



Monthly Newsletter March 2006

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[Visit our webpage at: <http://www.jci-ireland.org>](#)

Letter from the President

Dear JCI Friends,

I have just returned from a snowy and very cold Vilnius, Lithuania, where I attended the JCI European President's Summit. Over the three days, in addition to the JCI Europe and European Development Council (EDC) business, I had the opportunity to attend various workshops focusing on membership recruitment and retention and the sharing of project ideas and best practices. We were joined by JCI President Lars Hajsland who shared his vision for 2006 with us. Unfortunately, the International Vice President (IVP) assigned to Ireland, Katri Salonen, was unable to travel to Vilnius. She broke her foot back in January but she has assured me that she will visit Ireland soon, hopefully as early as Spring Conference. It was also nice to meet up with some of my fellow National Presidents again and to share the experience of Lithuanian food and culture with them.

I'm delighted to report that at the start of February, Jennifer Griffin from JCI Cobh, graduated from Prime which was held in Reading in the UK. Congratulations also to Orla Ryng who was recently appointed to the board of the National Youth Council of Ireland.

I would also like to congratulate both Rose Dolan and Norma Duignan who have been working very hard over the last few months organising New Member's Nights in Ennis and Sligo respectively. This culminated in the first meetings of both branches on Wednesday 1st March. Indeed well done to all branches who have organised New Member's Nights and events over the last few months. Keep up the good work.

I look forward to seeing you all at Spring Conference in Trabolgan from 24th - 26th March.

Suzanne Corcoran
National President 2006
JCI Ireland

JCI Ireland has a number of vacancies at national level. Opportunities exist for :

- Director of Business
- Director of Individual Development

In addition, we need a branch or an individual to organise the National TOYP project.

If any of the above interest you, or if you need clarification on any of them, please let me know.

Upcoming events:

Deadlines:

TOYP : Friday 5th May

E-Awards : Wednesday 10th May (TBC)

Spring Conference – March 24th - 26th 2006

Hosted by JCI Cork in Trabolgan Holiday Village. Early Registration for this weekend is only 155 Euro - to avail of early registration please send a cheque for 155 Euro, made payable to JCI Cork, to: JCI Cork, 14 Penrose Wharf, to reach us no later than March 8th (after that date it is €170).

Last Registration for Spring Conference is March 16th - Due to the large numbers registering for Spring Conference, we will be unable to accept registrations after March 16th. As we need to confirm numbers with Trabolgan a week in advance, please make sure to contact us prior to this date if you intend to attend Spring Conference (whether the whole weekend or part thereof). Please see article below for more details and further info is available from cork@jci-ireland.org.

Scottish National Convention – April 21st – 23rd 2006

Scottish National Convention will take place in Aberdeen. The Early Bird rate is £95 (before 7th March 2006) and standard rate is £115. Accommodation at the Conference Hotel is £70 for twin room with breakfast. Contact michelle.beveridge@btopenworld.com for further details.

National Training Day - Saturday 6th May 2006

A National Training day will be hosted by JCI Galway. Further details TBA.

European Conference 2006 – June 14th to 17th 2006

The European Conference 2006 will take place in Tallinn, Estonia. A conference fee of €290 is payable before 14th April. Registrations received after this date will be charged at €330. (Please note all registrations are subject to a €9 booking fee). For online registration visit www.ec2006tallinn.ee. Offline Registrations can be emailed to registration@ec2006tallinn.ee. For further details please see <http://www.ec2006tallinn.ee/>

JCI UK National Convention – September 8th – 10th 2006

JCI UK National Convention will take place in Barnsley. Further details TBA.

JCI Ireland National Convention – October 6th – 8th May 2006

JCI Tullamore will host National Convention from 6th-8th October 2006 at the Tullamore Court Hotel, Co. Offaly (www.tullamorecourthotel.ie), following their successful bid at AGM in Cobh in January 2006. More details to follow on the JCI Tullamore website.

