

## Speakers' Biographies

### Tom Boland



Tom Boland is Chief Executive of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), a position he has held since January 2004. The HEA is a statutory body established to allocate public funding to Irish higher education institutions, to oversee the performance of the higher education and research sector generally, and to advise the Minister for Education and Skills on the development of the sector.

Tom Boland is a member of the Board of the Central Applications Office and of the Governing Board of the IMHE, the OECD higher education programme. He is former Chairperson of the Board of HEAnet, and has previously served on the Boards of Science Foundation Ireland and the Fulbright Commission.

Tom Boland holds degrees in Civil Engineering and Law, and was called to the Irish Bar in 1987.

### Mary Doyle



Mary Doyle took up her current role as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Education and Skills in June 2012 where she leads the Higher Education Division in the Department. She has worked in the Departments of the Taoiseach and Health and was Director General in the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. She has been a member of the National Economic and Social Council and the National Statistics Board and a Forum Member of the Economic and Social Research Institute. She holds a degree in European Studies from the University of Limerick and a Master's in Public Service Management from Trinity/Irish Management Institute.

### Professor Ellen Hazelkorn



Professor Ellen Hazelkorn is Director of the Higher Education Policy Research Unit (HEPRU), Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), and Policy Advisor to the Higher Education Authority (HEA). She is also President of the EAIR (European Higher Education Society) and Chairperson of the EU Expert Group on Science Education (2014). She was previously Director of Research and Enterprise, and Dean of the Graduate Research School (2008–2014), and Director/Dean Faculty of Applied



Arts, DIT (1995–2008) in DIT. Ellen has authored/co-authored many peer-reviewed articles, policy briefs, books and book chapters, including *Developing Research in New Institutions* (OECD, 2005) and *Rankings and the Reshaping of Higher Education: The Battle for World-Class Excellence* (Palgrave 2011; forthcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, 2015). She is the editor of *Global Rankings and the Geo-Politics of Higher Education* (Routledge, forthcoming 2015), and co-author of *The Civic University: Meeting the Leadership and Management Challenges* (Edward Elgar, forthcoming 2016) and of *The Impact and Future of Arts and Humanities Research* (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming 2016). She is a regular contributor to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* WorldWise blog.

### John Hennessy



John Hennessy is Chairman of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), a position he has held since 2011. He has more than 30 years' experience in the private sector, working in the telecommunications industry. On graduating from college in 1973, John joined the Swedish multinational telecommunications company, Ericsson and has held a number of senior international positions. He was appointed Managing Director of the Ericsson Ireland in 2003 and he became Chairman in 2010. John has been a member of various Government advisory boards through his involvement in the Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC). John is also a Board member of the Labour Relations Commission (LRC), Deputy Chairman and Board member of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, Chairman of the Chartered Directors Network, and Board member of St James's Hospital, Dublin. John holds an M.Sc. and is a Chartered Director.

### Dr. Jason E. Lane



Dr. Jason E. Lane is an internationally recognised scholar in the study of higher education institutions and politics, as well as an academic leader at the State University of New York, the largest comprehensive system of higher education in the United States. In his role as Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Senior Associate Vice Chancellor, Dr. Lane oversees the offices of Academic Programs and Planning; Academic Technology and Instructional Support; Institutional Research and Data Analytics, Global Affairs; Opportunity Programs; and the University Center for Academic and Work Force Development. Dr. Lane also provides leadership for the System's efforts to revitalise up-state New York through the START-UP NY Program, to attract and retain exceptional researchers through the Empire Innovation Program, to increase student success through seamless transfer and the revolutionary OPEN SUNY.



In his scholarly pursuits, Dr. Lane has written more than 50 journal articles, book chapters, and policy reports; and authored or edited 10 books, including *Multi-National Colleges and Universities: Leadership and Administration of International Branch Campuses* (Jossey-Bass, 2011, with Kevin Kinser), *Colleges and Universities as Economic Drivers* (SUNY Press, 2012 with Bruce Johnstone) *Academic Leadership and Governance of Higher Education* (Stylus Press, 2013, with Robert Hendrickson, James Harris, and Rick Dorman) and *Higher Education Systems 3.0* (SUNY Press, 2013 with Bruce Johnstone).

### Professor Brian MacCraith



Professor MacCraith holds a Personal Chair in Physics at Dublin City University. He is a member of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA), a Fellow of the Institute of Physics, a Fellow of SPIE (the international Photonics Organisation), and a Fellow of the Irish Academy of Engineers. Professor MacCraith has had a substantial involvement in STEM education activities through membership of the Institute of Physics Education Subgroup and the RIA National Commission for the Teaching of Physics. Currently, he is Chair of the Government's STEM Education Review Group (established by Seán Sherlock, T.D., Minister for Science and Innovation). He is on the Boards of IBEC, Social Entrepreneurs Ireland, and the National Chamber Choir. He also chairs the Boards of SciFest and the Trustees of Genio, and is Chairman of the Strategic Review of Medical Training and Career Structure Group.

