WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS.... MAKE LEMONADE!

A WARM WELCOME FROM THE TCD SCHOOL OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE 2021 - MARY QUIRKE, CATHERINE O’REILLY, STELLA WAI WAN CHOY, EBRU BOYNUEGRI, XINING WANG

SUPPORTING RESEARCH, RESEARCHING AND THE RESEARCHER THROUGH TIMES OF CHANGE
FOLLOWING THE PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN
MARY QUIRKE IS A PHD CANDIDATE IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION TCD

Mary’s primary research interests include universal design (UD) & universal design for learning (UDL), inclusion, and career guidance/professional practice development.

Mary is an active member of the research community in the school of education, trinity college Dublin; currently convening a sig on ‘UD thinking’ for the IES research group. She has also co-authored several articles which have a particular focus on various aspects of UDL and inclusion.

Mary is a qualified nurse, midwife and career guidance counsellor, having achieved her Masters in Maynooth University in 2004. Her work (with NLN, HSE, SOLAS and most recently with AHEAD – a national body, as assistant director for over 15 years up until 2019) has been focused on UD, UDL & inclusion in both practice and policy; with learners, teachers and employers, both in Ireland & internationally.


Mary is a Cork woman, now living in Kildare while juggling everything that goes with life and returning to university – the adventure that is life continues!
Catherine O’Reilly is a PhD candidate in the School of Education TCD

Catherine graduated with a master’s in leadership in early childhood education and care at Carlow Institute of Technology in 2018. Catherine was awarded a postgraduate scholarship from the Irish research council in 2020 and is currently a full-time PhD candidate in the school of education at Trinity College Dublin.

Her current research is in the field of early childhood education with a specific focus on the development of critical thinking skills and oral storytelling. Catherine shares her opinions on the importance of stories in early childhood on her website LearningALOUD.

Catherine has researched the topic of children’s engagement with storytelling and story reading in past research. The new research area of developing critical thinking at a preschool level promises to be challenging and exciting.

Catherine is from Wexford in Ireland and looking forward to sharing this exciting project with her co-committee members and colleagues at TCD.

- HTTPS://LEARNINGALOUD.IE/
STELLA WAI-WAN CHOY IS A PHD CANDIDATE IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION TCD

Stella was the continuing education coordinator of play therapy professional development workshop, APT, USA.

Stella obtained M.Soc.Sc. (Counselling)*distinction in 2008 at the University of Hong Kong. She has been working as a professional speech therapist for 17 years, having added the roles of play therapist and psychological counsellor since 2008. She is a part-time lecturer at various universities since 2016 and clinical supervisor at the University of Hong Kong since 2017.

Stella’s previous research interest is child-centered play therapy, and current research interests are inclusive education for children with ASD and anxiety. She is a member of HKAST, HKIST, APT (US), approved counselling supervisor HKPCA, and licensed bricks for autism lego®-based therapy trainer (UK).

Ebru is a PhD candidate in the School of Education TCD

Ebru Boynuegri is a PhD candidate in arts teaching at Trinity College Dublin (TCD). She achieved her first bachelor’s degree in Business Management in 2003 and second in English Language Teaching in 2014. She started to work as a teaching and research assistant at a private university in 2015. She has also achieved two master’s degrees; one in English language teaching and the other in Educational Psychology in 2018. In 2018, she commenced a PhD Education in English Language Teaching and while on this program, she received an offer to continue her doctoral studies at TCD where she is a beneficiary of a 1252 pg research studentship award (college award).

Her research interests are identity development, acculturation, pragmatics and arts-based education. In addition, she has also translated two books on adolescent psychology.
XI-NING WANG IS A PHD CANDIDATE IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION TCD

Xi-ning has a BA in Multi-Media, HD in early Child Care and Education, and an MA in Child, Youth and Family studies. Research interests include educational technology, rural education, neuroscience, applied technology in psychology, and rural children’s well-being.

Xining Wang’s current research focuses on:

(i) Using cutting-edge technology (virtual reality) to enhance children's social skills;

(ii) The relationship between brain activity level and teacher-student interaction.

The research methods for these projects include systematic literature review, meta-analysis review, a case study approach, an experiment of technological intervention for children with special needs, and semi-structured interview.

Xi-ning's research is funded by Trinity College Dublin and China Scholar Council (TCD - joint scholarship).