Update from the Chapters

(Chapters are listed in alphabetical order)

JCI Castleknock

JCI Castleknock tried out the delights of the local theatre Draiocht on Monday evening (27th February) when they went along to see "Seagulls Dance", described as a musical drama. Set in the west of Ireland in the 19th Century, Seagulls Dance is a tumultuous story of love, revenge and heartbreak. This was an enjoyable evening which our National President, Suzanne Corcoran, managed to slot into her hectic diary as well.

JCI Castleknock has also been participating this month in a joint project with the other Dublin-based chapters to develop a PR strategy for the Dublin area. So watch this space as we try to raise the profile of JCI as part of our drive to recruit new members!

The following Article was published in Community Voice, March 2006:

Junior Chamber helps students

Things have been particularly hectic for members of Junior Chamber (JCI) Castleknock this year with a number of projects occupying much of the member's time.

Several members have teamed up with the JCI branch in Dun Laoghaire and have been involved in doing mock interviews with students in St Lawrence College. Loughlinstown. These interviews are part of the Sixth and Seventh year programmes in the school and members of JCI Castleknock interviewed the students and gave them feedback on their performance, as well as assisting in the preparation of CVs and offering some hands on advice on their possible career paths.

Work shadow days are also being organised this month where students can gain an insight into the careers of members of JCI Castleknock and spend a day with them "on the job".

As a recognition of the work of the local Junior Chamber, one of its members Karen Sweeney has been appointed Deputy President of JCI Ireland. Karen who joined JCI Castleknock in 2002, has already held the positions of Finance Officer, Convention Director and President of the local branch.

JCI Castleknock meets at 8:30pm on the second Monday of each month upstairs in Myo's, Castleknock and new members are always welcome. Further details are available by emailing castleknock@jci-ireland.org.

JCI Cork

JCI Cork would like to extend thanks to Darragh McGann who recently provided training at our monthly meeting. Darragh shared his '10 steps to effective public speaking' which proved to be an enjoyable and informative session. Prizes were awarded to members who braved the floor on the night to talk on subjects such as 'Cork - the real Capital' and 'Women Drivers!'. Kevin Cullinane will be speaking on the benefits of JCI membership at our next meeting on March 30th at 7pm in the Clarion Hotel. Any new/prospective members would be more than welcome to come along on the night. Please extend this invitation to any friends/acquaintances living in the Rebel County!

JCI Dublin

JCI Dublin has been very active in recent months and involved in attending and organising a number of events.

On December 4th JCI Dublin held its 2005 Annual Dinner in Jury's Towers Hotel Ballsbridge. A great night of ceili dancing, Karaoke and disco dancing took place as we rocked into the early hours as only JCI members know how. We were delighted to have the company of the past members of JCI Dublin and our friends from JCI Fingal, JCI Dun Laoghaire and JCI Castleknock for the night.

We were honoured that our colleagues from our twin chapters JCI Leeds President Adam Woodhall and JCI Belfast Treasurer Tony McCrory and the JCI Manchester Deputy President 2005 Richard Tong and JCI

Barnsley Deputy President Steve Bailey travelled to Dublin to attend our dinner and celebrate the festivities with us.

On February 9th JCI Dublin organised a social night open to all the JCI chapters in the Dublin region and all were represented. 'A Viennese Strauss Gala' in the Helix. We enjoyed listening to a night of Viennese music, singing of classic operatic songs performed by the European Orchestral Ensemble and sung by soloists from major Opera Companies showcasing the music of Strauss, Lehar & Kalman. It was a trip down memory lane for those of us who attended the JCI World Congress in October.

We have enjoyed two evenings out in the city. We had a fun evening enjoying platters of food in the Gin Palace on the 19th January. An evening of Indian cuisine in Maloti's Indian Restaurant was arranged by JCI Dublin on the 5th March that was open to other JCI chapters in the Dublin area. Everyone enjoyed a night of good Indian cuisine, wine and conversation.

- **Public Relations Training**

On the 8th February a training session in 'Public Relations' was given by guest speaker Grainne Byrne, Managing Director of GBC Public Relations. The event generated a large interest from JCI members in the branches of the Dublin area. Advice and valuable techniques were given by Grainne on how JCI Dublin and other branches could actively promote themselves in the media. A further meeting of all JCI Dublin region chapters took place 28th February with the participation of Grainne as nominated delegates of the Dublin region branches came together to try and devise a strategy that would benefit JCI in the region. Watch this space for upcoming developments.

