

Rory McGovern

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I am currently studying **Business and Law** in **University College Dublin** and am due to graduate in 2022. I have a variety of relevant commercial experience and believe this puts me in the perfect position to benefit Byrne Wallace over the traineeship period and beyond

Work Experience

Legal Intern (Litigation department), Byrne Wallace LLP

- **July 2021.** Tasked with conducting in-depth legal research into Public Sector Data Sharing and, specifically, the Law Enforcement Directive for a talk that a partner was giving. Given the responsibility to prepare a presentation, based on my work and the final speech, to accompany the talk and enjoyed the chance to convey my research in an accessible and attention-grabbing manner.
- Created a checklist for clients lending to micro, small and medium enterprises based on Central Bank Regulations.
- Attended Virtual Court Hearings and helped trainees out with their day-to-day tasks around the office.
- I was grateful to have the opportunity to conduct my internship in-person which was rare in Dublin this year due to the pandemic, allowing me to gain some hands-on experience of the work that takes place in the litigation department of a top-tier Irish Commercial Law firm as well as learning which key skills and attributes are required to succeed in this competitive industry such as being solution focused and paying attention to detail.

Sales Assistant/Night Shift Manager, Green Beards

- **From April 2019 – Present.** Green Beards is a cold-pressed juice company where I have worked on average 3 times a week for the past 2 and a half years.
- Responsible for ensuring the adequate amount of juice is produced and prepared to a very high standard, enhancing my organisational and time-management skills.
- I have learned the value of having good interpersonal skills in order to build relationships and effectively communicate with customers.
- Gained valuable commercial insights into the inner workings of a small and growing business giving me a desire to help businesses of all sizes run as efficiently as possible.

Extra-Curricular Activities and interests

- Initiated, organised and ran a charity boxing event from September-December 2018, that helped raise nearly **€16,000 for Pieta House**. Throughout this process I showed my ability to engage, convince and lead others which I believe will help me in pursuing a career in commercial law. I also displayed my skills of managing and communicating with people, social media marketing as well as general organisational and time-management abilities. It was also a great privilege to have the opportunity to raise such a large sum of money for a charity so close to people's hearts.
- Committee member of Ireland's largest student run business and events society, the **Commerce and Economics Society**, for the past three years. I have served as part of the **Promotions and Events team** in first year and as **Social Chair** last academic year. I have now taken up the position of **Philanthropy Officer** and will have the responsibility of contacting past members and UCD Alumni in order to secure donations and sponsorships for this year's activities. This experience has enhanced my understanding of the Irish commercial environment and has given me the invaluable opportunity to network and learn from some of Ireland's most successful business people.
- Spent 10 weeks of Transition Year on a placement organised through Cricket Leinster in a boarding school in **Port Elizabeth, South Africa**. I went to school, played cricket and coached cricket to young disadvantaged children from the townships. This was an eye-opening experience and shows my willingness to get out of my comfort zone and develop as a person, as well as professionally.
- Volunteered at the **Fr. Peter McVerry Trust** homeless shelter for two weeks in March 2016.
- Worked in **Michael Staines criminal law firm** in Transition Year (TY), shadowing the solicitors to the courts.

Education

- Attended secondary school at **Gonzaga College SJ, Ranelagh** where I graduated with **543 Leaving Cert points. (91st Percentile for 2018)**
- Currently in my final year of studying **Business and Law in UCD.**
 - 1st year GPA is **3.65**(3.5 Sem 1, 3.8 Sem 2) (Ranked 20th overall out of 120)
 - 2nd year GPA is **3.53** (3.63 Sem 1, 3.4 Sem 2).
 - 3rd year GPA is **3.62** (3.53 Sem 1, 3.7 Sem 2).
- These results are the equivalent to a **strong 2.1.** with a major in both Business and Law.

Achievements and Skills

- I have achieved significant success in my time playing cricket. I have won **four Youth All-Ireland's with my club YMCA.** I have **represented my province, Leinster,** at every underage level, including **winning the interprovincial tournament three times** and top-scoring in this tournament twice. I have captained my club and province on numerous occasions, showing my ability to lead successful teams. I have also had the privilege of **representing Ireland** at u15 and u17 level, **winning the European Championship** in Rugby, England in 2015. These achievements show how I strive to excel at everything I put my mind to.
- Chosen to study abroad in the **University of Queensland, Brisbane** for the second semester of my third year in UCD, based on my academic results, but it was unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic.
- Entered the **Irish Tax Institute's 'Fantasy Budget' competition** in late 2020 and progressed to the national final, showcasing my ability to perform as part of a successful team.
- Reached the Quarter Finals of the **UCD and McCann Fitzgerald senior negotiation** competition in early 2021 and have reached the Semi-Final of this competition in first year. I have also recently competed in the King's Inn negotiation competition and this has helped me to realise that my skillset is perfectly suited to a career in commercial law.
- I have completed **8 Law Virtual Experience Programmes on Forage.com,** putting me in the top 2% of all students and showing my commitment to developing my practical legal skills. These include;
 - **Latham and Watkins Mergers & Acquisitions programme** where my tasks included reviewing and preparing an NDA as well as conducting Due Diligence.
 - **Latham and Watkins Banking Law Programme** which helped my understanding of what is involved in purchase agreements for lender clients and how to summarise and communicate deal deliverables.
 - **Ashurst Funds, Financing & Restructuring Programme** involved reviewing a loan facility agreement and explaining its impact on the client before then registering a security in the UK.
 - **Slaughter and May Insight Programme** where I prepared a response to a 'Request for proposal' helping to improve my business development and pitching skills. Prepared a decision tree for a client to use in developing an app.
 - **Linklaters UK Commercial Law Programme** involved learning about the uses of AI in Law to expedite and improve a firm's legal advice. Conducted legal research for a proposed fintech acquisition and the regulation of Cryptoassets.
 - **Clifford Chance Ready, Set, Law Programme** where my tasks included preparing a presentation to a client about green and sustainability linked loans as well as providing a client advice around working with social media influencers.
 - **Matheson Virtual Experience Programme** which gave me the opportunity to improve my negotiation and document drafting skills.
 - **Pinsent Masons Virtual Experience Programme** where I was tasked with advising a client on the financing of a large capital project as well as the incorporation of a company in the UK.