Jade Foynes

“...the scholarship means a lot to me as it’s helping me to succeed with my studies. It gives me more time to concentrate on the core element, that is my education. This scholarship is a gift and I’m extremely grateful. You can do things like buy books that you wouldn’t be able to afford otherwise. Every person hits a rainy day sometimes and this scholarship makes it that bit easier. It takes a lot of stress off the student knowing that they have...”

Background/Inspiration:

LIT has a proud record in widening participation in Higher Education. Inspired by this commitment, the LIT Foundation has adopted as a priority the provision of a sponsorship programme to students. The Leaders@LIT student scholarship programme aims to alleviate the strain of financial difficulties experienced by students, so that they can concentrate fully on their education and finish their course of study.

A pilot student scholarship programme was successfully carried out in 2014, where 6 companies sponsored 17 students from schools designated as disadvantaged by the Department of Education in their studies at LIT. The CEO of one of the main company sponsors, Ronan Foley, of Irish Public Bodies stated: “IPB Insurance is committed to making a difference to Irish society. Education is one of the five key areas we have chosen to target through our Corporate Social Engagement Framework.”

The Leaders@LIT student scholarship programme is about much more than just covering tuition fees. To ensure our scholarship students are able to complete their education and reach their full potential after their studies, the Leaders@LIT programme includes monitoring of scholars’ progress, and appropriate mentoring and guidance to support them through their programme in LIT.

The LIT Foundation has adopted as a priority an initiative to provide sponsorship to deserving students.

For me, it started in LIT

Jade Foynes

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Student Scholarship Programme

For Companies / Individuals

The Leaders@LIT programme depends on the support of donors for its funding. 100% of all donors’ funding goes to the programme scholars. Donors can either choose to sponsor specific scholars, or to contribute to a funding pool which supports the scholarships.

LIT is a registered charity and donating companies and individuals can avail of tax relief at a company level (12.5%) or personal level (31%). Arrangements can also be made for monthly contributions where required. In the case of individual donations, the individual donates the net amount and LIT reclaims the tax direct from Revenue. In general terms the minimum eligible donation which is necessary in order to qualify for tax relief in Ireland is €250 per annum.

Donating companies can seek selected students to participate in internship opportunities with them during vacation periods or as an integral part of study if the curriculum allows. Donating companies are also encouraged to use the tag line "We support the Leaders@LIT student scholarships".

I thank everyone that has helped throughout the process, as I have said before, education is the most important tool in the box. When you have help you feel like you can adapt, overcome and conquer the challenges that face you in college life. Thank you."
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<th>Gross Donation</th>
<th>Personal Donation net of personal tax</th>
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<th>Tax reclaim by LIT</th>
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</table>

**For me, it started in LIT**

**Louise Mckeown**

“Education is so important and with the scholarship education is now attainable for me. College is stressful at times with assignment deadlines to meet and exams to study for, money is the last thing I needed to worry about. With the scholarship I have been able to cut down on part-time work which allows me to...
focus more on college and achieve good grades. I also feel so much more motivated to do well in college so that I can show my gratitude and how much this scholarship really means to me. Thank you so much for everything.”

“Education is an incredibly valuable thing in life. Programmes like LIT’s have such an important role in allowing people to reach their potential, and I am delighted that such an imaginative and forward-looking initiative is being taken here in Limerick. I have supported this scholarship programme since the beginning, and look forward to doing so as it grows in the future.”

Paul O’Connell, Former Captain of Munster, Ireland and the British & Irish Lions

“Roadbridge as a Global Civil Engineering Contractor is delighted to continue its long association with Limerick Institute of Technology students and graduates.”

Conor Gilligan, CEO Roadbridge
For me, it started in **LIT**

**Sorcha Kidney**

“I really don’t think putting into words can remotely sum up the positive changes and all the amazing experiences gained through the Scholarship, which undoubtedly would not have been possible without all the enthusiasm and support I receive from my sponsors and all the people who helped me along the way in getting here. I hope to continue and excel in my career and make the most of the programme and everything it has to offer in the up and coming years.”

**Donogh Flannery**

“This scholarship programme is huge for the community, it not only gives students financial aid it also gives students a confidence boost that we all need to succeed. I could never express enough how grateful I am for receiving this opportunity, but my aim is to succeed through my grades and my career so eventually I can give back to those who showed great faith in me.”

**Lisa Roche**

“This scholarship has helped me in so many ways. Before getting this scholarship back in first year I couldn’t see myself going back to college after Christmas because I didn’t have the money to buy the books needed but now I’m in third year and I’ve never felt so happy in my life. This scholarship has helped me stay at college. This scholarship means I have someone believing in me to finish college and this inspires me to do my best every day and every year at college.”
Governance of the Programme

Panel & Governance:
All applications to the Leaders @ LIT Student Scholarship Fund will be reviewed and assessed by a panel comprising:

- LIT Access Service
- LIT Foundation
- School principals
- Donating companies

Approval Process:
The Review and Oversight Panel reports to the Executive Management of LIT and is accountable to the Executive Management.
The overall approval process will incorporate:

- Application form
- Candidates may be short listed for interview
- A review process by the LIT Access Service
- A decision process involving the Review and Oversight Panel
- A feedback process

Eligibility for application to the Leaders @ LIT Student Scholarship Fund requires the following:

- Candidates must be attending a full-time undergraduate course of not less than two years duration at LIT
- Candidates must be first year students at LIT
- Applicants must be from a DEIS school

To apply for a scholarship, contact;
Leaders@lit.ie
LIT is requesting individuals and organisations to contribute to the Student Scholarship Fund to assist students realise their true potential.

To participate contact:
Kieran MacSweeney @ 087 2513986
or Email: foundation@lit.ie

Recognition:

This fund is an initiative of the LIT Foundation Advisory Board from Industry, Business, the Public Sector, Community and LIT’s Alumni whose members include Denis Brosnan, John Hartnett (ITLG), Gearoid Costelloe (Grant Thornton), Brian McEnery (BDO), Josephine Feehily, Pat McGrath (PM group), Sean Shine, Liam McLoughlin (Bank of Ireland), Harry Fehily (Holmes O’Malley Sexton), Dick Meaney (Analog), Bill Doherty (Cook Medical), Ed Hansom (Aero Analytics), Conor Gilligan (Roadbridge), Mark Nolan (Dromoland Castle).

LIT is delighted to offer appropriate recognition to individuals and companies for their contributions to the LIT Student Scholarship Fund in an appropriate way while respecting and accepting those individual’s who desire anonymity.

LIT would like to acknowledge the following as founding donors of the student scholarship programme: Analog, Averian Global, Bank Of Ireland, BHP, Cook Medical, Dromoland Castle, Grant Thornton, Holmes O’Malley Sexton, IPB (Irish Public Bodies), PMI (Property Management Ireland), John & Helen Hartnett, Josephine & Paddy Feehily, PINERGY, Roadbridge, Sean & Linda Shine.