Postgraduate Research Conference 2023

Breakthrough Insights in Education:

“The best ideas emerge when very different perspectives meet, then an idea can change the world”

School of Education.
Trinity College Dublin,
The University of Dublin.
# Postgraduate Research Conference 2023

**Saturday, 13th May 2023**

Trinity Long Room Hub (TLRH), Trinity College Dublin.

**Breakthrough Insights in Education:**

“The best ideas emerge when very different perspectives meet, then an idea can change the world”

## Today's Schedule

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<td>9.30-10.00</td>
<td>Registration <strong>Tea/Coffee/Refreshments</strong></td>
<td>TLRH: Reception, TLRH: Level 2 Neil Lecture Hall</td>
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| 10.00-10.25| **Opening Address**  
Head of School's Welcome                                                  | TLRH: Level 2 Neil Lecture Hall |
| 10.30-11.30| **Presentations**  
2 Rooms with 4 x Presentation                                              | Arts Building: Level 3 |
| 11.35-12.15| **Keynote Panel**                                                     | TLRH: Level 2 Neil Lecture Hall |
| 12.15-13.00| Lunch                                                                 | TLRH: Level 3 Ideas Space |
| 13.00-13.40| **Poster Session**                                                    | TLRH: Level 3 Ideas Space |
| 13.45-14.35| **Lightning Talks**                                                   | TLRH: Level 2 Neil Lecture Hall |
| 14.40-15.40| **Workshops**  
3 Rooms x 1 Workshop                                                       | Arts Building: Level 3 |
| 15.45-16.10| **Reception/Prizes**  
Close of Conference                                                       | TLRH: Level 3 Ideas Space |
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Conference Listeners  22-26
Des Aston
PhD Researcher

Des Aston is the National & Schools Coordinator at the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities in Trinity College Dublin. He works to create awareness and foster a culture of high expectations for young people with intellectual disabilities and is the current Chairperson of the Inclusive National Higher Education Forum. Des’ research will track the experiences of students with ID in higher education. The aim is to capture personal and academic changes along their journey; inform policy; and help build capacity within the higher education sector to establish and deliver initiatives for students with ID across the Republic of Ireland.

Catherine Murray
PhD Researcher

Catherine is a PhD researcher in Trinity College Dublin. Her current longitudinal research uses participatory mixed methods to understand lived experiences and life trajectories of autistic individuals, post transition to adulthood. The research will draw comparisons, ascertaining to gender differences. Data will be collected in a cross-border collaborative project incorporating Europe and the UK. Prior to PhD research, Catherine graduated from Stranmillis University College with a BA in Early Childhood Studies, before completing her Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the University of Birmingham. She was an Early Years Teacher for eight years, teaching in mainstream, forest schools and special schools, within the United Kingdom, Europe, Scandinavia, and Africa.

Sadhbh Crean
PhD Researcher

Sadhbh is a 1st Year PhD researcher in the School of Education. She is researching the culture of engaged research at a Science Foundation Ireland centre; both the perceptions of the researchers and leadership team and expanding beyond this to other stakeholders such as industry members, policymakers, and the public. She holds an MSc in Environmental Sciences and has worked as a research assistant on an IRC-funded project creating a network of circular economy actors across the island of Ireland. Sadhbh holds a Bachelor in French and English and taught English as a second language for several years in Ireland and Russia.

Caroline Tansey
PhD Researcher

Caroline is a first-class honours graduate of University College Dublin, who holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Masters of Business Studies in Management Consulting. Currently, lecturing in TUD, having commenced lecturing in 2003 with the Department of Management. Prior to her lecturing career, Caroline served as a Manager for Design Evolution, a company specialising in product design for several sectors such bio medical, medical devices, nutrition and aqua leisure. In addition, Caroline has consulted with various organisations and small community-based partnerships and the non-profit sector. Presently, Caroline in pursuing a PhD in History with Trinity College Dublin.

