

Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Reflections

'Celebrating collaboration' - COST Action 15221 – We ReLaTe

STSM recipient name Tim Crawford

STSM recipient institution and country Queen's University Belfast, UK

Host institution and country NUI Galway, Ireland

Dates of visit

STSM Title

Identifying best practice in a centralised model for advancing teaching, learning, writing and research

My STSM was about ...

The purpose of my STSM was to ascertain best practice by examining a university Library as a space that currently embodies centralised support for teaching, learning, writing and research. The aim was to determine the shared purposes, processes, knowledge, values and skills of such centralised support mechanisms. The ultimate objective is to prompt the reworking of current institutional supports in higher education across Europe, to make them more valuable and far reaching.

The most significant thing that I learned from my STSM was ...

The benefits of empowering staff through shared values, macro management and open communication. That collegiality was admirable and highly desirable.

What I enjoyed most about my STSM was ...

The warm welcome, care and hospitality I received during my visit to NUI Galway was exemplary. Meeting such a diverse range of people was very enjoyable.

My advice to colleagues considering an STSM is ...

Do not hesitate to apply. It's been a highlight for both my personal and professional development in 2018.

And finally, ...

I commend the Library staff for their dedication, diligence and professionalism.