- **Interview with SKY News Ireland**

As a result of the PR Training session, JCI Dublin President Mark Kelly, taking note of the tips given by Grainne Byrne in her training session, was successful in his attempts to obtain an interview with SKY News Ireland on 'Work-Life Balance Day' March 1st. In the interview, acting in his capacity as JCI Dublin President 2006, Mark commented on the effects of the long daily commutes that large numbers of people must now make from the outskirts of Dublin to the city to reach their place of employment. He commented on the effects that this was having on the "work-life balance" on a large number of people. We look forward to making additional inroads in promoting JCI Dublin in the media over the coming year.

- **Debating Training**

Graham Hanlon kindly provided all JCI members in the Dublin area with debating training on Wednesday 22nd February. Graham provided us with a lot of tips and good advice on how to construct a good argument, how to make rebuttal and other guidelines and techniques for successful debating. Taking Graham's advice on board, JCI Dublin are organising a fun debate, 'A Farmer needs a tractor more than a wife', to follow the March General Meeting on Wednesday 8th.

- **JCI Ireland First National**

In January members of JCI Dublin travelled to Cobh for JCI First National organised by JCI Cobh. We took part in all the activities of the weekend and caught up with our JCI friends from across the country. We witnessed the inauguration of Suzanne Corcoran as 2006 JCI Ireland President. Enjoyed the dinner organised to celebrate the memories and achievements of Kevin Cullinane in his year as the 2005 JCI World President. On the Sunday morning after a late night we participated in the various training sessions. All agreed it was an enjoyable weekend.

On the International front, a contingent of JCI Dublin members travelled to Scotland for the weekend of the 3rd to 5th February for dual events hosted by our twin chapters Glasgow and Edinburgh.

On the 3rd of February we travelled to Glasgow to attend the 69th Colquhoun Dinner organised by JCI Glasgow. The black tie event was held in the Trades Hall in Glasgow. It was a night of fine food, wine and public speaking. The life and works of a local lady Mrs. Isabella Elder was celebrated. She was celebrated for her work in establishing an engineering school, promoting higher education for young ladies and her charitable works for the poor in Glasgow. JCI members adjourned to a nearby hotel to an after party hosted by JCI Glasgow where we celebrated further into the early hours. Some members enjoyed home hospitality provided by our friends in JCI Glasgow.

On the Saturday we travelled to Edinburgh to attend 'The Burns Supper' weekend. Following a day of training, a black tie dinner took place in the Hilton Caledonian Hotel. Among other entertaining speeches, Scot Johnston, past president of JCI Scotland addressed the Haggis.



Pic1: Presentation by JCI Dublin President Kevin Gallagher to guest speaker JCI Leeds President Adam Woodhall at the JCI Dublin 2005 Annual Dinner at Jurys Ballsbridge Hotel

Pic 2: Presentation of JCI Senate Membership Certificate to JCI Dublin Member Abiba Ndeley by President Kevin Gallagher at the JCI Dublin 2005 Annual Dinner at Jurys Ballsbridge Hotel

Pic 3: JCI Dublin's delegation at JCI Glasgow's Colquhoun Dinner, 2006-02-03, at Trades Hall, Glasgow - (L-to-R) Ray Reilly, Theresa Leneghan, Mark Kelly (President), Cormac O'Connell (Treasurer), Elizabeth Donohoe (Secretary) and Anne Marie O'Reilly - P2030014

Pic 4: PR Training at the JCI Dublin February General Meeting, 2006-02-08

JCI Dun Laoghaire

JCI Dun Laoghaire has just completed a very successful School Mock Interview project. The project has been running for over 20 years in conjunction with St. Laurence College in Loughlinstown and this year over 150 students were interviewed over 3 Saturday mornings. Both the teachers and the students were delighted with the success of the project and in May, we will get the opportunity to attend the School Awards Night, where we will present prizes to the top four students who did exceptionally well in the interviews.

We would like to thank members of JCI Castleknock, JCI Dublin and JCI Fingal for their support this year.



