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Burning Candles at Both Ends

Brenda Duggan

Dublin Institute of Technology, brenda.duggan@dit.ie

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Fire safety and third level students
As part of 2009 Fire Safety Week, the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the Department of Design in DIT devised a challenge for students with the aim of promoting awareness of fire safety, particularly as students move from home into rented accommodation. Third Year students of Visual Communication were invited to submit a project as part of their assessment on the theme of “Burning the Candle at Both Ends”. Initially working individually, and later in teams, students were asked to produce an interactive digital media presentation, complemented by a printed element to complete their fire safety campaign.

Risky Roomies
The winners of the competition were announced at an event in the School of Art, Design and Printing in DIT Mountjoy Square which was attended by Minister for Older People and Health Promotion, Aíne Brady TD.

Aisling MacNamara and Ana Lago were presented with the winning award for their project ‘Risky Roomies’. Runners up were David Baxter and Ciaran Murphy for their project ‘Flaming Meadows’.
Themes and projects
As students were the target audience for the digital media projects carried out, there is an impressive range of themes and behaviour tackled in all the projects.

‘Risky Roomies’ examines issues of choosing accommodation in a humorous way. Students should be mindful of the need to ensure prospective accommodation has modern electrical wiring, is fitted with fire escapes and equipped with working smoke alarms.

‘Flaming Meadows’ is a game where students deal with issues of partying, smoking and drinking examining how these issues, often associated with student lifestyle, put students at higher risk of fire. Alcohol, cigarettes, and cooking greatly enhance fire risk.