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### Two CRANN PIs amongst TCD New Fellows

Trinity College Dublin today celebrated the beginning of the annual Trinity Week with the announcement of four Honorary Fellows, 15 new Fellows and 85 new Scholars of the College, a record number for the College.

CRANN Principal Investigator (PI) Professor John Pethica was awarded an honorary fellowship and Professor Martin Hegner, CRANN PI and Associate Professor in TCD's School of Physics was elected to Fellowship.

Research achievement or scholarship of a high order is the primary qualification for Fellowship, along with evidence of the candidate's contribution to the academic life of the College and effective record of teaching.

Prof Martin Hegner has been with CRANN since 2007. He received MSc and PhD Life science degrees from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich in 1989 and 1994. He had post-doctoral appointments at the Institute of Physics University of Basel, Howard Hughes medical

research laboratory in Eugene OR, and the University of California, Berkeley. He was appointed to the academic staff at the University of Basel in 1999, where he built up an interdisciplinary biophysics team in the department of Physics. In 1991 he became a fellow of the new National Center of Competence in Nanoscale Science Research in the University of Basel. His scientific interests focus on interdisciplinary research in the fields of single molecule manipulation, biophysics, bio-diagnostics and development and application of biological sensing devices. Prof Hegner's current interests are centred on biological nanomechanics. His team at CRANN are also developing novel cantilever array devices to enable label free diagnostics.

Prof John Pethica graduated from the University of Cambridge with BA & PhD in physics. He was a staff scientist at Brown Boveri Co., Switzerland from 1980 to 1982, and then held Fellowships at Cambridge from 1983 to 1987. He was appointed Lecturer, then Professor (1996) of Materials Science at the University of Oxford. He became an SFI Research Professor at Trinity College Dublin in November 2001. He was the founding director of



CRANN, serving till 2005. Prof. Pethica is the originator of novel AFM, STM and nano-indentation techniques.

The award ceremony is one of the oldest and most colourful at Trinity College and marks the beginning of the annual Trinity Week, a long established celebration of College life. The announcement was made by the Provost of Trinity, Dr John Hegarty, surrounded by members of the Board of the College in full academic gowns on the steps of the Public Theatre. Students and staff celebrated the occasion with colleagues, friends and families in Front Square.

Honorary fellowships were also awarded to one of Ireland's great playwrights, Thomas Kilroy, for his role in shaping Irish theatre. Historian Professor John Morrill of the University of Cambridge, one of the principal investigators of the 1641 Depositions Project concerning the testimonies of the violent massacres of the 1641 Irish Rebellion, also received an honorary fellowship from the College. Professor John Nolan, former Professor of Endocrinology at Trinity College Dublin and St James's Hospital, Dublin was also awarded an honorary fellowship. Professor Nolan, a leading researcher in the field of diabetes and an expert in Type 2 diabetes, has recently taken up a new position as CEO and Head of the world renowned Steno Diabetes Centre in Denmark.

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