



**Students from Roscommon, Mayo, Westmeath and Tyrone win ASA/AIB Travel Scholarships
19th January 2015**

Four agricultural science students from University College, Dublin (UCD) have been awarded Agricultural Science Association (ASA) scholarships sponsored by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c, (AIB) to help them undertake the work experience element of their course overseas.

Following an intense competition, the 2015 scholarships have been awarded to:

- Maeve Regan, Cloonfad, Co Roscommon, a student in animal science, who is travelling to South Dakota to work on a 3,000-cow dairy farm run by Irish couple Rodney and Dorothy Elliot who moved from Monaghan to South Dakota in 2006.
- Jason Meenaghan, Belmullet, Co Mayo, who is studying forestry. Jason will work at the UC Berkeley Blodgett Forest Research Station in California.
- Michael Cox, Rathowen, Co Westmeath, a student in animal science, who will work on farms in Scotland and England and undertake a genetics internship in the US.
- Tarlach Mac Giolla Cheara, Carrickmore, Co Tyrone, who is studying animal science – equine. Tarlach is travelling to Japan to work at Paca Paca Farm, the highly acclaimed horse breeding operation owned and run by Irish veterinarian Harry Sweeney.

Speaking at the presentation of the scholarships in University College Dublin, ASA President Eoin Lowry thanked AIB for its generous support for this important ASA initiative.

“Our professional work experience scholarships are an integral part of ASA’s wide-ranging supports and services for undergraduates in agriculture. Other aspects in our comprehensive services to the next generation of agri-food industry leaders include advice on career opportunities and mentoring on job application and interview skills,” he said.

Shane Whelan, speaking on behalf of sponsors AIB, said: “AIB is delighted to once again partner with the Agricultural Science Association, and to support these students in gaining valuable experience and an international perspective in their chosen field of study. The skills, expertise and knowledge developed will ultimately be of benefit long after the college experience has ended”.

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Further information:
Kathleen Barrington
Media Relations Manager
Tel: +353-1-7721382