

Centre for
Data Analytics

Insight 



Insight Newsletter

June 2016

Update from Oliver Daniels, CEO

Dear colleagues,

In the last few months, I have noticed a shift in the way Insight operates. We all knew that it would take time for the sites to integrate but I believe that it is really happening now. People are beginning to work together, they are beginning to exchange ideas, there is a real appetite for collaboration, it's a very exciting time.

I really enjoyed travelling around to the sites, addressing you all and meeting everybody. I learned a lot and gathered some excellent ideas



Insight awards and achievements

Dr John Breslin won Outstanding Contribution to the ICT Sector at the ITAG Awards in April.

Dr Georgiana Ifrim spoke about research and innovation challenges for the Media and Content Convergence priorities in the next H2020 Work-Programme 2018-2020 in Brussels in April.

Prof Barry O'Sullivan hosted a group of MEPs in Cork in April. He presented to them about innovation in Insight.

for the centre. Many thanks for your time and your contributions. Please feel free to come to me if you have any further ideas that might add to the evolution of Insight.

The development of Insight's strategy continues apace and our research themes are emerging as the Scientific Leadership Group gathers momentum. We look forward to September when our Industry Advisory Committee and our Scientific Advisory Committee have a joint meeting. The meeting will coincide with the Insight Student Conference so the committees will have a chance to get a real taste of what Insight is all about.

I wish you all a very enjoyable summer.

Oliver Daniels

Dr Edward Curry, VP of the European body, the Big Data Value Association, spoke at the Digital Government Conference in the Aviva Stadium in May.

Prof Brendan Murphy's paper Improving Prostate Cancer Risk Assessment Using The PHI was the BJU International paper of the week and featured on a video on the BJU International website



Insight's RePlay Project showcased in Croke Park

Professor Noel O'Connor and his team launched the RePlay Project with a bang in Croke Park in May (See main picture.) The project involves cutting edge sensor technology and data analytics combined to create, for the first time, a digitised 'library of movement' for use by athletes and coaches. Read about it and watch the reports on the Six One News and the Nine O'Clock news on RTE [here](#).



Prof Nial Friel's research forms Irish Times opinion

Adding to Insight's track record in thought leadership, Prof Nial Friel published an opinion piece in the Irish Times about the problems of interlocking directorships of companies. Prof Friel had just published a piece of research in PNAS that shows that there was a great deal of overlap in the people who sat on company boards in the years before the economic crash. Read all about it [here](#).



Insight team win UCD commercialisation award

Insight's Dr Claire Gormley and Emily Duffy have won a UCD commercialisation award for their sports performance analytics platform. You can read the full story [here](#).



RIA Gold Medal awardee Prof Alan Smeaton profiled in The Irish Times

RIA Gold Medal winner



Insight Brexit research shows UK Tweets favour Remain side

Insight's Brian Davis and his team are involved in the SSIX consortium – a small group of data researchers and tech companies focused on data analytics. As of June 21st, 62% of tweets expressed support for the UK staying in the EU, according to data analysed by a group of researchers. You can read the full EurActive report [here](#).



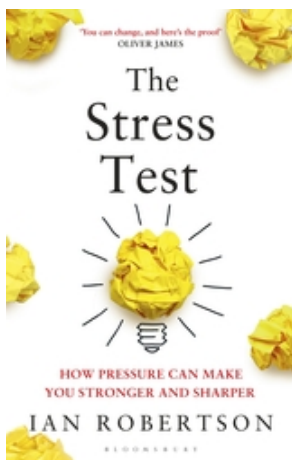
New horizons for a data driven economy: Dr Edward Curry publishes new book

Insight's Dr Edward Curry has published a new book entitled New Horizons for a Data-Driven Economy: A



Insight's eGov Unit becomes node of Open Data Institute

Insight's eGov unit succeeded in becoming Ireland's first node of the London based Open Data Institute (ODI) headed by Sir Tim Berners Lee the inventor of the World Wide Web joining NICVA in Northern Ireland as the ODI representatives on the island of Ireland. Read all about it [here](#).



Prof Ian Robertson's The Stress Test

The Stress Test is a new book by TCD and Insight funded investigator Professor of Psychology Ian Robertson. In the book, Prof Robertson shows us how we can harness stress to our advantage and use it to make us not only

Prof Alan Smeaton was interviewed by Irish Times Science Editor Dick Ahlstrom in April. In the piece Prof Smeaton spoke about his research in relation to memory and improving the lot of people with dementia and brain injury. You can read the full article [here](#).



Meet the PI#5: Paul Buitelaar

Tell us about yourself:

I am Senior Lecturer at the National University of Ireland, Galway, vice-director of the Insight Centre for Data Analytics at NUIG and head of the Insight Unit for Natural Language Processing.

What's the most interesting thing about your research?

My main research interests are in the development and use of Natural Language Processing methods and solutions for semantic-based information access. I have been involved in a large number of national and EU funded projects over the years, also in Germany where I worked

Roadmap for Usage and Exploitation of Big Data in Europe. In this book readers will find technological discussions on the existing and emerging technologies across the different stages of the big data value chain. They will learn about legal aspects of big data, the social impact, and about education needs and requirements. And they will discover the business perspective and how big data technology can be exploited to deliver value within different sectors of the economy. Read more [here](#).

