

## Speakers' Biographies

### Fergal Costello



Fergal Costello graduated from University College Dublin (UCD) in 1994 with a B.A. in History and Economics, and in 1995, again from UCD, with an M.Econ.Sc. in European Affairs.

He joined the Department of Education and Science in 1995 and has since worked in the Department of Finance and, from 2001, in the

Higher Education Authority. In the HEA he has performed a number of different roles including Head of Policy and Planning, Head of Funding (Institutes of Technology), and currently Head of System Development and Performance Management.

In the last three years Fergal has been centrally involved in the implementation of the *National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030* across a range of areas. Specifically he has played a leading role in the development of the HEA's proposals for mergers and collaboration between Irish higher education institutions; in the introduction of a new compact-based system for the performance-management and strategic funding of higher education; in the implementation of the national review of initial teacher education and the resultant programme of mergers/collaborations; in the development of criteria for, and the management of, the evaluation of proposals for technological universities; and in the development of the new system for apprenticeship education and training.

More broadly during his time in HEA Fergal has been involved in a range of policy-projects including the development of the *National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030* (2011); the development and management of a multi-million investment for Irish higher education (the Strategic Innovation Fund); and the inclusion of 14 institutes of technology within the ambit of the HEA for funding and regulation purposes.

### Professor Caroline Fennell



Professor Caroline Fennell B.C.L., LL.M., Ph.D. is Senior Vice-President Academic and Registrar at University College Cork (UCC). An expert on law of evidence, criminal justice and terrorism, she previously held the posts of Dean of the Law Faculty, Acting Head of the College of Business and Law and Head of the College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences at UCC. She is a founder member and former Co-Director of the Centre



and former Co-Director of the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights at UCC and has published widely on gender, constructions of fairness in crisis, due process and criminal justice.

In 2016 Professor Fennell led UCC to achieve the Bronze Athena SWAN award in recognition of the university's commitment to the representation of women in higher education, particularly STEM. She was a founder member of the Board of Women's Studies and M.A. in Women's Studies in UCC and has a strong commitment to interdisciplinary research and teaching.

She was Chair of Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences 2009–2012 and was appointed by the Minister to the newly established Irish Research Council in 2012. In 2009 she was admitted to membership of the Royal Irish Academy. She was a Mary Ball Washington Visiting Professor at the University of West Florida; a visiting fellow at Wadham College, Oxford, All Souls College, Oxford; and a visiting fellow in the Centre for the Study of Human Rights at the London School of Economics.

## John Fielden



John Fielden has practised as a management consultant in higher education policy and management since 1969. Between 1993 and 2000 he directed the Commonwealth Higher Education Management Service (CHEMS)—the research and consultancy service of the Association of Commonwealth Universities. He has carried out over 270 higher education projects in over 42 countries.

John's main specialisms are in internationalisation and higher education policy studies for agencies and governments. Recently he

has undertaken and published studies on the growing private sector of higher education in the U.K. and Ireland. In the U.K. he has worked for all of the higher education sector agencies and for a large number of universities and colleges. His international clients have included the World Bank, UNESCO, the British Council and education ministries and universities throughout the world.



## Neil Gallagher



Neil Gallagher is the founder and President of the College of Computing Technology (CCT). Established in 2005, CCT is a specialist higher education provider within the disciplines of computing and business. Neil, a psychology graduate from American College Dublin, also holds an M.Sc. in Work and Organisational Psychology from Dublin City University. He recently served as Chair of the Higher Education Colleges Association (HECA), the association of QQI-validated independent higher education providers. During this period Neil led HECA's strategy

and the development of submissions to the Expert Group on Future Funding for Higher Education in Ireland, as well as leading the design and initial development of the HECA Protection of Enrolled Learners academic bonding scheme.

Neil has an active interest in the promotion of a computer studies / computer science syllabus at both junior and senior cycle within the Irish secondary school curriculum, as well as promoting and supporting innovation within teaching and learning.

