



**College of Psychiatrists
of Ireland**

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Press Statement 19th February 2013 CPsychl Trainee Committee launch premiere of MedFest in UCD

The annual medical film festival “MedFest” will premiere in UCD’s new state-of-the-art multimedia cinema on 25th February 2013. Building on a successful tour of 20 universities in the UK, this year MedFest is launching in Ireland, co-hosted by ‘PSYCHED’ (UCD Psychiatry Special Interest Group), UCD MedSoc and the Trainee Committee of the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland. The event was pioneered by the Trainee Committee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 2011.

The event for medical students will cover different aspects of the theme the ‘Power of Medicine’ over three sessions. A number of short films will be shown including documentaries, animation and dramatised fiction. The first part of the night will focus on the ‘Power of medicine for the Patient’, followed by the ‘Power of Medicine for the Doctor’ and concluding with the ‘Power of Medicine for Society’.

Each section will involve a panel discussion and Q&A session encouraging audience participation. The panel of esteemed experts include Dr Brendan Kelly (Consultant Psychiatrist and Editor-in-Chief of the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine), Dr Michael Doran (Consultant Psychiatrist in Addictions), Dr Rhona Mahony (Master of National Maternity Hospital, Holles St.) and Dr Ceppie Merry (Senior Lecturer in Global Health, TCD). Service users have also been invited to this event to give their perspective.

“We are delighted to bring Medfest to Ireland in Collaboration with UCD ‘PSYCHED’ medical students and UCD Medsoc” said Dr Eric Kelleher, Chair CPsychl Trainee Committee. *“It is hoped that the event will provoke animated discussion on a number of medical, social and artistic topics and encourage students to reflect on their future role as doctors and the difference they can make. The interest on the facebook page is very encouraging”* continued Dr Kelleher *“and the medical students interested in attending outnumbers the available places so it promises to be an interesting and enjoyable evening. We are already planning to tour the festival around the country in 2014”*.

For more information please go to <http://www.medfest.co.uk/> and <http://www.facebook.com/events/508792475830984/?fref=ts>.

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