Gender Equality Enhancement Fund

***You can be what you can see: pSTEM Role Models -* IT Sligo, TU Dublin and UCD**.

This project highlights 10 positive, relevant, contemporary role models for young women in Ireland across the subjects of physics, mathematics, computer science, and engineering. By creating videos for use in classrooms and on social media, the project aims to make more young women aware of the very many career paths and opportunities available to them by pursuing these subjects.

Following the UNESCO framework of factors influencing girls' and women's participation in STEM, the videos showcase the backgrounds and influences of each of the role models and highlight what they enjoy about what they do. In their conversations, the role models identify challenges they may have faced in their career and also share advice with viewers on overcoming similar issues.

Filming was greatly delayed by the pandemic restrictions, but video footage has now been recorded for all 10 role models and are currently being edited for a short (1 minute) social media version and longer (6 minute) classroom version. A project webpage and YouTube channel have been set up to host the videos and associated materials. Educational resources in the form of a teacher booklet and presentation are currently being trialled in schools and will be made available to freely download on the project webpage.

A soft launch was held in UCD on February 11th, 2022, to celebrate the project as part of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. 60 school children from all-girl post-primary schools were invited to the launch and participated in a discussion with attending role models.

All videos and materials were launched on May 20th, 2022 in UCD. As well as liaising with the very many non-HEI partners, the project leads will continue to highlight the project and ensure as many teachers as possible are aware of the resources.

https://www.ucd.ie/mathstat/rolemodelsinpstem/

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYrh8Eh848_Ljzfx5BXiE9A