



Conor M. Finlay

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW

Trinity Translational Medicine Institute, Trinity College Dublin

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Cellular Immunologist and bioinformatician combining molecular, in vivo and translational research.

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN (2022-PRESENT)

- SFI-Pathways Programme Fellow (PI, starting August 2024)
- TCD Omics - Single cell RNA-sequencing core service (founder and scientific director), since 2021
- HEALD consortium - molecular biology and sequencing lead (with Aideen Long), since August 2023
- COVID-19 SFI-funded strategic partnership - transnational immunology, up to mid-2023
- Trinity Kidney Centre - lab management, student supervision (with Mark Little), up to mid-2023
- Multi-modal clinical data analysis (with Mark Little), up to mid-2023
- Co-supervising longitudinal immune cell phenotyping study, PARADISE project, (with Mark Little), 2022-present

HONORARY RESEARCH FELLOW, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER (2021-PRESENT)

- Collaboration on MRC programme grant with Prof. Judith Allen.

Past roles & Education

2021-2022 Research Fellow, Supervisor: Prof Mark Little

2020 Informatics Training Scheme (Wellcome Trust TPA), Programming and Computational Approaches to Biology Modules

Trinity
University of
Manchester
University of
Manchester

2017-2021 Research Associate, Supervisor: Prof Judith Allen.

2016-2017 Lecturer (teaching relief post), School of Biochemistry and Immunology

2013-2016 Post-doctoral Researcher, Supervisor: Prof Kingston HG Mills.

2013 PhD in Immunology, Immune modulation by the helminth Parasite *Fasciola hepatica*

2007 BA(Mod) in Natural Sciences, Major: Biochemistry with Immunology, Grade: 1:1

Trinity
Trinity
Trinity
Trinity

Funding

I have received a total funding of 684,106 Euro in funding to my lab in Trinity. In the UK I co-wrote a programme grant (as Research Co-Investigator) on which I now collaborate.

SFI-Pathways Programme

457K, PI

- Macrophage Activation and Transition in the Autoimmune Kidney (MacATAK): uncovering functional outcomes of macrophage differentiation in the inflamed kidney

Science Foundation Ireland
2024-2028

Trinity Doctorate Award 2024-2025, PI-led application

122K, PI

- Mapping Macrophage Cell State Transition in Inflammation and Infection at Single Cell Resolution

Trinity Doctorate Award
2024-2028

The Meath Foundation 2024

70K, Co-I (35K TO MY GROUP)

- 'Characterisation and Inhibition of Monocyte-Driven Inflammation in AAV (CIMDIA)'

The Meath Foundation
2024-2026

Higher Education Research Equipment Grant

30.2K, PI

- Cell counting solution to support TCD Omics

Higher Education Authority
2024-2025

Dean's Research Initiatives Fund

20K, PI

- Mapping human macrophage anti-microbial function in pleural infection

Faculty of Health Sciences, TCD
2024

Enterprise Ireland-funded Industry collaboration

93K

- Title withheld, scRNA-sequencing of blood cancer

Legend Biotech
2024

Building Engagements in Health Research Scheme

10K EUR, Co-PI

- Understanding mast cells and their progenitors in Telangiectasia Macularis Eruptiva Perstans (TMEP)'

Internal TCD
2023

- “Macrophages in type 2 immunity: unravelling susceptibility and resistance to tissue nematode infection”. I co-wrote grant and provided scientific design and preliminary data. Awarded an honorary position at UoM to facilitate ongoing collaboration after leaving Manchester

Building Engagements in Health Research Scheme

Internal TCD

10K EUR, Co-PI

2021

- ‘Nanoparticle modulation of neutrophil and monocyte responses to ANCA’

Presentations, Awards & contributions

PRESENTATIONS

- 4 invited speaker presentations
- 13 conference oral presentations, selected from abstract, * 8 conference poster presentations

AWARDS AND MEDIA

- Commentary in *Immunity*: “Macrophages show up in style when Th2 lymphocytes organize their homecoming”
- Paper featured on The Immunology Podcast - Episode 51
- Immunity paper featured on August 2023 edition of *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* News Beyond Our Pages.

DISCIPLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

- Reviewed articles for 6 journals.
- Reviewed grants for 4 funding bodies
- Sat on 3 researcher interview panels
- Co-Inventor on a patent for Trinity Spin-out (Parvalis Tx)

Research leadership and collaborations

Student projects 16 projects designed and supervised across Trinity (12-15 weeks) and Manchester (6 months). Currently co-supervise a IRC-funded PhD student.