JCI Galway

We in JCI Galway have been quite busy of late, organising committees for our various projects that are starting now for future months, Items like the 39th Tourist Guide, TOYP and of course the big one – National Training Day. There has been a great response from new members who have got involved early on in the various committees. As part of encouraging new members to get involved, we recently held a dinner in honour of our President Catherine Laffey at Al Muretto’s Italian Restaurant where 26 members turned up for a feast for the senses. This was a fantastic opportunity for all involved to get to know one another and a great night of fun was had.

The LINK programme (Learning, Insight, Network and Knowledge) is a mentoring programme organised by JCI Galway and NUI Galway Careers Service, in association with Alumni. The idea is to provide students and experienced professionals with an opportunity to meet, discuss career goals, network, and have fun in a social setting and to help students in enhancing their professional skills outside the lecture hall. NUIG recently held the 2nd part of the training programme for Mentees and Mentors with Evelyn Gilmore and then we have arranged for Bernard Chanliau of Xenergie Consulting to speak on Career Choice.

The final event for the JCI LINK project – the graduation - is coming up next week on Monday 6th March at 7.30pm in the Aula Maxima (upstairs) in the University. There will be a presentation of certificates to all participants and refreshments to follow.

This month JCI Galway were lucky to have two training events. John Lalor of CRH Roundstone gave us invaluable insight into how to sell successfully. John spoke about two aspects of selling - the practical techniques involved and creating the attitude internally to sell well. Even for people that aren't directly involved in selling tangible items the ability to sell is something that can be applied in most areas of activity, whether it is selling a service, an idea, or a deal.

The second training session was provided by our own Helen Flatley who spoke about putting a project together and seeing it through its various stages to completion. We found that this training was quite relevant due to the high density of crucial JCI Galway projects coming up over the next few months, and also handy to know in day to day life for most members.

JCI Galway is in the process of staging a performance for the 2006 St. Patrick's Day Parade in the city. As JCI Galway are celebrating 40 years, we have thinking of introducing a theme based on our 40th Anniversary called "Through the Years". We are also hoping to incorporate some of our most well known projects such as the Duck Race and Tourist Guide. This promises to be a memorable day for participants and onlookers alike.

JCI Sligo

JCI Sligo had their first meeting of 2006 in the Innisfree Hotel on Wednesday March 1st. Welcome to all the new members who took the time to come along and for their input into the planning for the next few months. The chapter are still deciding what to give up for Lent!! Not wine obviously as we have a wine tasting on 21st of March in the Wine Buff. Thank you to members who took part in the recruitment drive in the Tesco Arcade on Saturday Feb.25th.

Meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the Month at 8 pm, in the Innisfree Hotel from now on.

Announcements

There were no announcements for this issue of the Newsletter – for any announcement you would like to make in future issues please e-mail the Newsletter Editor at RoseAnn_O'Brien@dell.com.

Spring Conference - Newsflash!! By Orla Ryng JCI Cork

Early Bird Registration - Deadline extended to March 8th

By popular demand the deadline for receipt of early registrations has been extended to 5pm on March 8th. To avail of early registration please send a cheque for 155 Euro, made payable to JCI Cork, to JCI Cork, 14 Penrose Wharf, to reach us no later than March 8th.

Last Registrations for Spring Conference - March 16th

Due to the large numbers registering for Spring Conference, we will be unable to accept registrations after March 16th. As we need to confirm numbers with Trabolgan a week in advance please make sure to contact us prior to this date if you intend to attend Spring Conference (whether the whole weekend or part thereof)

Spring Conference will take place from March 24th - March 26th this year and we look forward to welcoming members from all around the country to a fun filled weekend in East Cork. This is a team building weekend and the ideal opportunity for new members to meet other members from around the country.

Upon arrival at Trabolgan you will have some time to relax and settle into your chalet. The weekend proper kicks off with a 'poker' night in Jim Gallagher's Pub. All National Council members will be up early the following morning to meet in the clubhouse, while all other delegates can enjoy the many facilities available at Trabolgan - swimming pool (with slide!), golf, badminton, tennis, relaxation suite, and many more ..

