

STUDENT ECONOMIC REVIEW 2022



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**THE RENT IS TOO DAMN HIGH:
AFFORDABILITY IN THE DUBLIN HOUSING MARKET**

ELANA KILEY

BEST APPLIED ECONOMICS ESSAY: JOHN O' HAGAN MEDAL

THE CARRY TRADE AND GLOBAL IMBALANCES
ROBERT TOLAN, JEMIMA OWENS, AND VLAD-FLORIAN LICA

BEST FRESH ESSAY PRIZE:

**REINFORCEMENT LEARNING, COGNITIVE SCARCITY
AND BEHAVIOURAL BAND-AIDS**

RACHEL KANE

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Year	Editor	General Manager
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1988 (Vol. II)	Kevin Carey	Finbar McDonnell
1989 (Vol. III)	Johnathan Wright	Joe Denehy
1990 (Vol. IV)	Philip Lane	C. J. O'Neill
1991 (Vol. V)	Paul O'Connell	Billy Stamp
1992 (Vol. VI)	Alan White	Addo C. Barrows III
1993 (Vol. VII)	Gareth Davis	David Butler
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1996 (Vol. X)	Geoffrey Gill	Suzanne O'Neill
1997 (Vol. XI)	Sarah Rowell	Carol Newman
1998 (Vol. XII)	Richard Doyle	Charlotte Hess
1999 (Vol. XIII)	Michael Mc Mahon	Niamh McDonagh
2000 (Vol. XIV)	Ana Carrie	Collette Murphy
2001 (Vol. XV)	Ronan Lyons	Charles Larkin
2002 (Vol. XVI)	Ivan McAdam	Janine Boyd O'Carroll
2003 (Vol. XVII)	Rowena Gray	Elaine Doyle
2004 (Vol. XVIII)	Denis Tkatchenko	Tara McInhoe
2005 (Vol. XIX)	Cormac O'Dea	Paul Sammon
2006 (Vol. XX)	Deirdre Reilly	Melinda Simonffy
2007 (Vol. XXI)	Niamh Crilly	Charlie Nolan
2008 (Vol. XXII)	Nathalie Ennis	Kieran Curtis
2009 (Vol. XXIII)	Jean Acheson	James Walsh
2010 (Vol. XXIV)	Jason Somerville	Amandine Lobelle
2011 (Vol. XXV)	Robert Farhat	Áine Ni Shúilleabháin

Year	Editor	General Manager
2012 (Vol. XXXVI)	Tony O'Connor	Debbie Blair
2013 (Vol. XXXVII)	Brian Higgins	Marielle Grigsby-Rocca
2014 (Vol. XXXVIII)	Féidhlim Mc Gowan	Cián Mc Leod
2015 (Vol. XXIX)	Gearóid Gibbs	Michael Mahony
2016 (Vol. XXX)	Gillian O'Connell	Kate Hayes
2017 (Vol. XXXI)	Míde Ní Ghríofa	Alexandru Radu Puiu
2018 (Vol. XXXII)	Keelan Beirne	Aditya Garg
2019 (Vol. XXXIII)	John (Charlie) Walsh	Luisa Mostarda
2020 (Vol. XXXIV)	Harry Humes	Kevin Loftus
2021 (Vol. XXXV)	Ronan Dunne	Yvonne O'Kiersey
2022 (Vol. XXXVI)	Sarah Clavin	Cian Brennan

GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE LAUNCH OF THE STUDENT ECONOMIC REVIEW, 1990-2022