Miriam Kehoe
DEd Researcher

Miriam is a Year 2 Doctorate of Education researcher in the School of Education. Her current research explores the role of the cooperating teacher during school placement in Irish post-primary music education. This area of interest stems from her experience over the past thirteen years as a music and Irish teacher. Miriam recently completed a Professional Diploma in Creativity and Innovation for Education in UCD, after a two-year career break studying at the Kodaly Institute Kecskemet, Hungary. She holds a MEd in Cooperative Learning and a PGDE from TCD and completed her undergraduate studies in UCD.
<table>
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<th>Judge</th>
<th>Biography</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Abbie Cahoon</td>
<td>Dr Abbie Cahoon is a Developmental and Cognitive Psychologist with specialism in early mathematical development and mathematical cognition. Abbie's research focuses on investigating the impact of the home learning environment on early mathematical development through various mixed-method analyses. Abbie has a keen interest in the longitudinal development of early childhood education. Abbie is interested in the ways that children engage with and learn from their environments and the impact these interactions and learning opportunities have on early mathematical development across educational transitions. Abbie has worked on projects funded by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, the British Academy, the Global Challenges Research Fund, Nuffield Foundation.</td>
<td>Abbie will be judging Presentations in the &quot;A&quot; group between 10.30-11.30 in the Arts building as well as the Posters presentation in the Ideas Space of Trinity Long Room Hub.</td>
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<td>Dr Margaret Flood</td>
<td>Margaret is an Assistant Professor in Inclusive Education and the MAP Academic Advisor for the Education Department. Her experience in inclusive and special education includes teaching, teacher professional learning design and delivery, policy development and curriculum design. Before joining Maynooth University in 2022 Margaret was the Education Officer with responsibility for Inclusive Education and Diversity at the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). She led and collaborated on inclusive curriculum review and design projects across primary and post-primary. Margaret also worked in the teacher professional development service, Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) where she designed and delivered continuous professional development training on specific curriculum programmes for students with intellectual disabilities, inclusive practices in the mainstream classroom, and Universal Design for Learning (UDL). As a Fulbright Scholar, in 2021 Margaret worked with Lynch School of Education and Humanities at Boston College and CAST to explore equity, diversity, inclusion, and social justice through the lens of UDL. Margaret is the creator and host of #UDLchatIE and of the Podcast 'Talking about all things Inclusion'.</td>
<td>Margaret will be judging Presentations in the &quot;B&quot; group between 10.30-11.30 in the Arts Building.</td>
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<td>Dr Tom Farrelly</td>
<td>Tom is an adjunct faculty member with the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin, and a lecturer in Munster Technological University Kerry. In his own words, Tom has had an eclectic career, to say the least. His career began as an Apprentice Fitter &amp; Turner in Irish Railways. He has worked as a lecturer in IT Tralee which became Munster Technological University for over 20 years. He describes himself as a Critical Technophile who is passionate about affording more access to education through technology and open access practices. Tommy will host and judge the Lightning Talk/GASTA session from 13:45-14:35 in the Main Room of Trinity Long Room Hub.</td>
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Professor Carmel O’Sullivan is a Professor in Education in the School of Education in Trinity College Dublin, and the convenor of the Arts Education Research Group (AERG). She is a member of the Expert Advisory Group for Creative Ireland (Pillar One) and involved in several funded research projects in the areas of Social Drama and Autism Spectrum Disorder, early childhood arts education, and an innovative work readiness programme for young adults who face significant barriers to entering the workplace (Career LEAP).

Carmel has expertise in the areas of creativity and inclusivity in education, working nationally and internationally with students, academics, practitioners, and policy makers from the worlds of education, health, business, and community. She organises an international Summer School in Drama and Theatre in Education each year (M.Ed.) and is a founding member of ADEI (the Association for Drama in Education in Ireland).

Carmel is a regularly invited speaker at national and international conferences and has delivered lectures and workshops in academic and professional institutions worldwide. She has organised numerous national and international seminars, workshops, and conferences. Carmel is very active in her local community and has continued to work with children and young people on a weekly basis throughout her professional career.
Today's Presenters

**Chelsea Whittaker**

‘Dynamic Multilingual Identities: A linguistic ethnography investigating language, identity and policy in two transnational families in Ireland.’