Teambuilding activities - flying fox (zip wire), quad biking and archery - take place between 2 and 4 that afternoon. Points will be awarded on team effort - we emphasise that it is not the winning, but the taking part that counts!!

The evening meal on Saturday night will be at 7.30pm in Sally O'Hara's restaurant.

JCI Ireland's National Public Speaking and Debating Competition will take place on Sunday morning in the clubhouse, and we strongly urge all Chapters to encourage members to enter these competitions. Prizes for the teambuilding activities will be presented immediately after the competition.

NB: It is advised you wear comfortable clothing - long sleeves & sport shoes for the teambuilding activities.

Further info from cork@jci-ireland.org or contact Michelle @ 087.6563062 or Orla @ 087.2971338



Our new Deputy President Karen Sweeney



Since joining JCI Castleknock in July 2002, I've had a number of opportunities to perform various roles within both the local and national organisations. While all of those roles presented their own unique risks and rewards, undoubtedly I'm on the threshold of the greatest challenge yet: that of Deputy National President.

It's a very exciting and challenging time for JCI Ireland; we have the opportunity in the coming years to increase membership and the number of local branches significantly, thereby enhancing our profile and presence in society.

To that end, my main objective in 2006 is to support and assist NP Suzanne in carrying out her duties and achieving her goals. Her priority for this year is membership retention and growth combined with an emphasis on identifying and marketing our product and brand.

- While the Director of Community Affairs and the Regional Development Officers have responsibility for membership growth and development, I will make myself available for branch visits and new members' nights as required. This will include the set up of new branches, especially in the midlands region.
- Visit at least three local branches nationwide.
- Liaise with the local DPs in preparation for 2007; this would include encouraging attendance at European Academy and a workshop session, possibly at National Convention in October 2006.
- Investigate the benefits of creating a 3-5 year strategic plan for promoting and advertising JCI Ireland, in order to continue to encourage consistency in our message and objectives over a sustained period, both within and outside the organisation.
- Attend Japanese Academy in May 2006.
- Attend JCI Scotland & JCI UK National Conferences, EDC Meeting, European Conference and World Congress.
- Assist local branches with personalising corporate material e.g. business cards, brochures and promotional material, as required.
- Promote the 100% Efficiency Programme and the 7 steps programme.
- Encourage members' attendance at training courses, national events and international events.
- Assist National Executive in securing sponsorship in general and for specific projects.
- Attend National Executive and National Council meetings.

I look forward to working with all JCI Ireland members in 2006, towards the goals of increased membership and awareness of JCI, increased personal fulfilment and enjoyment of our members and most importantly, an ever increasing number of better leaders for better societies.

Please feel free to contact me directly if I can be of any assistance to you or your branch.

Karen Sweeney
Deputy National President 2006
JCI Ireland

Joint Dublin Branches PR Meeting by Andrew Shortall, Regional Development Officer East

February 28th 2006 saw the first joint meeting of the Dublin branches on the subject of PR. We had a very productive meeting in The Bankers Club on St Stephen's Green, and will be meeting again during March and the following months. This is a subject that is close to my heart and I feel that the unique challenges faced by Dublin branches in recruitment can be better overcome by the four branches working together. In short, we are going to decide on how best to promote JCI in Dublin, to raise the profile, and recruit and retain new members. We are all acutely aware that Dublin wasn't built in a day, and similarly I don't think this is something we can solve overnight. But working together on the issue will be a big step on the right road.

During the meeting, we discussed issues such as the message we want to promote, how to go about getting our message out to our target audience, and other wider issues. We all have our ideas on how to accomplish our goals, but one exciting prospect is the production of the first Eastern Regional Newsletter. I was very encouraged to see that two new members of JCI Dublin came along to the meeting, and both had some excellent input, along with some of the more established members. We were honoured to have National President Suzanne with us, and we were also delighted to have a PR consultant with us too. Grainne Byrne delivered an excellent training event at the February JCI Dublin branch meeting, which is how this joint initiative came to life. Watch this space!!