Married with two young boys, Neil does not have much spare time. Any spare time is devoted to football, reading, walking and socialising.

## Teresa Heeney



Teresa Heeney is the CEO of Early Childhood Ireland (ECI), the largest representative organisation for the early childhood education sector in Ireland, representing 3,500 early childhood education settings. ECI's work is predominantly in the area of training and education, delivering training from level 5–9, mentoring services in the National Curriculum and Quality Frameworks, provision of advice, publications and support as well as in the area of policy and advocacy.

Teresa represents Early Childhood Ireland on the DCYA Early Years Forum, the DES Early Years Advisory Group, the TUSLA Early Years Consultative Forum and was appointed by Dr. James Reilly, then Minister for Children, to the Advisory Council for the Better Outcomes Brighter Futures Framework. Teresa herself graduated with a Master's of Business Science from Maynooth University in 2013. Teresa received her undergraduate degree in Social Science from UCC.

Teresa lives in Maynooth with her family and is originally from Donegal.



## Michael Horgan



Michael Horgan was appointed Chairman of the Higher Education Authority in July 2016. He is also outgoing Chairman of the Health and Safety Authority. He is former Chief Executive of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI). Michael holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science and an M.A. from the University of Dublin (Trinity College) and a Master's in Industrial Engineering from University College Dublin, in addition to which he is a Chartered Director. He has been awarded a number of honorary degrees, including a D.Sc. from the University of Massachusetts and an Honorary Fellowship from RCSI.

Michael chairs the Fintech/Global Payments' company TransferMate and is a non-executive director of Intuition Ltd and of a number of other boards. He was previously a Board member of the Rotunda Hospital and of Beaumont Hospital, and served as a member of the Senate of the National University of Ireland.

## Dr. Anne Looney



Anne is currently the Interim CEO at the Higher Education Authority in Dublin and in spring 2017 will become the founding Executive Dean of Dublin City University's new Institute of Education. From 2001 until 2016 she was the CEO of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, the agency responsible for curriculum and assessment for early-years, primary and post-primary education in Ireland. A former teacher, she completed her doctoral studies at the Institute of Education in University College London. In 2014/2015 she was Professorial Research Fellow at the Learning

Science Institute Australia, based at the Australian Catholic University in Brisbane.

Anne's research interests include assessment policy and practice, curriculum, initial teacher education and professional standards for teachers and teaching. She has also published on religious, moral and civic education, and education policy.

Anne tweets at [@annelooney](https://twitter.com/annelooney)



## Brid McElligott



Brid McElligott is the Vice-President for Research and Development at the Institute of Technology Tralee. Since joining IT Tralee in 1996 Brid has assumed a number of roles in the areas of lecturing and management. Her current portfolio includes national and international student recruitment, research, lifelong learning, and external engagement.

Brid is currently a member of the senior management team with responsibility for realising the Institute's key strategic goal of technological university status along with its partner, Cork Institute of Technology. She has also been instrumental in raising €15 million to construct the Institute's state-of-the-art Sports Academy, due for completion in 2018; and she is a founding member of the IT Tralee Foundation.

Prior to joining IT Tralee Brid had extensive experience in the private sector and has a strong track-record of community activism in the areas of sport and in various NGOs.

## David O'Grady



David O'Grady has been CEO of Marketing English in Ireland (MEI) since 2009. MEI is the association of Irish Government-accredited English language schools. It is an all-island association and currently has 61 members.

In 2015 MEI schools hosted 108,000 international students. English Language Training (ELT) is an integral part of the

Government's *International Education Strategy 2016–2020* with a target increase of 25% in student volume.

From 1987 to 2007 David was the owner/director of Academy of English Studies Ireland, Dawson Street, Dublin 2.

David has an M.A. from Trinity College Dublin in Divinity.

David also farms in Co. Limerick where his hobbies are parkland tree-planting and beekeeping.