Chelsea Whittaker is a PhD candidate within the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. She is currently completing her PhD dissertation, which is entitled: “Dynamic Multilingual Identities: A linguistic ethnography investigating multilingualism, language policy and identity in primary school aged, multilingual heritage language speakers in Ireland”. Chelsea is originally from Cape Town, South Africa, where she trained as a primary school educator. She holds degrees in the fields of Education and Psychology from the University of Cape Town. She has a keen interest in research which examines issues of language, multilingualism, language policy and practice, diversity and identity.

**Georgina Nnamani**

'Staff's view on dyslexia policies and inclusion'

I am currently a postgraduate researcher in the School of Environment, Education and Development. My PhD research investigates the effectiveness of educational policies in promoting the social inclusion of learners with dyslexia in mainstream schools. Prior to beginning the PhD in September 2021, I graduated from the University of Glasgow with a Master’s in Adult Education, Youth Work and Community Development, and from the University of Gloucestershire with a Masters of Science in Criminological Psychology.

**Lorraine Downey**

'Critical analysis of language-related policy in Ireland: (emergent) bilingual learners in Further Education and Training'

Lorraine Downey is a part-time PhD student in the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. Having worked in the area of language and intercultural education for 20 years, she now manages a support service in learner supports in a large Education and Training Board. Her research interests include migrant education, culturally responsive and sustaining practices and inclusive education in further education.

**Khaoula Daoudi**

'Empowering Teachers with Corpora: A Professional Development Workshop'

Khaoula Daoudi, PhD researcher in education and applied linguistics at the University of Limerick, Ireland. Khaoula is a researcher who has several keen interests in the field of language pedagogy, including corpora, teacher training and professional development, English for specific purposes, and materials design in ESP. Her primary focus is on exploring and improving educational practices in Algeria. As part of her project, Khaoula designed a short-term course in teacher training on the use of Data-driven learning, which involved exploring teachers’ perceptions towards this approach and identifying potential challenges that may hinder the use of corpora in the classroom. Her research has received funding from the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. She is currently pursuing a PhD degree at UL while developing an early career by working as a general English teacher.
Kaitlin Kaufman

'Would you like to be a teacher? Preliminary findings from a study of the career aspirations, including teaching, of senior primary school children in DEIS and non-DEIS school contexts'

Kaitlin Kaufman is a second-year PhD student in the Department of Education at the University of Galway. Her study, 'Social Class & Future Careers: Aspirations and Perspectives of Children from Diverse Socio-economic Backgrounds Regarding Future Careers, Including Teaching', examines the career aspirations of senior primary school students from DEIS and non-DEIS schools, including in relating to teaching as a career. Her work focuses on social class, education, teacher diversity, and primary school children experiences. She is also a part-time lecturer in the Departments of Education and Children's Studies at the University of Galway.

Maggie Green

'Autistic and Gender Diverse - A Phenomenological Study of Lived School Experiences'

Maggie is a Lecturer in Education at Hibernia College and prior to this was a practising primary school teacher for almost twenty years. She spent several years on secondment with the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) as an advisor in the area of autism. Maggie lectured part time for ATU Donegal where she was involved in course design, development and delivery and she has also worked as a tutor with the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST). She is a current EdD student at Dublin City University (DCU) and was the recipient of the John Smith Doctoral Scholarship award in 2022. Maggie's current research is a phenomenological study of the lived school experiences of the autistic trans and non-binary community in the Republic of Ireland.

Trish Carolan

'Professional Learning in Behaviour Support for Special Education Staff'

Trish Carolan is a board-certified behaviour support analyst (BCBA) who has worked in special education settings for the past 19 years. She is the Director of Education in a large autism-specific special school in Dublin city, where she leads a team of educators and behaviour analysts in the delivery of child centred, evidence-informed behaviour support. Trish is also a doctoral candidate at Dublin City University (DCU), where she is researching professional learning in behaviour support for SNAs and special education teachers.