Report on the Burns Supper Gala & Training Day by Catherine Laffey, President, JCI Galway



After a late night the previous night at the Colquhoun Dinner and an early morning drive from Glasgow to Edinburgh, Orla Ryng (JCI Cork) and I were bleary-eyed and low on energy when we arrived at the Caledonian Hilton Hotel for Edinburgh Junior Chamber of Commerce's Training Day. However, after a hearty breakfast and plenty of coffee we were all set to be enlightened by the top quality training on offer.

The theme of the day was '2006: A Recipe for Success' and four excellent business trainers provided training sessions including 'Breakthrough 2006' which offered tips for achieving that sought-after breakthrough and motivation to maintain your New Year's resolutions, and Effective Networking, presented by Iain Whyte the Scottish Director of BNI who shared his experience of how to make the most of networking opportunities.

Later that evening, JCI delegates from across Scotland, Europe and beyond joined our hosts Edinburgh Junior Chamber of Commerce to celebrate the life and work of Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns. The evening began with a drinks reception followed by a traditional Scottish menu including Haggis, Aberdeen Angus Beef and Cranachan. We were entertained with amusing speeches including the Address to the Haggis delivered by Scott Johnston, the Toast to the Lassies by Andy

McKechnie and the Reply from the Lassies given by Erin Savage.

A charity auction and raffle raised over £2000, for three local charities. Bidding was close for items including a tour of Ibrox Stadium for four people, 90 minutes limousine hire and a matchball signed by the Commonwealth Games Rugby Squad. The Ceilidh, which continued until the early hours was a great way to burn off the calories consumed earlier and also proved to be a great way to attain some colourful bruises, which were a talking point the following day at the farewell brunch at the World's End pub

The Burns Supper is a fantastic weekend and a great opportunity to sample some Scottish culture. As always the hospitality shown to us by our friends in Edinburgh was exemplary and I'll certainly be back for more next year!

Prime in Reading UK by Jennifer Griffin JCI Cobh

My experiences this weekend were fantastic. The people I met were true JCI stock, friendly, nice, intelligent and made me feel right at home! The venue was a little in the middle of nowhere, which was just as well because it was such a busy weekend. I felt I was challenged a lot but felt comfortable in the forgiving audience I got and the "experimental" nature that is Prime, and working through the modules I have made some great friends and contacts, as well as the brainstorming of JCI ideas.

The Major task of the weekend was forming our own training program using the kolb cycle, which we found to be a great learning experience.

I learned more about my personality and how I like to approach matters, in a careful reflective manner, and while at first uncomfortable speaking in front of a room full of people while adapting what I was going to say to a changing situation, I quickly grew accustomed to it. I would definitely recommend this course to anyone who would consider doing it. It was a worthwhile learning and networking experience and great craic!

I now feel driven to push myself into any JCI opportunities/challenges that may come my way, and I have more of a sense of what is out there in the JCI training world, and I am considering becoming a trainer myself.

Hope to see many of you at Spring Conference!



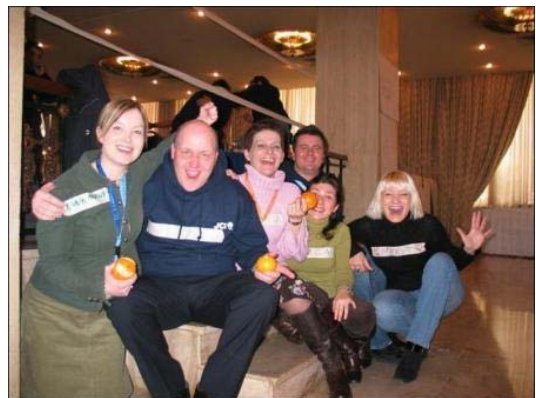
Master Class in Athens Hones Communication Skills

Thirty JCI potential young leaders from 28 countries of Europe gathered at the Divanni Acropolis Hotel, located under the shadow of the sacred rock of the Acropolis, in Athens, Greece, for the III JCI European Media and Communication Master Class on January 25 – 29, 2006. The event, sponsored by Greece's General Secretariat of Youth, was organized by JCI Athens with the support of JCI Levadia.

