

FULBRIGHT AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Dr. Anne Graham Cagney, a lecturer in the School of Lifelong Learning & Education at Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) was named as one of the recipients of the prestigious Fulbright scholarships, which were announced at an awards ceremony in Dublin on 12th July, 2013.

The awards are jointly funded by the Irish and US governments under the Ireland-United States (Fulbright) Commission for Educational Exchange. Fulbright scholarships have provided Irish students, scholars and professionals with the opportunity to study, lecture and research at top universities and institutions in the U.S. since 1957.

Dr. Graham Cagney will lecture and research on how American transformative learning theory and practice can inform professional education development programs in Ireland while at the University of South Florida and the University of Georgia.

According to Dr. Graham Cagney, “Our adult learners stand on the threshold of a new world offering new opportunities, new capabilities, new interests and dreams. Professional training programmes for adult educators must prepare them to recognise the experiences of their learners; and train them to create, offer and facilitate a supportive teaching-learning environment (TLE) for such learning opportunities.

The overall objective of our research study is to find out how can we provide teaching-learning environments that prepare our teachers to meet that challenge and engender in them a commitment to continuous improvement and excellence throughout their professional lives.”.

Speaking at the launch of this year’s Fulbright Awards, Mr. Patrick McDermott, Chair of the Fulbright Commission Board, said, “year after year, the Fulbright Awards attract Ireland’s top researchers, professionals, and graduates. With the breadth and expertise seen in this year’s winners, I know that these current and future leaders will gain invaluable experience that they can share upon their return to Ireland.”