Irish Logistics and Supply Chain Research Networks and Institutes

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide interested parties a list of research networks and institutes in Ireland that may be contacted in order to pursue research into logistics and supply chain topics and challenges.

This document helps to further the work of the Logistics and Supply Chain Skills Group (LSCSG) on identifying and promoting research workstreams in logistics and supply chain, which was highlighted as one of the priority actions for the Group in 2023.

Academic Networks that industry bodies could engage with on research topics

Irish Transport Research Network
The Irish Transport Research Network is a group of university-based researchers and academics whose work focuses on transport and its related issues, including freight and logistics. Their goal is to bring together researchers and academics in universities and institutions of higher education, policy makers and practitioners government departments and industry professionals to promote innovation and progress in Transport in Ireland.

National Institute for Transport and Logistics (NITL)
The National Institute for Transport and Logistics (NITL) was founded by supply chain academics to provide expertise in transport, logistics and supply chain operations management to Irish firms and firms operating in Ireland. NITL is based within Technological University Dublin and while it is currently defunct, its revival has recently been proposed.

National Supply Chain Academic Network (NSCAN)
The National Supply Chain Academic Network (NSCAN) was formed in response to the COVID-19 crisis to support businesses from a supply chain perspective. As a group of experts who have researched and advised companies all over the world for the last 30 years, they want to work with companies and businesses based in Ireland to provide their expert knowledge and tools to ensure continuity of supply and development of resilience and agility. Comprised of academics from a number of different institutions.

Possible channels for creating a sponsored scholarship for research into a given topic within Logistics and Supply Chain

Irish Research Council Enterprise Partnership Scheme

Each year, the Irish Research Council partners with around 70 organisations, ranging from multinational corporations to SMEs, public-sector agencies and non-governmental organisations, under its enterprise programmes. One of these is the Enterprise Partnership Scheme, which is a unique national initiative linking researchers in all disciplines to enterprise. This scheme provides both postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers with the opportunity to pursue research in collaboration with enterprise while based at an eligible higher education institution. Through this co-funded programme, postgraduate researchers develop new, advanced knowledge and skills linked with industry and employer needs. The programme trains early-career researchers for the diversity of employment opportunities in industry, the public sector, and the non-government sectors.

For the enterprise partner, the scheme provides a low-risk, flexible route to research talent and innovation in an area closely aligned with its strategic interests.[1] The Call for the 2024 round of this Scheme is provisionally scheduled to open in Q4 2023. The Call document for the now closed 2023 Call is available for information at https://research.ie/assets/uploads/2022/09/Call-document-for-2023-Enterprise-Partnership-Schemes-.pdf. Organisations that would like to participate in this scheme can contact the Irish Research Council at **schemes@research.ie**. Additional information on the Irish Research Council Funding is available on Funding | Irish Research Council

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme

The Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme seeks to support academia-industry interactions in order to address industry-informed challenges. Awards under this programme can be made to academic researchers (at faculty and postdoctoral level) wishing to spend time in industry worldwide through the temporary placement of academic researchers with an industry partner.[2]

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[1] The enterprise partner is required to contribute €9,000 annually towards the cost of funding a researcher under the Enterprise Partnership Scheme (Postgraduate). The Irish Research Council contributes the remaining €18,500 per annum. The enterprise partner is required to contribute €16,480 in the first year of the award and €16,687 in the second year of the award towards the cost of funding a researcher under the Enterprise Partnership Scheme (Postdoctoral). The Irish Research Council contributes the remaining funds. The enterprise partner can be based nationally or internationally.

[2] Fellowships can have a duration of between 1 and 12 months if full-time, and between 2 and 24 months if part-time. Grants awarded under this programme will be subject to the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) under EU State aid guidelines. As such, the SFI funding rate will vary from 25% to a maximum of 80% of

A LinkedIn group called SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme has been set up by SFI to facilitate networking between academic and industry researchers. Companies are encouraged to make their interest known to the academic community, and/or to advertise specific research opportunities, by posting on this 900+ member page. Academic researchers are encouraged to engage with relevant companies.

The SFI researcher database and the KTI Expert database list potential academic research partners. The Research Offices of the Irish academic and research institutions may also assist companies in identifying prospective academic partners. Prior to commencing a search for an academic partner, it is recommended that companies refer to the Industry RD&I Fellowship Call document for 2023 in order to understand the eligibility criteria associated with this programme, which is currently open for participants. Academic and industry partners should jointly prepare an application.

For general queries, including eligibility queries, applicants are advised to contact the Research Office of the Research Body to whom they intend to submit their application. For additional information or clarification, please contact irdif@sfi.ie.