"JCI Media and Communication Master Class gives a unique opportunity to Europe's young men and women to develop important and necessary skills in Communication and Media and at the same time Meet, Learn and Grow," said JCI Executive Vice President Yiannis Lagos of JCI Greece, who performed as one of the trainers.

Participants explored general concepts of branding, marketing and consistent communication, public relations techniques, handling the broadcast media and sponsorship. They also learned about the role of JCI and the organization's branding and marketing strategies.

Headed by Anders Tunold Hannsen of JCI Norway, trainers combined theory and practice by alternating presentations, discussion and practice activities. In addition to JCI Executive Vice President Yiannis Lagos, other trainers included Ole Wurtz of JCI Denmark; Eleni Androulaki, Microsoft Hellas Public Relations Manager; and Renia Prifti, a Public Relations consultant.



From the JCI World Headquarters, JCI Marketing Director Louis Trahan of Canada provided training, while JCI Growth and Development Director for Europe Zsolt Fehér of Hungary assisted in the evaluation process during the last two days.

Participants worked in teams to draft press releases of the event. The best press release was selected. The proud winning team consisted of Anna-Maria Bjarnadottir of JCI Iceland, Marco Fuchs of JCI

Switzerland, Marica Galea of JCI Malta, Tom Lawless of JCI Ireland, Merit Miller of JCI Estonia, and Biljana Stavreska of JCI Macedonia.

A graduation ceremony for all participants marked the end of this outstanding event. The young people attending this III Master Class not only learned about Communication and Media, but also visited fascinating Greek sites and enjoyed JCI fellowship during fun-filled social events. "It was a fantastic week in Athens!" commented Marco Fuchs.

International News by Grainne Nolan, Director of International Affairs

JCI Scotland National Convention, April 21st -23rd, Aberdeen.

Full Registration £115 stg after March 7th. Must be paid by Bank Transfer (see attached)
Conference Hotel: The Patio Hotel, Aberdeen 4* (www.patiohotels.com) or email info@patiohotels.com or Tel 0044 1224 633339

Alternative Accommodation queries can be made by calling Tourist Information on 0044 1224 288800
Your local president has the forms: JCI Aberdeen Reg Form 2006.pdf and Registration Payment transfer Aberdeen.doc with full details

JCI European Conference, June 14th - 18th, Tallinn, Estonia

Early Bird Registration extended to April 14th : eur290

Accommodation "reserved" until March 10th for JCI Ireland at the Conference Hotel, Reval Olumpia. This is strictly first come-first served basis and rooms are limited. Rooms have been reserved from 11-18 June but you can book to stay for your own preferred dates within that period.

A booking link has been created for the Irish Delegation. Simply log onto

<https://securestravel.ee/ec2006/groupbk.php>

username: ireland and password: ie06bkoly will allow you to book online.

Rooms are priced at eur120 per room per night (twins, based on 2 sharing @ eur60 each) and eur110 per room per night (singles)

For flights please see www.estonian-air.com or www.czechairlines.com

(Estonian Airs flights depart Dublin at 00:45 on Wed 14th but are very competitively priced at eur 201 return)

In case it is of interest, JCI UK and JCI Scotland have chosen the Reval Central (sister hotel) for their delegates. Rooms are marginally less expensive than those at the Reval Olumpia and may be available after the 10th. Please see www.ec2006tallinn.ee for a full list of available accommodation.

Another point of information - flight prices are on the rise, if you are intending to travel, dont delay - make the booking today!

Don't forget about JCI 10th European Academy ..

July 28th -Aug 1st in Goteburg, Sweden.

JCI Ireland have been invited to nominate two candidates to attend and will pay the cost of the Academy, including accommodation. Attendees will only need to fund their own travel expenses. Ideally, attendees should be considering local presidency in 2007 or in the very near future.

Last date for receipt of applications by NP Suzanne Corcoran (suzanne.corcoran@agb.ie) is 31st March.

Applications can be found on the JCI European Academy website at www.jcs.se/jciea For more information regarding the Programme, please email the Conference Organising Committee at jciea@jcs.se or speak to your Local President who was given a handout at AGM in Cobh.

JCI Ennis re-launched by Rose Dolan, Regional Development Officer West

I am delighted to report that JC Ennis have very successfully held their 1st official General meeting of 2006 on 1st March in the Old Ground Hotel and the room was packed to capacity.