Year	Speaker	Organisation
1990 (Vol. IV)	Richard Lipsey	Simon Fraser University
1991 (Vol. V)	Charles Goodhart	London School of Economics
1992 (Vol. VI)	Peter Sinclair	Brasenose College, Oxford
1993 (Vol. VII)	David Greenway	Nottingham University
1994 (Vol. VIII)	Hamish Mc Rae	The Independent, London
1995 (Vol. IX)	John Sutton	London School of Economics
1996 (Vol. X)	John Martin	OECD
1997 (Vol. XI)	Alan Tait	IMF
1998 (Vol. XII)	David O'Sullivan	European Commission
1999 (Vol. XIII)	Paula Donovan	World Bank
2000 (Vol. XIV)	Dermot McCarthy	Department of an Taoiseach
2001 (Vol. XV)	Donal Donovan	IMF
2002 (Vol. XVI)	Margaret Doyle	The Economist
2003 (Vol. XVII)	Tomy Healy	Irish Stock Exchange
2004 (Vol. XVIII)	Gerry Foley	ITV PLC.
2005 (Vol. XIX)	John Fingleton	Competition Authority
2006 (Vol. XX)	Marius Brühlhart	HEC University of Lausanne
2007 (Vol. XXI)	Cliff Taylor	Sunday Business Post
2008 (Vol. XXII)	Alan Barrett	ESRI
2009 (Vol. XXIII)	Patricia Callan	Small Firms Association
2010 (Vol. XXIV)	Jane Williams	Forfás
2011 (Vol. XXV)	Tom O'Mahony	Department of Transport
2012 (Vol. XXVI)	Kyran McStay	Key Capital Limited
2013 (Vol. XXVII)	Alan Gray	Indecon Economic Group
2014 (Vol. XXVIII)	Anke Heydenreich	Attestor Capital LLP

2015 (Vol. XXIX)	Declan Sheehan	JP Morgan
2016 (Vol. XXX)	Various Speakers	Past Committee Members
2017 (Vol. XXXI)	Kevin O'Rourke	All Souls College, Oxford
2018 (Vol. XXXII)	Liam Delaney	U.C.D.
2019 (Vol. XXXIII)	Carmel Crimmins	Reuters
2019 (Vol. XXXIII)	Seán Barrett	Dáil Éireann
2020 (Vol. XXXIV)	Eithne Fitzgerald	Former Minister of State
2021 (Vol. XXXV)	John Fitzgerald	ESRI
2021 (Vol. XXXV)	David McWilliams	Irish Economist
2022 (Vol. XXXVI)	Andrea Linehan	Currency Fair

STUDENT ECONOMIC REVIEW DEBATES , 1990-2022

Year	Opposition	Topic	Victor
1996	U.C.D.	Third Level Fees	Trinity
1998	U.C.D.	EMU Without Britain	Trinity
1999	Oxford	The Euro: The Way Forward	Oxford
2002	Oxford	Boston or Berlin?	Trinity
2003	Cambridge	The Euro is a Success	Cambridge
2004	U.C.D.	Free Trade and Development	U.C.D.
2005	Oxford	Third World Debt	Trinity
2006	Cambridge	Common Agricultural Policy	Trinity
2007	Oxford	Environmental Responsibility	Trinity
2007	Yale	Boston or Berlin?	Trinity
2008	Harvard	Mass Emigration and Labour	Trinity
2008	Cambridge	Britain's Place in Europe	Cambridge
2009	Yale	Boston or Berlin?	Yale
2009	Oxford	Bank Nationalisation	Trinity
2010	Cambridge	Should Ireland have Joined the Euro?	Trinity
2010	Harvard	The Decline of US Economic Dominance	Harvard
2011	Oxford	Ireland Owes a Debt of Gratitude to Britain	Oxford
2011	Yale	It's all America's Fault	Trinity
2012	Cambridge	Ireland Should Rejoin the Sterling	Trinity
2012	Harvard	The US State Does Not Care for it's Sick	Harvard
2013	Oxford	Deserting the Euro	Trinity
2013	Yale	Tax is Theft	Trinity
2014	Cambridge	United States of Europe?	Cambridge
2014	Harvard	US Education System	Trinity
2015	Oxford	100% Inheritance Tax	Trinity

