

ENACTUS

DUBLIN CITY University student, Matthew Hewston, aged 19 years from Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim joined the Enactus Society in DCU in this first year in college. What is Enactus?

ENTREPRENEURIAL Having the perspective to see an opportunity and the talent to create value from that opportunity

ACTION The willingness to do something and the commitment to see it through even when the outcome is not guaranteed.

US A group of people who see themselves connected in some important way; individuals that are part of a greater whole.

As part of the year, Matthew worked on various projects including starting his own project called "Well on the Way". The project is based on the simple idea of ending water poverty by drinking water. Well on the Way is about to start selling its branded bottled water and



water cooler cups with 100% of the profits being used to build concrete borehole wells in DR Congo. The premise is simple yet effective, you drink from a Well on the Way product and some else gets to drink from a well.

Within weeks of coming up with the idea Matthew was invited to the Global Engagement Summit in Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. Here he got the chance to share, discuss and present Well on the Way to some of the world's most exciting young change makers.

On his return from Chicago, Matthew became part of the presenting team from Enactus DCU which became National Champions in May 2016. This exciting National competition sees student teams from across the country formally present the results of their projects which are judged and evaluated by community and business leaders serving as judges. Enactus DCU presented the impacts of their projects at this year's National Competition. These included Prison Break which employs a former prisoner to manage a



cross-campus fitness programme, Camphill Crafts which demonstrates students empowering craftspeople with intellectual disabilities to develop a sustainable route to market and finally Headstarts, which is a social enterprise that empowers and enables people with intellectual disabilities through sessions of art, drama and dance on a weekly basis.

Matthew who is the project leader of Well on the Way, travelled with the Enactus DCU to represent Ireland at the Enactus World Cup in Toronto, Canada in September. Enactus Ireland was one of 36 country organisations around the world that operates an Enactus programme, bringing together student, academic and business leaders who are committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to solve community challenges.

