

The Teresian School Parent's Council Careers Night 2014

The careers night was well attended by 4th, 5th and 6th years, the Parent's Association, and a number of parents and teachers. There was a minute's silence for Suzanne McGown, former principle of the school who had recently passed away.

The first speaker was Orla Mannion from ARUP. Orla is an engineer, she presented a lively and informative presentation whilst showing many of the world's iconic buildings on a slide show. Orla explained that she had no idea what she wanted to do in 4th year but she knew she loved maths. Despite her love of maths she took mixed subjects for the leaving certificate, rather than just maths based subjects like applied maths. Orla recommends undenominated engineering as it allows engineering students to choose a specialty later on rather than nailing ones colours to the mast early.

Next up was Trasa Loftus, Social worker with TUSLA, the child and family agency previously part of the HSE. Trasa explained that she had talked to people working in the area in secondary school and decided to do a sociology degree. After her undergraduate degree Trasa worked for three years before obtaining her professional qualification. Trasa worked in a school for children with learning difficulties, in a hostel for homeless people and for the National Council for Blind. Trasa told the girls that she really enjoyed working with e and helping people.

Miriam King, a Teresian past pupil, explained to the girls what an actuary does and how one becomes an actuary. Like Orla, Miriam had a love of maths in school. Miriam told the girls that other jobs that interested her were architecture and engineering. Miriam explained that an actuary calculates the cost of risk in an insurance premium, and that an insurance company must hold reserves to meet those risks if necessary. Miriam told the girls that if one studies actuary in UCD it means that one can avail of the most exemptions available for the professional exams.

Brid Holohan studied pharmacology and is now working as a research scientist. Brid works on clinical trails measuring the outcome of new drugs. Brid loved science in school and considered becoming a chemical engineer. Brid put pharmacology down as her first choice on the CAO but did undenominated science, which she felt was actually a better outcome because it was broader and allowed her see more subjects such as biology which ended up being her favorite subject. Brid's advice to the girls was to do something you enjoy doing.

Derek McGrath originally trained as and worked as vet before transferring over to sports management. Derek told the girls that working in sports management is very exciting. It involves building relationships and working with professional athletes and sponsors. Derek explained that one has to be able to blend stakeholders across languages and cultures so that everyone is moving in the

same direction. Derek flagged to the girls that business and media careers in sport are growth areas.

The final speaker was Andrea Clarkson from Google. Andrea explained that she originally chose the wrong college course but that she wasn't afraid of admitting she had made a mistake and left the course to join another course. Andrea worked in recruitment for Telefonica where she gained substantial experience recruiting staff. Andrea now works in graduate recruitment for Google, a role she loves.