On 25th January I held an information evening in the Old Ground Hotel which was attended by 17 young dynamic individuals from which a committee was formed to restart the local branch. I have worked very closely over the past 6 weeks with the new committee and a plan of Action has been put in place for the next couple of months, the new



committee are also seeking ideas from new members regarding projects & events.

I would personally like to Congratulate Declan O'Loughlin the new JCI Ennis President and I have no doubt that he will turn this Branch into one of the most successful branches in Ireland!!...I would also like to congratulate his new committee Aileen Kennedy, Catherine Murphy, Grainne Hassett, Tom Malone & Claire Cassidy. Thanks also to David Williams from Ennis who has attended all the planning meetings.

Suzanne Corcoran, Catherine Laffey, Anne Healy, Rose Ann O'Brien, Tom Lawless, Orla Ryng attended the meeting on 1st March and also thanks Declan for attending the monthly meeting in Galway in February. Well done to you & your committee and best wishes for 2006. Welcome to the world of JCI!!

Invitation by JCI Germany

Dear JCI Member,

This year's CeBit, the world's largest trade show of information and telecommunications technology, will take place from March 9 through March 15 in Hanover, Germany. As last year, JCI Hanover will organize a meeting for all JCI Members and their friends visiting Hanover at that time.

We would be very happy to meet with you and to show you the sights of Hanover. Take advantage of this opportunity to make interesting contacts and meet other JCI members staying in Hanover during the event. For additional information on CeBit, please go to www.cebit.de

To help us organize our meeting during CeBit, please send us an email to volkergross@yahoo.de confirming your interest and informing us of the exact dates of your stay in Hanover (or your preferred date for the meeting). Upon receipt of your email, we will contact you with detailed information.

We look forward to hearing from you!
Best regards,

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A Year in the Life of a JCI Ireland Regional Development Officer, Part 1. By Andrew Shortall, Regional Development Officer East

Since my election to the position of Eastern Regional Development Officer at national convention, and even more so since the beginning of the year, my life has become hectic. In fact, some of my friends have commented that I have a more active social life than Tara Palmer Tomkinson!! So far, I have had a number of new and interesting experiences.

To date, I have visited each of the existing branches in my area and discovered just how different each branch does things. My home branch, Fingal is quite formal whereas Castleknock is quite informal. I felt a little awkward speaking at my home branch meetings, realising that some of the members are looking to me for inspiration (I think!!). I also felt nervous speaking at the Castleknock meeting, which was my first proper official function as Regional Development Officer. But I have found that the more I speak, my confidence grows.

I visited Cobh, in Cork for the first time in January. Hard to believe that I have never been to Cobh, despite having visited Cork on a number of occasions. While there, I had my first experience of sitting on the top table of a National Council meeting. I also had my first true attempt at Public Speaking, following the training on the Sunday morning at First National. Strangely though I wasn't nervous until I was announced, and applauded to the podium. Once I had finished my speech, the crowd applauded me again, despite the lack of volume in my voice. Maybe they were being polite!!

February brought a totally new experience. That of attending the JCI Dun Laoghaire School Mock Interviews as one of the interviewers. I have been to many job interviews in the last few years, so it was very interesting to sit on the other side of the table. One young lad was so nervous that he could hardly speak, which reminded me of an interview I had been to with a company that I dreamed of

working for. February also brought me to DCU and The Helix for a Viennese Strauss evening. I'm not a fan of that genre of music, but I actually enjoyed the experience.

I also had the pleasure of helping to organise some training on Debating for the Dublin branches. My thanks again to Mr. Graham Hanlon, JCI General Legal Counsel 2006 and long standing member of my home branch of Fingal, and to the members who turned up on a freezing cold February night rather than watch the football match!!

Finally, I'm looking forward to the coming months, which I'm sure will see some more new experiences for me. In particular, I'm very much looking forward to Spring Conference, to be hosted by JCI Cork in Trabolgan Holiday Village, and riding around on a quad bike!! Stay tuned for part two of this article in a few months!!

Your 2006 National Executive

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