In July 2010, Professor MacCraith was inaugurated as President of Dublin City University, a position that he will hold for 10 years.

### Muiris O'Connor



Muiris O'Connor is Head of Policy and Strategic Planning in the Higher Education Authority (HEA). Further to joining the HEA in 2006 as Senior Policy Analyst, he served as Acting Head of the National Office for Equity of Access to Higher Education (July 2007–July 2008) before assuming his current role. Before joining the HEA, Muiris spent five years as Statistician in the Department of Education and Science, prior to which he worked with the Conference of Religious of Ireland (CORI), the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and with the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG).

Muiris is on the Editorial Board of *Irish Educational Studies* and, over the years, has written reports across a wide range of areas including social entrepreneurship, homelessness, lifelong learning, fees, access to higher education, gender in Irish education, flexible learning, student



progression, and performance evaluation in higher education. He also played a key role in the preparation of Ireland's *National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030*. He managed the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) and, more recently, has contributed to the establishment of the Irish Survey of Student Engagement (ISSE) and the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning. As an architect of the multi-dimensional profiles of Irish higher education institutions, Muiris is leading the development of the performance evaluation framework for the higher education sector in Ireland.

### Dr. Deborah F. Stanley



Dr. Deborah F. Stanley is the 10<sup>th</sup> President of the State University of New York at Oswego, a college widely recognized for its broad programme offerings and high quality. Oswego has earned a high ranking as a "Top Up-and-Coming School" in America's Best Colleges by U.S. News and World Report and as a USA Today/Princeton Review "Best Value College."

Among President Stanley's many significant contributions at the college are the Oswego Guarantee, an unprecedented merit scholarship programme, and a capital improvement plan encompassing \$800

million in completed and planned campus renewal projects, including the new Campus Center, a 182,000-square-foot addition to the college's science facilities that is now nearing completion, along with a new residential townhouse village for students—all built to high standards of environmental design. She established new programmes in engineering, the SUNY Oswego Metro Center in downtown Syracuse, and the college's School of Communication, Media and the Arts.

President Stanley's commitment to a learner-centered environment has strengthened SUNY Oswego's academic reputation, bringing national and international accreditation for the School of Education, the School of Business and programmes in the arts. She launched Oswego's first fundraising campaign and spearheaded a massive up-grade of campus technological capabilities, including wireless computing environments and "smart" technology in classrooms.

Nationally, President Stanley serves on the American Council on Education's Commission on Leadership. She is a member of the Executive Steering Committee of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and is secretary and treasurer on AASCU's board of directors. She is a charter signatory of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.



In the region, President Stanley chairs the Board of Directors of CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity and was formerly Chair of the CenterState Development Foundation. For the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council, she co-chairs a transformational committee on Say Yes to Education. For more than a decade, she served on the board of OCNB and its successor, Alliance Bank.

Syracuse University, where she earned a Baccalaureate degree with Honors in English and a juris doctoral degree, has presented her with its Distinguished Alumni Award. The New York State Senate has named her a New York State Woman of Distinction.

### **Professor Nancy L. Zimpher**



In June 2009 Nancy L. Zimpher became the 12<sup>th</sup> Chancellor of the State University of New York. With nearly 463,000 students and 64 colleges and universities, SUNY is the nation's largest comprehensive system of higher education.

Chancellor Zimpher leads a diverse set of successful initiatives at SUNY in several key areas, including research and innovation, energy, health-care, global affairs, and the education pipeline. She has been a vocal advocate for groundbreaking legislative reforms which ensure that SUNY can provide broad access to higher education in an environment of declining state support, while maximising its impact as an engine of economic revitalisation across the state. Under Professor Zimpher's lead, SUNY is undertaking many innovative, system-enhancing initiatives—including shared services, dramatic expansion of online learning opportunities and cooperative education, and new partnerships with K-12 professionals—always with the goal of optimally serving New York's students and communities and preparing them to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Chancellor Zimpher is active in numerous state and national education organisations, and is a recognised leader in the areas of teacher preparation, urban education, and university–community engagement. She currently serves as chair of the Board of Governors of the New York Academy of Sciences and the National Association of System Heads. From 2005–2011 she led the national Coalition of Urban Serving Universities, and from 2012–2013 she was chair of CEOs for Cities. As co-founder of StriveTogether, Dr. Zimpher has been instrumental in creating a national network of innovative systemic partnerships that holistically address challenges across the education pipeline.

Prior to coming to SUNY, Chancellor Zimpher served as President of the University of Cincinnati, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Executive Dean of the Professional Colleges and Dean of the College of Education at Ohio State University. She has



authored or co-authored numerous books, monographs, and academic journal articles on teacher education, urban education, academic leadership, and school–university partnerships.

Chancellor Zimpher holds a Bachelor’s degree in English Education and Speech, a Master’s degree in English Literature, and a Ph.D. in Teacher Education and Higher Education Administration, all from Ohio State University.