Year	Opposition	Topic	Victor
2015	Yale	Opening the Mexican Border	Yale
2016	Cambridge	Will the EU Benefit from Brexit?	Cambridge
2016	Harvard	Should we be afraid of Cheap Oil?	Harvard
2017	Oxford	The EU is Unsustainable	Oxford
2017	Yale	Globalisation is Doomed	Yale
2018	Cambridge	Britain Should Pay Reperation to Former Colonies	Cambridge
2018	Harvard	The American Dream is Dead	Trinity
2018	Oxford	This House would unite Ireland post-Brexit	Yale
2019	Yale	Protectionism is Failing America	Cambridge
2019	Cambridge	Open All Borders	Cambridge
2021	Oxford	Break-up the UK	Oxford
2021	Yale	Implement Universal Basic Income	Trinity
2022	Cambridge	Derelict Properties Should be Surrenderd to the State	Cambridge
2022	Harvard	Economic Warfare Does More Harm than Good	Harvard

ENDORSEMENTS

"The Student Economic Review gives many students their first opportunity to publish a piece of academic written work. It thus supports and promotes the rigorous analysis, excellence in learning and persuasion that are essential building blocks for future careers and broader intellectual contribution. The collected contributions, now reaching into a third decade, constitute an elegant contribution to scholarship and erudition of which Trinity College can be proud."

John Fingleton
Trading London
Editor, Ser 1987

"My involvement in the SER was an important defining point in my undergraduate experience at Trinity. It introduced me to the world of academia, the role and importance of academic publishing and the range of questions and depth of research possibilities in the discipline of economics. It has stood the test of time and grows stronger every year attracting the highest calibre of students."

Carol Newman
PhD TCD, Associate Professor TCD
General Manager, 1997 SER

"Ever since leafing through a copy of the SER in my JF year, my ambition to become involved in this prestigious student society could not be curbed. Leading the committee through the year from the first workshop to the launch was an experience dotted along the way with enduring memories. From a three-day discussion about which tablecloth should be used for the workshop, to finally holding a copy of the review at the launch evening. I'm sure our friendships will last as long as the memory of my scrupulous organisation!"

Cián McLeod
Strategic Operations Specialist, Google Ireland
General Manager, SER 2014

STUDENT ECONOMIC REVIEW WELCOMES



WELCOME FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

On behalf of the committee for the 36th edition, I am delighted to welcome you to the 2022 Trinity Student Economic Review. Ever since its inception in 1987, the entirely student-run Review has served as a platform for Trinity's finest Economics students to showcase the expectational work they have undertaken during the course of their studies. Now more than ever, an outlet that fosters academic excellence and promotes innovative and rigorous research in the discipline of economics is vital. Indeed, for many students, the SER serves as the first opportunity to see the publication of their research. Moreover, for many past contributors to the SER, being published in the Review marked the starting post of prolific careers in the areas of economic research, business and academia. This year, we are sure, is no different.

We have been hugely impressed by the extraordinary quality of this year's contributors and we thank them for the commitment, passion and dedication with which they wrote their essays. There is no doubt in our minds that the remarkable quality of the submissions this year is indicative of an ever-improving Review – a trend we hope will continue for many years to come.

Over the years the SER has broadened its horizons beyond the publication to include events and workshops intended to reflect and build upon the values exhibited in the Review itself. Of these, the international debates held each year with universities across the UK and the US have come to form a fundamental element of the Review.

This year we were delighted to welcome teams from the universities of Cambridge and Harvard for our first in-person debates since the COVID-19 pandemic. In collaboration with the University Philosophical Society and the College Historical Society, the two debates saw the teams battle it out over the pressing subject matters of responsible housing policy and the efficacy of economic warfare. The exceptional standard of the arguments and the exploration of nuanced ideas by individuals from diverse backgrounds are reflective of the values that define the Review.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of those who helped make the debates as great a success as they were. From our judges who kindly gave their time, to the debaters from Cambridge, Harvard and Trinity. Given the uncertainty that surrounded holding in-person events at the backend of the pandemic, the planning for these debates was not simple. However, thanks to the tireless work by our Debates Manager Odran Farrell and the representatives from the Hist and the Phil, the two events were overwhelming successes.

