Curriculum Vitae

**Contact Details**

Name: **Fergal Declan McGuinness**

Email: **fmcguinness4@outlook.com / mcguinfe@tcd.ie**

Tel: **+353 85 1063313 (IE)**

**Career Objectives**

I am currently in the fourth year of my Bachelor of Laws (LLB) programme at Trinity College Dublin. The course material has been exceedingly interesting since day one and has imbued in me a determination to practice as a trainee solicitor upon graduation and subsequent qualification with the Law Society.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic struck Ireland in March 2019, forcing thousands who work in office environments to work from home. I had previously organised my second term in ESB on the summer student programme (in the award-winning in-house legal department) but I was alerted that the programme was cancelled on this occasion. This explains the period of inactivity between the second and third years of my third level education. Please be assured that this shortcoming is shared by most of the students in my position and is in no way representative of my efforts to accrue more legal experience.

I chose to spend the third year of my course (2020-2021) at the City University of Hong Kong, which was then ranked 48th in the world according to QS world rankings. I was able to achieve this feat by impressing the law school throughout the arduous nomination process and through consistent academic success. As my time abroad was in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, I came to this new and vast city under strange and unfortunate circumstances. I mention this because it exemplifies my persistence in times when the majority of my peers have stayed, albeit involuntarily, in their comfort zone at home for their third year.

**Education and Qualifications**

**Irish Leaving Certificate, Moville Community College** - **509 points**

French - H3

Maths - H3

English - H2

History - H2

Irish - H3

Biology - H3

**European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)**

**Bachelor of Laws LLB, Trinity College Dublin**

**First Year (2018-2019)** **Second Year (2019-2020)**

Tort Law – 64 Land Law - 56

Constitutional Law I – 66 Equity - 66

Foundations of Law – 54 Private Law Remedies - 64

Contract Law – 60 Constitutional Law II - 58

Criminal Law – 47 EU Law - 64

Legislation and Regulation – 66 Administrative Law – 62

**Third Year – City University of Hong Kong (2020-2021)**

HK Company Law I – B (65%)

Consumer Law – B (65%)

Criminology – B (65%)

Hong Kong Legal System – B (65%)

Intellectual Property: Trademark and Patent – B+ (67%)

Applied Legal Theory – B (65%)

HK Law of Evidence – B+ (67%)

Public International Law – B+ (67%)

**TCD Law school converted grade – 66%**

# Work Experience

**ESB Summer Student Programme (June 2019 to August 2019)**

**Referee: Ellen Diskin Referee Email: Ellen.diskin@esb.ie**

**Stakeholder Engagement Assistant**

* I worked as part of a small team of engineers and consultants which was tasked with delivering a favourable plan and allowance for the upcoming national electrical price regulatory period (PR5 lasting from 2021 to 2025).
* The minutes I took in meetings were relied upon by my colleagues in their day-to-day tasks, meaning I had to maintain focus and adapt quickly to concepts entirely new to me.
* I feel like I got a good overall feel of the Irish electricity generation, transmission and distribution industry, while working forty hours a week under efficient and demanding management. I drafted several reports detailing previous regulatory periods in the course of my induction into the company, allowing me to find my feet using independent research, which I believe to be directly applicable to my course.
* Each morning I had a ninety-minute commute, composed of around thirty minutes on foot and sixty on public transport. This responsibility was incentive for me to get into a routine of early nights to ensure maximum productivity the following day.
* I spent a short period of time with the solicitors in the company’s award-winning in-house legal department. Because it was extracurricular to my pre-existing duties, any activities taken in the course of my time with legal was not to detract from my existing duties, so the modest amount of legal research I conducted was after hours in the University library. There were some sensitive pieces of information that were not to be disclosed to me but I was allowed to observe some meetings and was exposed to some legal encounters for the first time which was much appreciated.

# IT Skills

* Microsoft Office proficiency – Word, Excel, PowerPoint & Outlook.
* European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)
* My communication through information technology was vastly improved during my time in ESB in 2019

**Interests**

* I enjoy reading & film immensely
* I have joined the Trinity student gym and I tend to go to the swimming pool 2 or 3 times a week
* I have a passion for history – i.e. non-fiction historical books
* I took a course in Hong Kong on Chinese Art Appreciation in the hopes of immersing myself further into the local culture. How history and society shapes art, and how art shapes them in turn, is fascinating to me