In addition to that, Dr Curry's opinion piece about how businesses can get value from their data was carried by business website [fora.ie](#). The piece with the headline What John Deere and other firms can teach you about the value of data, originally appeared on Insight's business blog. You can read the full article [here](#).



Commemorating the world's first broadcast

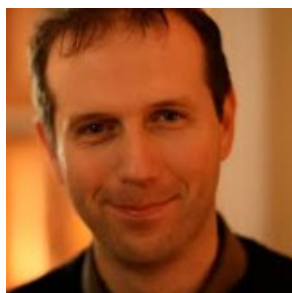
Did you know that Irish rebels made broadcast

stronger and more resilient but sharper too. Read more [here](#).



Insight wins six Invent awards

The 2016 Invent Commercialisation Awards took place April in the Helix, Dublin City University, and The Insight Centre for Data Analytics at DCU racked up an impressive 6 wins. Read about it [here](#).



John Breslin profiled in The Irish Times

Insight's John Breslin was profiled in The Irish Times in May. Breslin was interviewed as one of three key industry figures who spoke about how science and technology shaped their careers. Breslin also spoke about his new initiative, TechInnovate which is based on the successful medical device fellowship BioInnovate Ireland. You can read the article [here](#).

for 11 years at DFKI in Saarbruecken, Germany, one of the leading research institutes in Artificial Intelligence in Europe. Before that I did my PhD in Computer Science and computational linguistics at Brandeis University in Waltham (Boston) in the US. Originally I am from the Netherlands where I studied linguistics at Utrecht University.

What's the most interesting thing about your research? Most interesting is the idea of making machines understand language and thereby simulate what we as human beings experience when we read a text or story and visualize the whole world of knowledge that is implied by it.

Best career moment: Finishing my PhD and realizing that I discovered something that nobody else had touched on before. I still think that this is the core of why somebody endeavours in doing a PhD – to stretch human knowledge.

history with a Morse Code transmission 100 years ago? [Insight@NUI Galway](mailto:Insight@NUIGalway) celebrated this historic event with a re-enactment of the broadcast on the 25th of April last. Read about it [here](#).



Meet the PI#6: Noel O'Connor

Tell us about yourself: I'm a DCU engineering graduate, now a Professor in the School of Electronic Engineering and Academic Director of DCU's Research and Enterprise Hub on Information Technology and the Digital Society. My research was originally focused on multimedia analysis, but has broadened over the years to consider many different types of digital content. In my spare time I'm a GAA fanatic who can be regularly spotted on Hill 16 cheering on the Dubs.

What's the most interesting thing about your research?
The fact that it spans multiple application



Brian MacNamee talks data trails on Today with Sean O'Rourke

This year Insight's Dr Brian MacNamee is delivering the inaugural RIA lecture series on computing and engineering. He wrote an opinion piece for thejournal.ie based on his lecture entitled, Show me your data and I'll tell you who you are. RTE presenter Sean O'Rourke then got in touch. You can read the piece and listen to the interview [here](#).



Open data and global cities

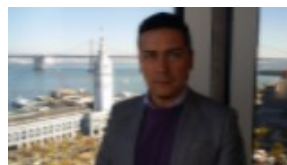
Insight's Niall O Brolcháin and Martin Serrano (pictured) recently travelled with to Texas to take part in the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Global City Team Challenge. You can read the details [here](#).

Representing the City of Galway, they made a joint presentation to the conference in relation to



Dr Aoibheann Bird speaks to The Irish Times about the importance of STEM

Insight education and public engagement manager Dr Aoibheann Bird spoke to Peter McGuire of The Irish Times about the career opportunities for STEM graduates and the importance of making STEM relevant and appealing to young people. Read about it [here](#).



Insight success at IoT World hackathon

Insight's Dr Martin Serrano and his team made their mark on the IoT World event last May. IoT World is the world's largest IoT event, hosted in Silicon Valley CA, USA and it took place in Silicon Valley. Read about their success [here](#).

areas, including multimedia archives, security, smart cities, autonomous vehicles, connected health and sport. This leads to a diverse range of exciting research challenges.

Best career moment:
Being awarded the DCU President's Award for Research in 2011, hot on the heels of being awarded Enterprise Ireland's National ICT Commercialisation Award the same year.

Where do you see Insight in five years?
Hopefully widely acknowledged as a world leading centre for data analytics research with a track record of producing excellent graduates who will become the leaders of tomorrow. I think we're already well on the way towards that!

noise and light pollution. O Brolcháin also travelled to Belfast recently to take part in an Open Data for Government training session hosted by NICVA the Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action. See the website [here](#).



Cathal Gurrin talks lifelogging to The Irish Times

Insight's Dr Cathal Gurrin was profiled in The Irish Times recently. He spoke about his research as a lifelogger and his ambitions for his research. You can read the full article [here](#).

Insight communications team. Get in touch

Insight has had a dedicated communications team in place since January 2015. If you have a story big or small, that you want to promote, internally or to the media please get in touch.

We are also keen to assist Insight researchers in raising their public profile. If you have strong opinions, or something that you want to write about, email or call us. We are delighted to help.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Grainne Faller and Louise Holden.



Prof Mark Keane's Big Week on the Farm

Insight's Prof Mark Keane featured on RTE's smash hit Big Week on the Farm in April. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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