lifetime Achievement Award to Professor Dervilla Donnelly UCD
2007-2009 Re-Enter return to work scheme for women returning to STEM
2003 Getting the Balance Right
1995-2000 NOW New Opportunities for Women project.
1997 Diversity Conference, Dublin Castle

Publications
Lab Coats & Lace (2009)
Talent Bank for Women on Boards (2004)
Stars, Shells & Bluebells (1997)
Suitable Jobs for a Woman (1993)

See witsireland.com, email info@witsireland.com or follow @WITSIreland for information, events, and to join as a member.