## Gina Quin



Gina Quin, B.A., M.B.A., C. Dir., is the President of the National College of Ireland, a not-for-profit third-level college situated in the heart of the International Financial Services Centre and Silicon Docks area of Dublin. The college provides a range of third-level undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in business, computing and psychology, in addition to community-education and

business-incubation facilities. NCI's mission, 'to change lives through education', is central to everything that the college does.

Previously Gina worked as Chief Executive of Dublin Chamber of Commerce, representing businesses in the Greater Dublin Region; and prior to that as CEO of Gandon Enterprises, the commercial division of the Rehab Group. A psychologist by training, Gina started her career with Lansdowne Market Research as a qualitative consumer researcher and thereafter worked with the Irish Export Board assisting exporting companies.

Gina is a Board member of ESB Networks, a Chartered Director, and a recipient of the Alumni of the Year Award from UCD Michael Smurfit Business School where she completed her M.B.A.. Gina is currently undertaking an M.Sc. in Cyber Psychology.

## Professor Pedro Nuno Teixeira



Professor Pedro Nuno Teixeira is Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Porto. In addition he is Director of CIPES—the Center for Research in Higher Education Policies. He has been a member of Portugal's National Council of Education since 2014, of the Board of the BIAL Foundation since 2015, and has served as an adviser on higher education to the President of Portugal since April 2016.

He has also served on the evaluation panels for the European University Association (EUA) and the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), and as a member of the Education Advisory Board of the Foundation Francisco Manuel dos Santos, Lisbon.

Previously Professor Teixeira was a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University (2011–2013), a Visiting Professor at the University at Albany, SUNY (2006), a Visiting Researcher at the Center for



Studies in Higher Education (CSHE) of the University of California, Berkeley (2005), an Associate Researcher of the Program for Research on Private Higher Education (PROPHE), and Vice-Chair of the Council of the European Society for the History of Economic Thought (ESHET). He is a member of the Editorial Board of *Higher Education*, the *European Journal of Higher Education*, the *Journal of the European Higher Education Area*, and of *OEconomia: History / Methodology / Philosophy*. He is also a member of the Board of Governors and Secretary General of the Consortium of Higher Education Researchers (CHER), a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), and a member of the Scientific Committee of the Réseau d'Etudes sur l'Enseignement Supérieur (RESUP) and of the European Network of Higher Education Doctoral Students (EURODOCS).

Professor Teixeira has published widely on higher education policy in a broad range of scientific journals, and is the editor of *Human Capital: Critical Concepts in Economics*, 4 vols. (Routledge, 2014); (with Christine Musselin) of *Policy Design and Implementation in Higher Education* (Springer, 2013); and (with David Dill) of *Public Vices, Private Virtues? Assessing the Effects of Marketization in Higher Education* (Sense Publishers, 2011). He is also the editor of *The Changing Public–Private Mix in Higher Education—Patterns, Rationales and Challenges* (forthcoming, 2016) and (with Jung Sheol Chin) of *The International Encyclopedia of Higher Education*, 4 vols. (Springer, forthcoming, 2018).

Professor Teixeira holds an M.A. in Higher Education from the University of Twente and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Exeter.

### Dr. Padraig Walsh



Dr. Padraig Walsh has been the Chief Executive of Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) since its establishment in 2012. Prior to that, he was Chief Executive of the agencies responsible for qualifications and quality assurance of further and higher education in Ireland that were amalgamated to form QQI in 2012. Having studied chemical engineering at University College Dublin and the University of Missouri (USA), he subsequently lectured in bioprocess engineering in Dublin City University (DCU) from 1984 to 2001. He was appointed as the first DCU Director of Quality in 2001 and left DCU in 2005 to become Chief Executive of the Irish Universities Quality Board (IUQB).

Padraig has served on the Board of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) since 2011 and was elected President of the association in 2013. He has also served on governance bodies of quality assurance organisations in the United States, Portugal, Scotland and Switzerland and on the steering group of the European University Association (EUA) Institutional Evaluation Programme (IEP).

