



Mairead Hughes

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## Education

**2014 – present, Trinity College Dublin, Law LLB, II:I (expected)**

**2007–2014, St. Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt**

- A levels: Maths (A), Chemistry (A), Biology (A), Theatre Studies (A)
- CAO Points: 565 (2014)
- GCSEs: Maths (A\*), Additional Maths (A\*), English Literature (A\*), English Language (A\*), French (A\*), Double Award Science (A\*A\*), Music (A\*), Drama (A\*) and Religion (A\*).

## Employment History

### Legal Work Experience

**P.A. Duffy Solicitors, Dungannon**

**Legal Intern** — September 2017

- Law firm based in Northern Ireland which specialises in a wide variety of areas and provides advice and representation in all civil and criminal court tiers.
- Gained invaluable insight into the workings of one of the most successful firms in Northern Ireland and worked on a team headed by Conal McGarrity. Working in this environment instilled in me a strong work ethic and sense of teamwork.
- Worked on many high profile cases including an application to the European Court of Human Rights.
- Employed to research, fact-check, assist in trial preparation and draft client documents.
- One key role was to review 'discovery', in both paper and electronic form. This gave me a great understanding of the skills required to manage high volumes of documentation and sustain attention to detail. Seeing the importance of the process to contentious matters enabled me to build the resilience necessary to complete my tasks and ensure my work was done meticulously.

**Doris MacMahon Solicitors, Cookstown**

**Legal Intern** — August 2017

- Law firm based in Northern Ireland which offers a wide range of Legal Services.
- Consulted with expert witnesses, including those specialised in medicine.
- Worked on many high profile cases which demanded utmost discretion and attention to detail.
- Involved research on and understanding of complexities of vulnerable witnesses in the trial process.
- Assisted in advising clients on all aspects of conveyancing transactions including purchase and sale of commercial property, mortgages, leases and private residential letting agreements.

**United Nations Human Rights Council, Geneva**

**ELSA Ireland Delegate** — June 2016

- Attended the 32nd session of the UN Human Rights Council and represented both Ireland and Europe as a delegate on an international level.
- Participated in several intergovernmental meetings, observed and analysed draft resolutions and attended side events.
- Acquired a legal background in a wide range of topics such as media freedom, environmental laws and the role of business in championing civil society.
- Lead the group's research and discussion on Human Rights issues in the context of efforts to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic by 2020.
- Networked with delegates from different nationalities.

**Shadowing of District Judge Austin Kennedy**

**Four-week Marshalling** — May 2015

- Heard criminal cases, youth cases and also some civil proceedings in the magistrates' courts.
- Attended client conferences with Counsel, took notes at court hearings and meetings, reviewed evidence and drafting correspondence and received encouraging feedback on my client-facing skills.

## Commercial Work Experience

### **GRO Fieldwork, Dublin**

**Intern** — June and July 2017

- GRO Fieldwork Ireland offers the highest standards in qualitative and quantitative fieldwork, and project management throughout Ireland and internationally.
- Provided transcription services and acted as a facilitator for various clients, including Bank of Ireland, AIB Bank and MyTaxi.
- Led a multi-departmental team of 4 administrative assistants tasked with the maintenance of equipment, facilitating the video settings and generally assisting faculty.
- The firm's capacity for innovation enabled it to adapt to new practices in the market research industry, and I was exposed to examples of how technology is transforming business.

**Estée Lauder, Beauty Advisor** — August 2015 - June 2017

- Responsible for the execution of exceptional service in order to build relationships with clients, encourage repeat business and recruit customers.
- Worked as part of a high performing team to create impact with in-store events and to ensure that the store consistently achieved our high standard of visual merchandising.
- Worked in a highly competitive, fast-paced environment and thrived on exceeding high performance targets.
- Working in a luxury retail environment involved dealing with conflict and negotiating with clients, which allowed for development in effective communication and staying clam under pressure.
- Developed a focused awareness of how large businesses operate and learned that I am drawn to a career which seeks to build trusting client relationships.

**NEXT Ltd, Sales Consultant** — July 2014 - August 2015

- Job duties included using specialised product knowledge to assist customers in my designated store department, locating specific items for shoppers, replenishing merchandise and operating computerised tills to process sales.
- Promoted from till user to Sales team leader after four months after demonstrating good rapport with customers.
- Developed key skills in understanding of how large businesses operate, working under pressure, working in tandem with colleagues, dealing with conflict and negotiating with clients.

## Voluntary Experience

**Jailbreak Event, VDP and Amnesty International** — February 2016

- Jailbreak involves one hundred students racing to an anonymous location 'Location X' which could be anywhere in the world without using any money.
- My partner and I obtained sponsorship through the company Fexco and came third place out of a total of 50 teams and the event itself raised over €50,000.

**Trinity St. Vincent DePaul Society, Kids Club Activity Leader,** — September 2015 - Present

**Saphara Volunteer and Teacher, Saphara** — Summer of 2013

- Achieved a place on the Saphara team and engaged in issues of justice and global citizenship through working with educationally disadvantaged children in India for 3 weeks

## Further Positions of Responsibility and Interests

**Founder and Chairperson of Trinity Musical Theatre Society** — Jan 2016 - Present

- Composed and drafted the Constitution of Trinity Musical Theatre Society and conducted a pitch of my idea, including a provisional budget and proof of sustainable income.
- Persuaded fourteen board members of the Central Societies Committee to invest finances in my idea.
- Elected as Chairperson by my peers and have developed excellent leadership skills through this experience, having led a team of 15 students in running a huge variety of events.
- Responsible for the challenging financial task of attaining sponsorship for the society, which we were extremely successful with. This greatly enhanced my communication skills through regularly meeting with representatives from various firms and institutions, and allowing our society to expand while leaving it in great financial health for the next committee. I chaired weekly committee meetings, liaised with the Students' Union and organised social events for society members.

**Gender Equality Activist, Trinity College Dublin Students Union,**— September 2016 - Present

**S2S International Mentor, Student to Student Society** — Sept 2015 - Sept 2016

**Volunteer Tutor, Trinity Access Program Street Law Sessions** — September 2015 – February 2016

## Certifications

- **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award**
- **Bronze Medallion Award** - This award qualifies me as a lifeguard involving an award in first aid training.
- **Trinity Guildhall Grade Eight Singing** with Distinction
- **Grade Eight Speech and Drama, accredited by the London College of Music** with Distinction
- **Trinity Guildhall Grade Six Piano** with Distinction