I must extend my thanks too to our Workshops Manager, Gillian Fritz. In the face of a collective weariness towards Zoom calls Gillian organised a fantastic virtual event for Trinity's Senior Fresh students preparing to sit the Foundation Scholarship Examinations. The workshop saw current Scholars discussing their experience studying and taking the exams whilst providing unique insights for the audience. In Hilary Term the SER saw its first collaborative workshop with The Environmental Society and LawSoc. The panel event which brought together experts from the fields of environmental finance, economics and law saw the discussion of the legal and economic implications of an ever-increasing environmental crisis. A thoroughly important and enjoyable event, I look forward to attending another instalment next year!

Given the tumultuous period of the last two years, the committee this year was determined to oversee a movement back towards the normal, in-person, running of the Review which has served it so well over the past 36 years. This was easier said than done. However, I can safely say that thanks to the boundless commitment and unwavering enthusiasm of this year's committee, the process was a thoroughly enjoyable one. I would like to thank every member of the 2022 committee for the time and effort that have been put into making the Review the success it has been this year.

I must give special thanks to the outstanding work of our Editorial Team of Sarah Clavin, Conor Maher and Conor O'Brien, along with our Production Manager Cian Hennigan without all of whom the 36th edition of the Review would simply not exist. A special thanks too to our Launch Manager Joseph Kilcoyne for your efforts in putting together a fantastic launch as well as to our Finance Manager, Isha Neurgaonkar, for ensuring the cheque book never went out of control!

The Review has also been made possible by the extraordinary generosity of our sponsors who continue to believe in and see the immense value of the SER. We sincerely thank Matheson, our chief sponsors, for coming on board this year as well as the past SER alumni who continue to support the Review after all these years.

Finally, the committee and I must extend our immense thanks to Professors Ronan Lyons, Michael Wycherley and all those in the Economics Department. The SER would cease to be the invaluable resource and opportunity that it is without the strong and consistent commitment from those in the Economics Department. We massively appreciate the endless time and guidance you have given us over the course of this year. I must also give a personal thank-you to the Patrons for allowing me to be General Manager of the Review, an experience I will undoubtedly look back on as a personal highlight of my time at Trinity.

Now, without further ado, I invite you to delve into the 36th edition of the Student Economic Review. We hope the works contained in this journal will inspire you, engage you and enlighten you to questions you never before considered.

Cian Brennan,

General Manager, SER Vol. XXXVI

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 36th edition of the Student Economic Review. In this edition of the Review, we hope we have provided the students at Trinity College Dublin the opportunity to display their engagement with economics and the high quality of their writing. It is noteworthy that these exceptional students continue to maintain the high standard of the Review despite their extraordinary experience of the university throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Review enables and empowers students to discover and research economics beyond the scope of their courses. This facilitates innovation and independent thinking that benefits students in their future academic pursuits and careers. Many world-renowned economists began their prolific portfolio of published work in the Review. I have no doubts that many of those published in this year's Review will excel into the future in the field of economics. The standard of the essays submitted to the Review this year set a significant challenge for myself and the editorial team to select which authors to publish. I would like to congratulate every student who submitted to the Review this year. While we could not publish every submission, I greatly enjoyed reading the diverse and innovative essays that comprised this year's submission pool. There was vigorous debate amongst the editors while selecting the essays which comprise the 2022 Review. The essays are divided into three categories which are discussed below.

The first section in this edition of the Review is Economic Policy. Many of these essays illustrate topics of great importance to students and the broader economy. The opening essay of this section by Elana Kiley outlines the issues in the Dublin housing market and possible recommendations to improve the market. This detailed topical discussion is the winner of the Best Essay Prize this year. Following on from this, Rocco Balestrieri illustrates the pitfalls of 'institutional monocropping' in the context of international policy. Brian Coady provides an insightful discussion on the introduction of minimum unit pricing policy on alcohol in Ireland. In the context of the changes in healthcare in recent years, Thomas Fleming outlines the existing labour problems in the National Health Service in the UK and provides a detailed analysis of possible solutions. This is followed by a topical outline of the effect of trade wars as an international policy by Cian Hennigan. This section is concluded by Jennifer Waters' in-depth outline of the *laissez faire* state and the free market in the United States.