In addition, SFI also runs a number of research centres, which link scientists and engineers in partnerships across academia and industry to address crucial research questions. The most relevant research centre for the study of logistics and supply chain is the CONFIRM Smart Manufacturing Research Centre which is hosted by the University of Limerick, and which has secured €45M in funding and engaged with over 100 industry partners to date. The aims of CONFIRM are to research the development of future smart manufacturing technologies, engage the public to promote a positive perception of manufacturing in Ireland and to create a community of practice to embrace Industry 4.0.

The CONFIRM Digital Innovation Hub draws on the expertise of 9 core Irish research performing organisations (RPOs), 16 international collaborations, and numerous industry partners across MNC and SME sectors to deliver cutting-edge research and development projects in the smart manufacturing domain. It provides the skills and services required to place Irish-based industry at the forefront of the smart manufacturing revolution, helping companies of all sizes – ranging from SME to larger organisations – compete globally at the highest level.

total project costs depending on the size of the industry partner company and the category of research being undertaken, with the industry partner contributing the remainder of the project costs. The maximum SFI contribution to the Fellowship costs is €100,000 direct costs.

Institutions which offer postgraduate research degrees in Supply Chain

OSCAR (Operations & Supply Chain Research) Centre – Atlantic Technological University

The Operations and Supply Chain Research (OSCAR) postgraduate research centre is a multi-disciplinary programme that focuses on training, developing, and disseminating knowledge in the operations and supply chain management domain, as well as advancing managerial practices, through close interactions with various industry partners and agencies. It is based in Atlantic Technological University. While all 15 research scholarships in the OSCAR Centre have already been commenced, it is OSCAR's intention to take on more research students in the future, provided that adequate funding can be secured. All of the projects that are currently being worked on by OSCAR can be viewed at www.oscarcentre.ie.

University College Dublin

PhD students that are currently undertaking research at UCD's Michael Smurfit Business School, as well as their thesis topics, are listed at PhD Students | UCD Smurfit School. One of these studies, which has recently been submitted, is entitled 'Sustainability risk management in global supply chains: A dynamic capabilities perspective.' Academic staff based in UCD with an interest in Management, including Supply Chain Management, can be viewed at Management | Faculty & Research | UCD Quinn School

University of Limerick

Current PhD students at the University of Limerick's Kemmy Business School can be found via this link: Meet our Research Students | University of Limerick (ul.ie). One of these studies, which is of relevance to logistics and supply chain research is entitled 'Supplier Insertion into Global Value Chains: Insertion Capability Development in the Serbian agri-food processing sector.' A list of Marketing and Management academic staff based in UL can be found at www.ul.ie/business/about/staff-list/management-marketing.

Trinity College Dublin

No list of current PhD students is available for Trinity Business School. However, a list of Faculty research interests can be accessed at Faculty Research Interests - Trinity Business School | Trinity College Dublin (tcd.ie)

University College Cork

No list of current PhD students is available for Cork University Business School. However, Faculty members with expertise in logistics and supply chain can be found at Find an Expert | Cork University Business School (cubsucc.com).

Technological University Dublin

No list of current PhD students in Supply Chain is available for Technological University Dublin. However, the School of Business Technology, Retail, and Supply Chain is actively involved in supply chain research and works with a wide variety of industry partners. More information on the Retail Research Unit can be found at Research | TU Dublin.

Munster Technological University

No list of current PhD students in Supply Chain is available for Munster Technological University. Further information on MTU's Research office is available at Research | Munster Technological University - MTU

South East Technological University

No list of current PhD students in Supply Chain is available for South East Technological University. Further information on the research Masters course in SETU is available at SETU | Master of Science Supply Chain Management (itcarlow.ie). A directory of academic staff working in SETU is available via the following link: Staff Directory - South East Technological University | Waterford (wit.ie).

University of Galway

No list of current PhD students in Supply Chain is available for the University of Galway. A list of University of Galway Business academics is available at Business & Economics - University of Galway.

University of Maynooth

No PhD students are currently undertaking research in Supply Chain at the University of Maynooth. The list of current PhD students in the School of Business is available at PhD Students (Current) | Maynooth University. A list of Maynooth University Business academics is available via the following link: Our People | Maynooth University.

Dublin City University

No list of current PhD students in Supply Chain is available for Dublin City University. Further information on the Masters course in DCU is available at [MSc in Management of Operations (MOPS) (dcu.ie)](). A list of staff in DCU's Business School can be accessed via this link: [Academic Staff - DCU Business School - View All]().

Griffith College

Griffith College does not offer doctorates. However, they do provide a Level 9 degree in Supply Chain which includes a dissertation, for which see [Procurement Courses Ireland | Masters (MSc) in Supply Chain Management Course (griffith.ie)]().

Dublin Business School

Dublin Business School does not offer doctorates. However, they do provide a Level 9 degree in Supply Chain which includes a research component, for further information, see [https://www.dbs.ie/course/postgraduate/master-of-science-(msc)-in-supply-chain-management]().

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