



HEA Forward- Look Forum

International Trends in
Research: What Does
Ireland Need to Succeed?

8.15am–5.00pm, Wednesday
15th April 2015

Davenport Hotel, Merrion
Street Lower, Dublin 2.

Because university-based research is the primary arena for the production of new knowledge, higher education is an important focal point for [...] policy-making. It plays a critical role in the research-innovation eco-system, providing human capital through education and training, attracting high-skilled talent and investment, actively engaging with the local and regional community through knowledge and technology transfer, and underpinning the global competitiveness of nations and regions.

European Commission's Expert Group on Assessment of University-Based Research (2010)

The HEA Forward-Look Forum series provides opportunities for the Irish higher education community to come together and engage in forward-looking and disruptive thinking about the future of the sector that is fully cognisant of the global context within which Irish higher education operates.

The third Forum, 'International Trends in Research: What Does Ireland Need?', will focus on research in higher education and its contribution to wider society and the economy. The *National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030* conceives research as one 'of the three interconnected core roles of higher education' which is symbiotically related to teaching and engagement. Building on the discussions that took place during previous fora, the third Forum will explore how the value of research in higher education can be optimised and its quality and impact evaluated and demonstrated. It will bring together the leadership of Irish higher education, the public sector, and enterprise to share knowledge and experience of fostering research excellence. Drawing on international developments, the Forum will consider how best to maximise research-performance in Irish higher education, providing an opportunity for free-ranging discussion amongst all participants about the strategic development of this central aspect of the mission of higher education.

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Gandon Suite North, Davenport Hotel

Programme



8.15 Registration and Refreshments

9.00 Opening Remarks: **Tom Boland** (Chief Executive, Higher Education Authority)

9.15 **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUCATION?**

Chair: **Mary Doyle** (Deputy Secretary, Department of Education and Skills)

Keynote addresses: **Professor Sir Peter Scott** (Professor of Higher Education Studies, Institute of Education, University College London)

Dr. Martin Curley (Co-Director, Innovation Value Institute, Maynooth University and Director, Intel Labs Europe)

Discussants: **Professor Mark Ferguson, CBE** (Director General, Science Foundation Ireland)

Professor Orla Feely (Chairperson, Irish Research Council)

11.00 Break

11.30 **RE-DEFINING RESEARCH RELEVANCE: FOR WHOM AND FOR WHAT?**

Chair: **Dermot Curran** (Assistant Secretary General, Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation)

Keynote address: **Professor Arie Rip** (Professor of Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Twente)

Discussants: **Professor Mary E. Daly** (President, Royal Irish Academy)

Professor Vinny Cahill (Dean of Research, Trinity College Dublin)

Dr. Alison Campbell, OBE (Director, Knowledge Transfer Ireland)

Dr. Graham Love (Chief Executive, Health Research Board)

Mark Redmond (Chief Executive, American Chamber of Commerce)

1.15 Lunch

2.15 **HOW CAN HIGHER EDUCATION BEST DEMONSTRATE IMPACT AND VALUE?**

Chair: **Dr. Eucharía Meehan** (Director, Irish Research Council)

Keynote addresses: **David Sweeney** (Director Research, Education and Knowledge Exchange), Higher Education Funding Council for England)

Dr. Jack B. Spaapen (Senior Policy Officer, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences)

Discussants: **Dr. Willie Donnelly** (Vice-President of Research and Innovation, Waterford Institute of Technology)

Professor Anita Maguire (Vice-President for Research and Innovation, University College Cork)

John Dooley (Head of Research and Innovation Policy Advisory Unit, Strategic Policy Division, Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation)

4.00 Closing Remarks: **Tom Boland** (Chief Executive, Higher Education Authority)

4.15 Reception