In recognition of Ireland's doctor scientists: Carel le Roux, Seamas Donnelly and Michael P Keane

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As cream is likely to come to the top, the academic staff of the Irish universities is a good place to find medical scientists who should be acknowledged and honoured.

Professor Carel le Roux

Carel le Roux was born in 1972 in South Africa. He competed for South Africa in the IAAF indoor championship in 1995 in the Shot Put event in Spain and also at the Commonwealth Games in 1994 in Victoria, British Columbia.

He graduated in Medicine at the University of Pretoria and completed post graduate clinical training at St Bartholomew's and the London Hospitals. He completed SpR training at the Hammersmith Hospital and with a Wellcome Fellowship, a PhD at Imperial College in London, England. In 2006, he was appointed Senior Lecturer and in 2009, Reader at Imperial College. He was funded by the UK Department of Health with a postdoctoral Clinical Scientists award to pursue the hormonal regulation of appetite.

In 2011, he was appointed to the Chair of Pathology at University College Dublin. He received the President of Ireland Young Researcher Award from Science Foundation Ireland. He has successfully pursued transactional research on the understanding of the physiological role and pathological changes in appetite control and is a most accomplished lecturer. Currently, he is focused on the understanding of the

increased morbidity and mortality associated with obesity and diabetes. The gut brain link has been his outstanding focus.

He is a specialist Chemical Pathologist at the Irish Medical Council and holds the Chair of Experimental Pathology at University College Dublin.

On Google Scholar, his h-index is 55, i-10 is 138 and total citations 13,610 (July 2018).

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Professor Seamas Donnelly

In 2015, Dr Donnelly was appointed Professor in Clinical Medicine at Trinity College Medical School, Dublin. He is an international authority on pulmonary fibrosis.

He graduated from National University of Ireland at Galway in 1984. He received at MD in 1993 and the FRCPI in 1996. He completed respiratory and general medical training at the Royal Infirmary Edinburgh. As a lecturer in respiratory medicine at the Royal Infirmary Edinburgh, he was awarded a Wellcome Fellowship to work at the Picower Institute at Rockefeller University New York. In 2001, he was appointed to the UCD Medical School Academic staff at St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin.

In 2014, he was awarded an Honorary Professorship from the University of Edinburgh for International Leadership in

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Translational Medicine. He is the author of more than 150 publications and has been awarded research grants of more than €20 million. He has been successful with research funding from the Wellcome Trust and Science Foundation Ireland. His group's work focused on the development of novel small molecular-weight anti-inflammatory agents targeting chronic inflammatory diseases particularly pertaining to the lung. He is a co-applicant on the recently awarded Wellcome Trust/HRB Dublin Clinical Research Facility.

He is the Medical Director of the Irish Lung Foundation and of the Sarcoidosis support network. He is also a Board member and vice chairman of Basketball Ireland.

Professor Donnelly is also the current Editor-in-Chief of the Quarterly Journal of Medicine (Oxford University Press). On Google Scholar in July 2018, SC Donnelly has 10,674 citations with h-index of 44 and I10 of 72.

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Professor Michael P. Keane

Dr Keane is a professor of Medicine and Therapeutics at University College Dublin and is Respiratory Medicine

physician at St Vincents Hospital, Dublin. In 1989, he graduated from UCD and after general medical training in Dublin, he moved to University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1995 to pursue a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine.

In 2000, he was an appointed professor of medicine and programme director at the UCLA interstitial lung disease centre.

In 2007, Professor Keane returned to UCD and St Vincents University hospital. He is a Principal Investigator at the UCD Conway Institute for Science Foundation Ireland. He is the Lead Clinical Coordinator for lung cancer services at St Vincents and clinical director of the UCD Clinical Research Centre. He is also a member of the Molecular Medicine Ireland board of directors.

His research interests centre on molecular investigation into, and treatment of, inflammatory lung diseases, particularly pulmonary fibrosis. There are 122 publications listed on PubMed in July 2018.

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