



21th November 2025 | Issue 28

Hello and welcome back everyone!

It's been a good while since the last edition of the Gossip newsletter was released, and there's been plenty of activity within the department.

The Geossip production has also been handed over to me, Rock (Hello!) I'm a new Master's by Research student and am looking forward to helping spread the news of what happens within the department!

If you have feedback or anything to be added to upcoming newsletter issues, please send us an email at geossip.tcd@gmail.com.

-The G(e)ossip Team

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dear Geology,

The end of year is fast approaching, it is time to celebrate. All senior sophister and postgraduate students and staff are invited!

Joins us in the the Geology Common Room for games, mulled wine and Christmas cookies. Later, we'll relocate to Bar Rua (D02XX66).

We'll be holding a baking competition, if you would like to participate, please get in touch with Rock (lihanlon@tcd.ie)

*See you there,
Christmas Cheer Committee*

P.S. wear your best Christmas jumper, and win a prize!



*Geology
Christmas*

5th December

5 pm – Common Room

7:30 pm – Bar Rua

10 €

Tickets will be purchased with cash, and please get in contact Rock (lihanlon@tcd.ie), Blanka (KOVACSEB@tcd.ie), or Mikey (byrnem80@tcd.ie) for more information.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- VMSG 2026 conference in Southampton:
<https://noc-events.co.uk/VMSG-volcanic-and-magmatic-studies-group>
(Registration closes on the 1st of December)
- Mineralogical society's 150th anniversary conference in Manchester:
<https://minsoc-150.org/>

CONTRIBUTIONS

We want to hear from you!

Did we miss something? Have you got any news to share with the department? Please let us know at geossip.tcd@gmail.com to be featured in the next newsletter. We would love to hear from you!



RECENT AWARDS

Since the last edition, there's been a few awards:

Melanie Maddin received the Outstanding Student Paper Awards of 2024 by RSC Advances journal for the paper "Transient crystallisation of rare earth carbonates during the hydrothermal oxidation of siderite" (<https://pubs.rsc.org/en/content/articlelanding/2024/ra/d4ra05212a>)

Juan Diego Rodriguez-Blanco received two consecutive awards from TCD:

the Inspiring Educator Award, that celebrates individuals who have significantly enhanced teaching excellence, inspiring and motivating students to learn and encouraging colleagues to develop their own teaching practice. *June 5, 2025.*

the Special Commendation as runner-up for the Award for Excellence in Supervision of Research Students. *September 3, 2025.*

And finally, **Matthias Sinnesael** will be awarded the 2026 Division Outstanding Early Career Scientist Award in May, for the Stratigraphy, Sedimentology and Palaeontology (SSP) Division.



Juan Diego Rodriguez-Blanco receiving the inspiring Educator Award.



Matthias Sinnesael to be awarded the Division Outstanding Early Career Scientist Award, 2026.

SUCCESSFUL VIVA VOCE EXAMINATIONS FOR PHDs:

Dr. Luca Terribili: "Mechanisms, kinetics and pathways in the early-stage crystallisation of Ca-REE-F-bearing carbonates under ambient and hydrothermal conditions".

Dr. Melanie Maddin: "The Interaction of Multi-Component Rare Earth Element bearing Aqueous Solution with Ca-Mg-Fe-Carbonates and Fe-Phosphates under Hydrothermal Conditions"

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HONORARY LECTURES



Earlier this month, we celebrated the amazing career and **retirement** of **Professor Wyse Jackson** with a lecture by Dr Louise Caulfield.

The lecture and reception were received well, with Prof Jackson announcing that he couldn't think of a better send off.

Thank you for your amazing work over your career, and we hope your future work will continue to bring you joy.



Last week, **Professor Isabel Patricia Montañez** presented the John Joly Memorial Lecture 2025: **"Paleo-CO₂ Revisited: New insight into the deep past and the future"**

The lecture highlighted the link with paleo-CO₂ concentrations and the geological past, and delved into how this could then be applied to refine the next generation CO₂ record for the past 400 million years.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

Szucs, A.M., Rateau, R., Maddin, M., and Rodriguez-Blanco, J.D. (2025) Transient Epitaxial Growth of Rare Earth Carbonates during Low-Temperature Replacement of Calcite, Aragonite, and Dolomite. *Crystal Growth & Design*, 25, 9275-9287. DOI: 10.1021/acs.cgd.5c01096

Pierozzi, A., Faulkner, N., Szucs, A.M., Terribili, L., Maddin, M., Meloni, F., Devkota, K., Zubovic, K.P., Guyett, P.C. and Rodriguez-Blanco, J.D. (2025) Natural Carbonation in Alkali Basalts: Geochemical Evolution of Ca–Mg–Fe Carbonates at Sverrefjellet, Svalbard. *Carbon Capture Science & Technology*, 100510. DOI: 10.1016/j.ccst.2025.100510