The second section is Applied Economics in which students apply economic logic and regression analysis to domestic and international affairs. This section opens with

this year's winner of the best applied economics essay, Robert Tolan, Jemima Owens, and Vlad-Florian Lica's discussion of the carry trade and global imbalances. This is followed by this year's winner of the Best Fresher Essay Prize: Rachel Kane, a Senior Fresher, outlines the behavioural economics theory of 'nudge' and how it can be applied to obesity. After this we have Ronan Dunne's difference-in-difference analysis of gun control legislation in the United States. In continuation of the theme of American policy, Thomas Fleming discusses the impact of the Community Advantage Program in North Carolina on black homeownership levels. This section concludes with an analysis of the impact of the removal of quotas on the domestic dairy industry by Robert Tolan.

The final section of the Review this year is European Economics. This category is comprised of two essays. Firstly, Liam Brady describes the impact, both positive and negative, on the Spanish economy of joining the eurozone. In the context of labour markets, Ella Hensey examines unpaid labour as a barrier to the female labour market integration; she highlights the impact on non-EU female migrants.

The 36th edition of the Review would not be here without the continued exceptional effort and commitment of the entire committee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow editors, Conor O'Brien and Conor Maher, for their hard work in selecting and editing the essays. Cian Brennan, our General Manager, was infinitely helpful in ensuring that the editorial process ran smoothly. Furthermore, the Review could not have existed without the dedication of our production manager, Cian Hennigan. I would like to give a special word of thanks to Joseph Kilcoyne, our launch manager, for all of his hard work in ensuring the success of our launch event. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with every member of the committee throughout the year. Finally, I would like to thank the Economics Department for their support of this publication. In particular, I would like to give my personal thanks to our patrons, Dr Ronan Lyons and Dr Michael Wycherley, for their support and indispensable guidance throughout the process of publishing this journal.

I now invite you to turn the page and begin reading the exceptional essays that comprise the 2022 Student Economic Review. We hope you enjoy these papers as much as we have.

Sarah Clavin
Editor, SER Vol. XXXVI

SER DEBATES

2021 / 22

Since their introduction in 1996, the SER debates have had a long and illustrious history. The SER's U.K. and U.S. debates are a highlight of the academic year and produce interesting, topical, and often contentious conversation around key economic issues. The real highlight of these debates, in my opinion, is how they involve the wider college community in the discussion around these topics. Many of the students who attend these debates have little prior knowledge of the field of economics and therefore, one of my key focal points when organising the two debates, was that they be as accessible, topical, and compelling as possible. This year was a special one, for both the SER as a whole and for the debates in particular, as it is the first time in three years that we have been able to host the debates in person.

There are a number of parties whom I must thank, as without their assistance the debates would not have been possible. Firstly, the entirety of the SER committee; they tirelessly worked alongside me to ensure that everything was organised on time. Next, I have to thank Trinity's two debating societies: the University Philosophical Society and the College Historical Society. They are some of the oldest and best debating societies in the country and they demonstrated this with the class and knowledge they displayed when helping me to organise these two debates. Specifically I would like to thank the Phil's secretary Tom Hegarty, and their President Eleanor Moreland for their assistance in organising the Cambridge debate. For the Harvard debate I wish to thank the Hist's Correspondence Secretary Eva O'Beirne, and their Auditor Maggie Larson. I would also like to thank our Patrons Professor Ronan Lyons and Professor Michael Wycherly for their support and assistance all year with everything related to the SER. Finally, a special thanks goes to Matheson whose financial support allowed these debates to be as successful as they were.

Trinity vs. Cambridge

Thursday, February 3rd, 2022

The first SER debate took place at the beginning of the second term. The motion was "This House would require that any houses or apartments left vacant for six months or more be surrendered to the State". I selected this motion because it is so relevant to life today in both the United Kingdom and Ireland, especially Dublin. We believed that t-

his motion would draw a great crowd as it is so pertinent to student life and we were not wrong. The GMB was packed full of students and college staff alike when the debate kicked off at 7.30.

