



**Irish
Concrete
Society**



Sean de Courcy
Student Award
2024/2025

Nomination Form

Professor J. W. de Courcy 1918 - 2004

Sean de Courcy graduated, at the age of 19, with a first-class honours degree in civil engineering from University College Dublin (UCD). His early career saw him working with Limerick County Council followed by the British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Company, where in 1950 he was appointed to head their Irish operations.

In 1959, Sean was awarded a Master's Degree in Engineering from UCD for a thesis on permanent joints in structures containing reinforced concrete. Beginning what was to become a distinguished 24-year association with the university, Sean was appointed as a lecturer in civil engineering in 1964. This was followed in 1971 with his appointment as an Associate Professor, becoming Professor Emeritus on his retirement in 1988.

Sean also lectured UCD students in the School of Architecture on the civil engineering aspects of that profession and in 1988 was elected an honorary member of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, a rarity for an engineer. He was a founding member of The Irish Pre-Stressed Concrete Association in 1960, which evolved into the Irish Concrete Society in 1973. Having also served on many committees with the Institution of Engineers of Ireland, Sean was made a fellow in 1969 and appointed chair of its civil division in 1988.

His work brought him into much contact with the wider, international world of engineering and he was a guest lecturer at several British universities, including Cambridge, Sheffield and London. Sean was a member of the Council of the European Society for Engineering Education from 1977, becoming president for the year 1980-81. He was elected an honorary fellow of the Institute of Concrete Technology in 1987.

Sean's legacy continues to inspire many and the Irish Concrete Society Student Award is dedicated to his memory.

Recent Award Winners

2023/2024: Niall Hanratty, University College Dublin

2022/2023: Seán Heffernan, Technological University Dublin

2021/2022: Méabh Childs, Trinity College Dublin

2020/2021: Aaron Lowe, Technological University Dublin

2019/2020: Ciaran Collier, University College Dublin

2018/2019: Cormac Mac Murchú, Cork Institute of Technology

Entry Rules

1. Applicants must be studying full time at an Irish higher education institute (HEI) at time of project completion.
2. All entries to be submitted via email to office@concrete.ie as follows:
 - a. A fully completed application form with an abstract of the paper/project (approximately 100 words) must be submitted by **Friday 5th December 2025**.
 - b. The **completed paper/project** and an **academic poster** (pdf copy) must be submitted by **Monday 5th January 2026**.

Please use 'Sean de Courcy Student Award Entry' in the subject line.
3. The submission may be all, or part of, a project carried out for either a level 8 (Bachelors) or level 9 (Masters) award.
4. Submissions may be made by the student (or students for a joint project), or their academic supervisor. Submissions by a student(s) requires confirmation that the entered paper/project has been selected to represent the HEI.
5. The submission, *which will not be returned to the applicant(s)*, will be judged by a jury established by the Council of the Irish Concrete Society.
6. The decision of the jury shall be final; no discussion or correspondence will be entered into relating to any jury decisions.
7. The prize-winner(s) may be invited to give a presentation to a meeting of the Society.

2024/2025 Application Form

A prize of €500 will be presented for the winning project at our 43rd Annual Awards Evening

Project Title		
Student Name(s)		
Address(es)		
Contact Number(s)		
Contact Email(s)		
HEI		
Academic Supervisor		
Supervisor's Email		
Abstract May be submitted on a separate sheet.		

I (we) have read the rules governing the student prize and I (we) agree to be bound by the decision of the Council of the Society.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____



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