Stockmann, G.J. and Rodríguez-Blanco, J.D. (2025). Editorial for Special Issue "Research on Ikaite—Natural Occurrences and Synthetic Mineral Precipitation". *Minerals*, 15, 524. DOI: 10.3390/min15050524

Zubovic, K.P., Horvath, A., Brien, D.M., Rateau, R., Terribili, L., Winters, S., Docaigine, E., Guyett, P., Rodriguez-Blanco, J.D. (2025) Crystallisation of CaCO₃ polymorphs induced by layered PET-based microplastic particles. *Environmental Sciences Europe*, 37, 52. [DOI: 10.1186/s12302-025-01090-0]

Maddin, M., Terribili, L., Rateau, R., Szucs, A.M. and Rodriguez-Blanco, J.D. (2025) Nanophase REE phosphate crystallization induced by vivianite oxidation: mechanistic insights and mineralogical implications. *RSC advances*, 15, 11257-11270. DOI: 10.1039/D4RA08110B

Maftai, A.E. Lupu, A., Rodriguez-Blanco, J.D., Rateau, R., Brinza, L. (2025) Chromium removal via coprecipitation with carbonates and iron oxyhydroxides minerals: The effect of organic complexing agents. *Science of The Total Environment*, 965, 178686. [DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2025.178686]

Terribili, L., Szucs, A.M. Maddin, M. Zubovic, K.P., Rateau, R., Rodriguez-Blanco J.D. (2025) Mechanistic Insights into the Early-Stage Crystallization and Nanophase Formation of Metastable Light Rare-Earth Carbonates. *Crystal Growth & Design*, 25, 945–962. [DOI: 10.1021/acs.cgd.4c01168]

EVENTS

JOLYSOC EVENTS

Wednesday 26th 6pm:

Location: HLT Lecture Theatre

Paul will give a talk about what it means to be a hydrologist, by guiding us through his career, experiences and travel. He'll provide an overview for what different career paths are available for hydrologists today.

The talk will be followed by drinks, and for those who can't attend, it'll be streamed via zoon.

Registration is available here:

<https://forms.gle/gYjF3L5YjS6ubUwc9>. A link to the meeting will be provided to all who registered closer to the meeting time.

CRAFTY FUNDRAISER



Rock is encouraging anyone in the department that has a subject/topic they'd like to share to join in with a small creative fundraising project to go towards "Dublin Simon community".

This will be by creating mini 'zines' (essentially booklets) that will be sold for donations in the museum building lobby.

Please email lihanlon@tdc.ie if this sounds like something you might be interested in joining, or would like more information!

WELLBEING

TCD's Student Counselling Services is open and available to all registered students.

Check out their website to read about the services they provide [here](#), email them at

student-counselling@tcd.ie to request an

appointment, and follow them on Instagram at

[@tcd_headspace](#) for mindfulness and mental health awareness tips.

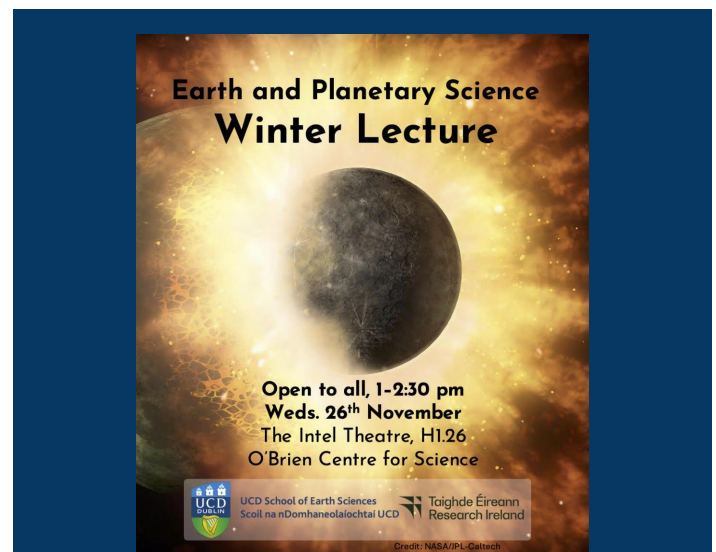


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WWW.NITELINE.IE

FREEPHONE:
1800 793 793



ONLINE WEBINARS

CONVERSE are running a winter webinar series highlighting emerging researchers and their projects.

The next one is:

The 2021 Tajogaite Eruption (La Palma, Spain) - from Deposit Characterization to Eruption Dynamics

26/11/25 at 4 pm GMT - Marija Voloschina, University of Pisa, Italy

https://linktr.ee/CONVERSE_Emerging_Researchers

The Irish Association For Economic Geology is hosting an online lecture:

The Mining Cycle of Cononish Gold Mine.
25/11/25 at 7pm GMT - Rachael Paul, SGZ Cononish Acrux Gold.

<https://iaeg.ie/event-6410814>

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