The Trinity team consisted of Oisín Browne, Martha McKinney-Perry, and Jack Palmer. The Cambridge delegation consisted of Darina Andryichenko, Teodor Grama, and Zahari Nikolaev. The debate was chaired by the President of the Phil Eleanor Moreland and adjudicated by a panel of three judges. The judges for this debate were Assistant Professor of Finance in Queen's University Belfast, Lisa Sheenan, Professor in the School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy in University College Dublin, Brendan Williams, and Business Affairs Correspondent with The Irish Times, Mark Paul.

The Trinity team's argument was made up of three main points: firstly, the impact this new law would have on homelessness, secondly, the refocusing of new housing projects and finally, the resultant increase in housing supply. The argument that this new law would refocus housing projects was that construction companies and investors would stop building projects to hold on to them and would instead be forced to build projects with immediate need, or else risk losing all of their investment. Their other main point was that the seized property would be returned to the market or put to good use by the government. Either way it will cause rent rates to fall in the area as supply has increased.

The Cambridge team's speech was centred around applying real-world logic to this rather outlandish motion. They argued that while in theory this motion and the results of its implementation sound wonderful, in reality it causes far more issues than it solves. Firstly, they argued that in the long term it would actually reduce housing supply as fewer people and institutions would be willing to invest in property when there is an incredibly high chance of all that investment being lost. Secondly, they argued that this is not really a practical solution to the issues surrounding housing and homelessness as the number of people moving to urban centres is increasing rapidly while the amount of vacant property in these areas is negligible in comparison. Finally, they argued that the vast majority of housing left unused is unfit for purpose due to being in poor condition or undesirable areas and, therefore, this law would not even increase housing supply in the short term.

With both sides having presented very strong arguments, the panel of judges left the chamber to decide on both the winning team and best speaker. Students were free to chat and mingle while we awaited the result. The judges returned and Mark Paul explained that while both sides presented strong arguments, the Cambridge side had presented a more realistic view of the world than that of Trinity and that they had, therefore, won the debate. However, Trinity's Jack Palmer was presented with the best speaker medal.

Trinity vs. Harvard

Wednesday, March 16th, 2022

The Harvard debaters arrived in Dublin on the evening of the 16th of March. The city was bustling as it prepared for the first in person Saint Patrick's day in three years. The debate took place the following evening as a thought provoking preamble to a long celebratory weekend. The motion I chose for this debate was "This House believes that economic warfare does more harm than good". This motion was chosen due to its topical nature as well as economic warfare being such an interesting part of the subject. As the war in Ukraine continued to escalate and an increasing number of sanctions were applied to Russia by the West, interest in this motion continued to rise until the night of the debate. This resulted in a bustling GMB, full of excited Trinity students.

The Trinity team was captained by Caoimhín Hamill, an SER debating veteran having debated in both the 2018 and 2019 debates. He was joined by Molly Carroll, Anna Kollar, and Sinziana Stanciu. On the Harvard side, we had Rasmee Ky, Maya Razmi, Delaney Hurley, and Matej Cerman. The debate was chaired and judged by Sharon Donnery (Deputy Governor of the Irish Central Bank). Sharon was joined in her judicial duties by former President of the SER and current Professor Emeritus at Trinity College Dublin, Professor John O'Hagan.

The Trinity team's speeches covered a lot of ground around this topic, including the history of economic warfare, its use in practice, and how successful it has been in the past. They pointed numerous times to a study done by the University of Chicago which found that only 5 out of 115 cases where economic warfare was employed, was it a determining factor in the resolution of that conflict. They also illustrated numerous examples where military intervention resulted in a quick conclusion to international conflicts and they argued that economic warfare has not proven successful in the past. The Trinity team also argued that not only does economic warfare hurt the most vulnerable in these states, it can also result in regimes growing worse and a further weakening of diplomatic ties.

