

Irish Network for Gender Equality in Computing (INGENIC): The Collective Voice for Gender Equality in Computing - IADT, GMIT and MU.

The number of females selecting Computing is at an all-time low. Failing to address diversity in Computing has serious implications for the future of our nation.

INGENIC is an Irish network of academics with members from HEIs across Ireland. Rather than working individually to address this issue, INGENIC seeks to harness and unite these activities and encourage collaborations between members.

Project Goals

Led by Anne Wright, IADT, this project aims to strengthen the ties between Computing academics in Ireland. The project ensures INGENIC's work continues to grow in an impactful direction. Project goals are focused on three specific areas:

1. INGENIC brand creation
2. Research & coordination for the INGENIC group
3. Promotion of the INGENIC group

In order to achieve these goals Faye Donohoe a recent graduate of IADT has been appointed as a research assistant. The role involves sustaining and accelerating the work of INGENIC, promoting members' research and developing the INGENIC brand.

2021 Progress

- Rebranding and promotion of INGENIC, including development of a website and logo. <http://www.ingenic.ie/>
- Survey development aimed at gathering gender breakdown in Irish Computing programmes annually.
- Collaborative research between 5 HEIs based on Computing Summer Camps 2021 - Data gathered includes student's perception of computing before and after attending computing camps. Findings were presented at the Third Level Computing Forum.

2022 Plan

- Examine the gender contrast in CAO undergraduate intake versus Springboard/return to work programmes.
- INGENIC research indicates that female numbers are higher in degree programmes that combine Computing with another topic. This is currently being investigated further.
- Promotional event 2022: The event will provide unquantifiable value to academics and guests, as they share their research and initiatives for gender equality in higher education.