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PRESS RELEASE

## **COMPUTING STUDENT PICKS UP OVERALL BEST STUDENT AWARD AS CIT HONOURS “THE BEST OF THE BEST”**

**Gerard Rainsford** from the School of Science and Informatics at **Cork Institute of Technology** was named as **Overall Best Student** at the Annual Prizegiving [**Tuesday 12 MARCH**]. CIT President, Dr Brendan Murphy, presented him with his prize at a ceremony in the Council Room on CIT’s Bishopstown Campus. Gerard, from Crookstown, Co. Cork, was also awarded the prize for Best Taught Masters Degree Student.

CIT President, Dr Brendan Murphy said: “This Prizegiving is an important and special event in the Academic Calendar of CIT. In the last months of 2012 we held Institute Conferings where the academic achievements of each of our 2,400 graduates was recognised. Tonight, we are recognising and honouring our elite graduates who have achieved the highest level of academic excellence across the Institute. In short the best of the best.”

Gerard graduated from CIT in Electrical Engineering in the 1980s and worked abroad for a number of years. Since his return to Ireland he has worked as an Engineer in the Electronics and Pharmaceutical industry. He recognised a need to update his qualifications so he returned to CIT where he studied at night and initially achieved certificate level. He continued his studies and has now emerged as Best Taught Masters Degree Student and Overall Best Student. He is currently employed by Crest Solutions Software Company .

In the Department of Applied Physics and Instrumentation, **Mark Casey**, Grange, Co. Waterford was named Best Honours Degree Student.

Best Bachelor Degree Student in the Humanities was **Francis Cooley**, from Glanmire, Co.Cork. In Architecture, the Best Taught Masters Degree Student was **Eoin French**, Whites Cross, Co. Cork. In Computing **Anthony Mannix**, Banteer, Co. Cork picked up the award for Best Bachelor Degree Student.

**Brendan Kelleher**, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford was Best Bachelor Degree Student in Electrical and Electronic Engineering while **Shane Kiely**, Douglas, Cork was Best Honours Degree Student.

In the Department of Continuing Education, Best Honours Degree student was **Norma Madden**, Coachford, Co. Cork and the Best Taught Masters Degree Student was **Brian Murphy**, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

CIT Cork School of Music student **Hugh Murray**, Douglas, Cork was named Best Honours Degree Student with **Sam Perkin**, Tivoli, Cork picking up the Best Taught Masters Degree Student.

In CIT Crawford College of Art & Design, **Gary Murphy**, Cork was named Best Bachelor Degree Student while **Cassandra Eustace**, Cork picked up the Best Honours Degree Student Award. **Emma Grice**, Cork received the Marshall Hudson Award for Best Art Education Student at CIT CCAD while **Aoife Ni Labhradha**, Cork City was Awarded Best Taught Masters Degree Student.

**David Higgins**, Ballinhassig, Co. Cork was the National Maritime College of Ireland Best Bachelor Degree Student while **Padraig Condon** from Mallow, Co. Cork was named Best Honours Degree Student.

**ENDS**

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