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## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2022

### CTLS2023 Dublin Congress – NOTE THE DATE CHANGE!

The planning for CTLS2023 is now gaining good momentum, and with some of the more boring work now complete, such as signing of the MoU, contracts in place for the conference organiser and venue, we can move on to the more exciting and creative parts of the plan.



One significant change we have had to make is to move the dates of the congress to **27th to 29th June 2023** to avoid a clash with Microscience Microscopy Congress 2023. Fortunately, we have been able to hold on to our fantastic venue, Croke Park, for these new dates and that is now secured. Mark the new date in your diaries!

We will have the congress website published in the next 2–3 weeks and we have already begun making contact with potential exhibitors and sponsors.

As the weeks progress and more of the plan solidifies, we will try to keep you up to date through CTLS communications and the newsletter. Feel free to contact the congress organiser [Robbie Sinnott](#) if you have any questions in the mean time.

### GREAT OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW FOR CORE FACILITY MANAGERS AND STAFF

Don't miss these opportunities for professional development in Core Facilities:

- Are you a manager, head or director looking for leadership skills improvement? Register for [GerBi Management Course](#)
- Are you a staff scientist, technologist, technician working in a Core Facility or simply transitioning from a research lab to a shared resources lab? The [CTLS course](#) is perfect for you!



Both courses are provided in collaboration with [hfp consulting](#).

**HURRY UP! The deadlines are VERY close (18th and 15th April respectively)**

## NEWS FROM THE CTLS WORKING GROUPS

### TRAINING WORKING GROUP

#### Shadowing and Staff Exchange Focus Group activities

The Shadowing and Staff Exchange Focus Group is responsible for initiating and administering a Scheme to enable mobility of CTLS Members to visit other core facilities to support their professional/career development. Thanks to everyone that responded to the **Shadowing and Staff Exchange survey** that closed in January 2022. We had an excellent response with over 50 colleagues providing information and sharing their thoughts.

We are using this feedback to inform the **launch of the Shadowing and Staff Exchange Programme**. The plan is for the scheme to go live from **early May 2022**. The Programme will usually involve a visit to a different country and travelling colleagues (who must be CTLS Members) will be able to apply for CTLS bursaries to support this. **Shadowing** will involve an individual visiting a different core facility and spending time with another individual or team,

#### User Training focus group activities

The CTLS User Training survey has now closed and we had 60 responses which is great! Thank you to everyone who responded. The Training working Group will be looking at the responses in more detail in the coming weeks and will share the results and a roadmap for CTLS support in the area.

learning new skills and developing professional networks. **Staff Exchange** will be similar but will entail a two-way process between two core facilities.

We will inform CTLS Members once the Scheme is open for applications. In the meantime, please contact [Ian Brewis](#) (Chair of this Focus Group; ) if you have any questions or wish to discuss your plans.



## COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

**Repost, retweet, repost, retweet!** Our active posting and reposting has led to a great increase in our social media presence with >1600 followers on Twitter and >400 on LinkedIn.

Please retweet CTLS tweets and repost CTLS LinkedIn posts as much as you can to further boost our following, thank you. And if you are not already following CTLS on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#), start following us NOW!

**New vice-chair** We are very pleased to welcome Michael Pancher as the new vice-chair of our working group.

**Your comments please!** Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions or comments about CTLS communications. We are keen to hear your opinions.



## Learn about the Innocore Challenge

InnoCore, Core Technologies for Education and Innovation in Life Sciences, is European project endorsed by CTLS.

The [InnoCore Challenge](#), an initiative focused on teamwork of students and researchers, aimed at proposing solutions addressing companies innovation needs, kicked off last month.



Five stimulation technological questions were asked by five international biotech and pharmaceutical companies.

Five teams of solvers made up of Master and PhD students from the University of Trento, Coimbra, Brno–Masarik and Granada have started working with the support of scientific mentors from Core Facilities.

This is an exciting way of learning by peers and professionals from different sectors for the students and is an opportunity to trigger new collaborations for industries and academic institutions, leveraging the expertise and capacity of Core Facilities.

Click [here](#) to find out more.

### INTERESTED IN BEING MENTORED?

Check out the new [CTLS Mentoring Program](#) now to learn all about this exciting new initiative and to see the broad range of skills and experience of the CTLS mentors we have. Being mentored can really help your career – check out the mentors now!

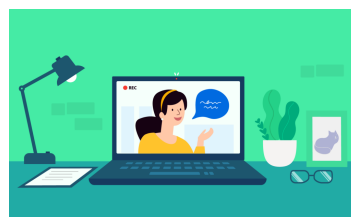
Thank you to the many mentors who have volunteered already. Please email the [CTLS Mentorship team](#) if you'd like to volunteer as a mentor.



### CTLS MONTHLY WEBINARS

Thank you for all your active participation in the recent CTLS Monthly webinars. Please look out for information coming soon about future webinars.

CTLS members can watch videos of previous webinars by clicking [here](#). We are keen to hear your feedback about these webinars, please [email us](#) if you have any questions or comments, thank you.



### REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR CTLS MEMBERSHIP!

And remember to invite your colleagues and friends to join too!

CTLS membership has many benefits including:

- Reduced rates and priority registration at CTLS congresses and events
- Access to CTLS sponsored trainings at preferred rates
- Networking opportunities with other





- core facility staff
- Access to CTLS webpages with news, job listings and event

Click [here](#) to renew or join.



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