

## NIH/NEI International Workshop: U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme and Vision Research Opportunities - 2023

DATE & TIME: Thursday, Dec 21, 2023: The US EST: 8:30 – 11:30, Belfast Time: 13:30– 16:30

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**Location:** Virtual Zoom meeting

**Register on Eventbrite:** [NIH/NEI International Workshop: U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme Tickets, Thu 21 Dec 2023 at 13:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**Workshop/webinar Chairs:** Dr. Gyan “John” Prakash, National Eye Institute (NEI)-NIH, USA &  
Prof. Tunde Peto, Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland

### Summary:

The [United States \(U.S.\)-Ireland Research and Development \(R&D\) Partnership Programme](#) was launched in 2006 and involves funding agencies from the U.S., the Republic of Ireland, and Northern Ireland. The overall goal is to increase research and development collaborations between researchers in the three countries. The U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), Republic of Ireland’s Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and Health Research Board (HRB), and Northern Ireland’s Health and Social Care Research and Development (HSC R&D) Division participate in the health area of the partnership, including the use of sensors or nanotechnology in health. The partnership supports trilateral research projects, with participating funding agencies funding the research undertaken in their own country (the U.S. funds U.S., Northern Ireland funds Northern Ireland, and Ireland funds Ireland). To facilitate a ‘*single proposal, single review*’ mechanism, submissions from tri-jurisdictional teams undergo peer review only through existing research project grant (R01) funding programs at NIH. To date, 9 NIH Institutes and Centers have funded 16 R01s.

This workshop has been organised to generate further awareness of how the U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme health area of the partnership operates. In addition to an overview of the U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme, the workshop will highlight unique scientific opportunities and priorities in vision research.

This webinar will provide an opportunity for interested researchers and research administrators to:

- learn more about the overall U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme;
- define NEI’s specific vision research priorities;
- navigate the NIH system;
- identify avenues to find potential collaborators, and
- provide best practices and insights from relevant funder staff and funded U.S.-Ireland research teams.

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## Program:

- 1. Introduction and Goals of the Workshop (10 min)**  
Dr. Gyan “John” Prakash, National Eye Institute (NEI) & Prof. Tunde Peto, Queen’s University of Belfast (QUB)  
**Welcome Messages (10 min)**
  - National Eye Institute-NIH
  - Representative, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) or Health Research Board (HRB), Ireland
  - Representative, Health and Social Care (HSC) Research and Development (R&D) Division, Northern Ireland
- 2. Introduction to the U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Program (30 Min)**
  - Ms. Grainne Lennon, Ireland/Northern Ireland Secretariat, InterTradeIreland
  - Ms. Sarah Scharf, Fogarty International Center (FIC)
- 3. NEI - Grant Application Process (45 min)**  
Dr. Lisa Neuhold, NEI
- 4. NIH Referral and Review Process (45 min)**  
Dr. Cibu Thomas, Center for Scientific Review, NIH
- 5. Finding Collaborators: World Report, an Atlas of Health Research Networks (15 min)**  
Mr. Michael Cheetham, Office of the Director, Office of Portfolio Analysis, NIH
- 6. Case study: A functional genomics pipeline for genetic discovery in diabetic kidney disease (10 min)**  
Prof. Gareth McKay, Centre for Public Health, QUB
- 7. Q & A (10 min)**
- 8. Closing (5 min)**  
Dr. Gyan “John” Prakash & Prof. Imre Lengyel, QUB