Teacher's in Residence

Tonight was the night we finally got our teeth into things. Having listened to amazing up to date research and innovations since early in the academic year, the job we, as teachers in residence, were being asked to do was really beginning. We were asked to creatively use our skills to create lessons plans for both primary and secondary school pupils.

Having submitted our preferences, Sarah, divided the group into pairs of one primary school and one secondary school teacher. Myself and my secondary school partner Ann were fortunate enough to work with Alex Trottier on our lesson plan on Parkinson's disease. He gave us excellent background knowledge to the disease and its treatments, including the research that NUI Galway are doing in this area at the moment.

In total, six researchers were present to assist us in the creation of scientifically correct, relevant lesson plans. Luis Martins and Maura Tilbury assisted the teachers working to create a lesson on Biomaterials. Mikey Creane gave insight into the area of Stem cells while Emma Bovo offered her guidance to the musculoskeletal group. Sarah Gundy, one of the faces of this excellent Teacher in Residence programme helped out the teachers working to create a lesson plan on medical devices for heart conditions.

By eight o'clock, thanks to a very structured session we had the bones of a lesson plan together to be further elaborated on and reviewed at our next meeting.

Thanks to all involved for yet another very informative Teachers in Residence session. I am always buzzing to go back to the classroom and teach science, to bring the information on current thinking and ideas for treatments and medical devices to a new generation.