The Harvard side's main points were that economic warfare forces regimes to come to the table to allow diplomacy to take place, and that economic warfare is automatically superior as the alternative is military warfare. Their argument around military warfare is that it hurts civilians to an even greater extent than limiting supplies through economic warfare does. The Harvard delegation presented one final argument, that economic warfare, even if it does not work as the Trinity team were suggesting, still does more good than bad as it reduces these nations ability to invade other territories and commit human rights abuses due to having fewer resources.

Both sides presented strong arguments and while the judges went off to adjudicate we heard two floor speeches from the audience. These were shorter and more lighthearted than the main speeches from the competitive teams. The judges returned and Sharon Donnery announced that Harvard had won the debate, and Sinziana Stanciu had been awarded the best speaker medal.

While Trinity were disheartened to lose both debates, both events were a massive success. It was great to bring about the return of in person events and I feel very honoured to have played my part in it.

Ódran Farrell

Debates Manager, SER Vol. XXXVI

SER WORKSHOPS

2021 / 22

One of the ways the Student Economic Review engages with students is with workshops. These workshops expand the reach of the review and generate excitement about economics and the review in general. During the 2021-2022 school year, two workshops were hosted. The first was a 'schols' workshop helping primarily Senior Fresh economics students in their preparation for the Foundation Scholarship exams. The second workshop partnered with a number of societies including the Environmental Society, Law Society and FLAC (Free Legal Advice Centre) to open up a dialogue about the intersection of economics, law and the environment.

SER Foundation Scholarship Workshop 8th November 2021

The schols workshop is an annual workshop put on by the Student Economic Review which provides information and guidance to Senior Fresh students interested in pursuing the Foundation Scholarship. Following government guidelines, this workshop was held online via zoom.

2020 economics and social sciences scholars presented summaries about the exams they took, expectations for each exam, and advice on how to best prepare. The scholars provided great insight into approaching the daunting levels of studying needed to do well in the exams and encouraged students to maintain a balance in their lives while they prepared for exams. This presentation was followed by a Q&A session.

Participants left the workshop with a greater understanding of what the schols examinations entail, information on who to contact, and provided the students with a clear starting point. As the first workshop of the year, the schols workshop also served the purpose of kicking off the Review's year and began spreading the word about what the Student Economic Review is.

Intersections of Economics, Law and the Environment Panel with EnviroSoc, LawSoc, FLAC and SER 21 February 2022

The second and final workshop was set up with the intention of expanding the reach of the SER to increase engagement beyond purely economics students, while also highlighting how economics skills can be translated into other research areas. Climate change is one of the most prevalent issues facing students today, and many are becoming involved in protests and movements across all subjects. As a key area of interest, this workshop focused on how students can have a positive impact in their fields of economics or law. The panel explored how economics and law can be used to address environmental issues and actions economists and lawyers can take to support environmental issues from their own fields. The workshop, which took place over Trinity Green Week, was hosted by Anne Spillane, Auditor of the Law Society. The panel was comprised of three professors: the first was Dr. Martha O'Hagan Luff, a Trinity professor of finance with current projects including work on the risk reduction benefits of green bonds and a forest and biodiversity project, with her role being financial incentives; the second panellist was Dr. Suryapratim Roy, a Trinity professor of law, with a speciality in environmental law; and the final panellist was Dr. Andrew Jackson, a UCD professor of law, who worked as an environmental and planning lawyer.

The panellists spoke about their own career paths and what inspired them to integrate an environmental focus into their work. Topics ranged from transparency and greenwashing to behavioural incentives and ESG investing.

I would like to thank the panellists first and foremost for donating their time and providing excellent insights, and to Anne Spillane for hosting. I would also like to thank all those who helped organize and promote the workshop to a variety of disciplines, particularly Rebecca Payling, the chair of the Environmental Society, Georgia Dillon, the Secretary at FLAC, and Ruth Brady, the Secretary of Law Society. I would also like to thank my fellow SER committee members for their continued support across both events.

Gillian Fritz
Workshops Manager, SER Vol. XXXVI