Edel Connolly

'Designing to Enhance Academic Buoyancy: A Snapshot from a Second Level School Setting'

From the University of Galway in Ireland, Edel has received a Higher Diploma in Education, a Higher Diploma in Professional Education Studies and a Master’s Degree in Education. I am currently in year 4 of PhD research. I am undertaking this research on a part time basis as I am also in my 20th year as a full-time secondary school teacher (12-19 year old’s). I am interested in supporting sustainable engagement with education as well as encouraging students' adaptability, in the form of academic buoyancy for dealing with challenges and setbacks. Empowering students and offering a space for participants to be innovative agents in their own learning is also an area of importance to me. In conducting research like this I hope to bridge the gap between research and practitioners.
Today's Panel

Panellist: Dr Giampiero Tarantino
Giampiero is a Research Fellow at the Trinity College Dublin (TCD), Department of Sociology. His current work involves the investigation of adolescents’ digital maturity and well-being. His main area of research is inclusive physical education, and, more generally, the inclusion of children with disabilities and special educational needs in school-based physical activity programmes. Alongside his activity as a researcher, Giampiero is also an Occasional Lecturer at UCD and an Adjunct Lecturer at TCD.

Panellist: Finbar Horgan
Finbar currently holds the position of Education Officer with AsIAm, Irelands National Autism Charity. As part of his role, Finbar coordinate’s AsIAm’s Autism Friendly Schools Project as well as delivering a variety of training programs. Finbar is a Registered Nurse Intellectual Disability (RNID) and since qualifying in 2015 has worked in a variety of settings supporting people with intellectual disabilities including residential services for adults and children, an autism aware service and a summer camp for autistic young people based in New York, USA.

Panellist: Dr Andrew Gibson
Andrew’s research is in the philosophy of higher education, with a special interest in philosophy of the humanities. He’s currently working on a monograph project looking at ways philosophers have justified the specific value and contribution of the humanities. I also research higher education from a critical and philosophical perspective. He has professional policy experience from when he worked as a consultant for the OECD on their reviews of higher education systems in Ireland, the Netherlands, and Austria, and was co-author of the resulting reports.

Panellist: Dr Amy Fahy
Amy is an Assistant Professor of Management at the School of Business, Maynooth University. Prior to this, Amy held the position of Education Manager with the Science Foundation Research Centre AMBER (Advanced Materials and Bioengineering Research) and had worked as a primary school teacher for 8 years. Amy’s research is aligned with international strategic priorities, where she addresses issues around education for sustainable development, and engaged research.
Esther Mercado-Garrido, University of Galway, School of Psychology

‘A systematic review of strategies and interventions to promote the inclusion of autistic adolescents’

Esther Mercado-Garrido (she/her) holds a BSc in Psychology from the Autonomous University of Madrid (Spain) with a specialisation in Early Intervention and Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, as well as a Master’s degree in Educational Counselling. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Galway, where she also works as a part-time lecturer and research assistant.

Her research focuses on autism and inclusion in adolescence, advocating for a participatory approach to autism-related research. Her PhD aims to understand the inclusion process from the autistic community perspective and to outline strategies and interventions aligned to their needs. She has been working in the field of ASD since 2018 in both educational and clinical settings. In recent years she has been working on several European projects focused on the use of new technologies, especially Virtual Reality, to promote the inclusion and well-being of autistic people. Esther’s research interests include neurodiversity, gender, inclusion, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) systems and Universal Design for Learning (UDL).

Xiaohui Yang, Trinity College Dublin

‘Investigating the Role of Feedback in Formative Assessment in High School Chemistry in International Schools in China in the Context of Practice in Chinese State Schools and Internationally’

Xiaohui Yang is currently a Year 1 PhD candidate from School of Education at Trinity College Dublin. Her research focuses on the role of feedback in formative assessment.
Denis Moynihan, DCU

‘Exploring the Intentions and Digital Competence of Pre-service Primary School Teachers in Ireland’

Carol Kennedy Gardiner, DCU/IOE

‘Using the experiences of Irish mainstream senior cycle learners diagnosed with Developmental Co-Ordination Disorder (DCD) to provide better for their inclusion.’