TCD Omics Core facility. I have established formal pipelines for a single cell RNA-sequencing core service ‘TCD Omics’.

16 active collaborations, with groups in NIH, Leiden, Manchester, RCSI, Trinity college Dublin, St James’ hospital.

Selected publications (last 3 years)

1. Ridge, K., Moran, B., Alvarado-Vazquez, P. A., Hallgren, J., Little, M. A., Irvine, A. D., O’Farrelly, C., Dunne, J., Finlay (co-senior), C. M., & Conlon (co-senior), N. (2024). Lin – CD117 + CD34 + FceRI + progenitor cells are increased in chronic spontaneous urticaria and predict clinical responsiveness to anti- IgE therapy. *Allergy*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/all.16127>
2. Han, J., Gallerand, A., Erlich, E. C., Helmink, B. A., Mair, I., Li, X., Eckhouse, S. R., Dimou, F. M., Shakhsher, B. A., Phelps, H. M., Chan, M. M., Mintz, R. L., Lee, D. D., Schilling, J. D., Finlay, C. M., Allen, J. E., Jakubzick, C. V., Else, K. J., Onufer, E. J., ... Randolph, G. J. (2024). Human serous cavity macrophages and dendritic cells possess counterparts in the mouse with a distinct distribution between species. *Nature Immunology*, 25(1), 155–165. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41590-023-01688-7>
3. Tachó-Piñot, R., Stamper, C. T., King, J. I., Matei-Rascu, V., Richardson, E., Li, Z., Roberts, L. B., Bassett, J. W., Melo-Gonzalez, F., Fiancette, R., Lin, I.-H., Dent, A., Harada, Y., Finlay, C., Mjösberg, J., Withers, D. R., & Hepworth, M. R. (2023). Bcl6 is a subset-defining transcription factor of lymphoid tissue inducer-like ILC3. *Cell Reports*, 42(11), 113425. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2023.113425>
4. Finlay, C. M., Parkinson, J. E., Zhang, L., Chan, B. H. K., Ajendra, J., Chenery, A., Morrison, A., Kaymak, I., Houlder, E. L., Murtuza Baker, S., Dickie, B. R., Boon, L., Konkel, J. E., Hepworth, M. R., MacDonald, A. S., Randolph, G. J., Rückerl, D., & Allen, J. E. (2023). T helper 2 cells control monocyte to tissue-resident macrophage differentiation during nematode infection of the pleural cavity. *Immunity*, 56(5), 1064–1081.e10. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.immuni.2023.02.016>
5. McEntee, C. P., Houston, S., Finlay, C. M., Rossi, S., Liu, G., Shaw, T. N., Casulli, J., Fife, M., Smedley, C., Griffith, T. S., Pepper, M., Hussell, T., Hansbro, P. M., Schwartz, J.-M., Paidassi, H., & Travis, M. A. (2023). A subset of CD4+ effector memory T cells limit immunity to pulmonary viral infection and prevent tissue pathology via activation of latent TGFβ. *bioRxiv*, 2023.03.02.527395. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.03.02.527395>
6. Fiancette, R., Finlay, C. M., Willis, C., Bevington, S. L., Soley, J., Ng, S. T. H., Baker, S. M., Andrews, S., Hepworth, M. R., & Withers, D. R. (2021). Reciprocal transcription factor networks govern tissue-resident ILC3 subset function and identity. *Nature Immunology*, 22(10), 1245–1255. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41590-021-01024-x>
7. Cunningham, K. T., Finlay, C. M., & Mills, K. H. G. (2021). Helminth Imprinting of Hematopoietic Stem Cells Sustains Anti-Inflammatory Trained Innate Immunity That Attenuates Autoimmune Disease. *Journal of Immunology (Baltimore, Md. : 1950)*, 206(7), 1618–1630. <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.2001225>

8. Finlay, C. M., Cunningham, K. T., Doyle, B., & Mills, K. H. G. (2020). IL-33-Stimulated Murine Mast Cells Polarize Alternatively Activated Macrophages, Which Suppress T Cells That Mediate Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis. *Journal of Immunology (Baltimore, Md. : 1950)*, 205(7), 1909–1919. <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.1901321>
9. Finlay, C. M., & Allen, J. E. (2020). The immune response of inbred laboratory mice to *Litomosoides sigmodontis*: A route to discovery in myeloid cell biology. *Parasite Immunology*, 42(7), e12708. <https://doi.org/10.1111/pim.12708>

Referee

Prof Judi Allen, Professor of Immunobiology; Lydia Becker Institute University of Manchester

Up to date long-form CV available on GitHub ([here](#))