Carol Gardiner works for the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) as an Advisor for English as an Additional Language at Post Primary Level. She is seconded from her role as a mainstream class teacher and Special Education Teacher in Coláiste Cholmcille, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal. Her doctoral research entitled "Using the experiences of Irish mainstream senior cycle learners diagnosed with Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) to provide better for their inclusion". She has worked as a mainstream and learning support teacher in the post-primary context since 2001. As an early career teacher, she completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Special Educational Needs in Trinity College Dublin, followed by Masters in Management and Leadership in Education from Saint Angela’s College, Sligo in conjunction with National University of Ireland, Galway. She has taught in post-primary mainstream, learning support and autism classes for more than twenty years, supporting students with a range of Special Educational Needs. Her son, who will transition to post-primary education in 2023 received a diagnosis of DCD when he was seven years old. Inclusion is a message that she truly champions and believes.
Catherine Murray, PhD Researcher, Trinity College Dublin

‘Autistic Adulthood Trajectories: Longitudinal Understanding of Post School Outcomes on the Island of Ireland’

Catherine is a PhD researcher in Trinity College Dublin. Her current longitudinal research uses participatory mixed methods to understand lived experiences and life trajectories of autistic individuals, post transition to adulthood. The research will draw comparisons, ascertaining to gender differences. Data will be collected from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland; a cross-border collaborative project incorporating Europe and the United Kingdom. Prior to PhD research, Catherine graduated from Stranmillis University College with a BA in Early Childhood Studies, before completing her Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the University of Birmingham. She was an Early Years Teacher for eight years, teaching in mainstream, forest schools and special schools, within the United Kingdom, Europe, Scandinavia, and Africa.

Caroline Tansey, Trinity College Dublin

‘The Educational Legacy of Elizabeth Smith’

Caroline is a first-class honours graduate of University College Dublin, who holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Masters of Business Studies in Management Consulting. Currently, lecturing in TUD, having commenced lecturing in 2003 with the Department of Management. Prior to her lecturing career, Caroline served as a Manager for Design Evolution, a company specialising in product design for several sectors such bio medical, medical devices, nutrition and aqua leisure. In addition, Caroline has consulted with various organisations and small community-based partnerships and the non-profit sector. Presently, Caroline in pursuing a PhD in History with Trinity College Dublin.

Sadhbh Crean, Trinity College Dublin

‘Exploring the Culture and Perceptions of Engaged Research: A Case Study of the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre, AMBER’

Sadhbh is a 1st Year PhD researcher in the School of Education. She is researching the culture of engaged research at the Science Foundation Ireland centre for Advanced Materials and Bioengineering Research; both the perceptions of the researchers and leadership team and expanding beyond this to other stakeholders such as industry members, policymakers, and the public. She has an MSc in Environmental Sciences and has worked as a research assistant on an IRC-funded project creating a network of circular economy actors across the island of Ireland. Sadhbh holds a Bachelor in French and English and taught English as a second language for several years in Ireland and Russia.
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<td>13:00-13:40</td>
<td>Yao Xie, University of Galway, School of Education</td>
<td>‘Barriers and Enablers of International Second Language Acquisition Students in Higher Education’</td>
<td>My current research aims to facilitate internationalisation by addressing the challenges faced by International Second Language Acquisition (ISLA) Students, with a focus on solutions that promote equality, diversity, inclusion, and sustainability. My areas of interest are: international education, migrants education, equality, diversity and inclusion in education, technology in education, language.</td>
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<td>Sitti Hadijah, School of Education, University of Galway</td>
<td>‘Instructional Media Design to Enhance Indonesian Students’ Self-Efficacy in Learning English: A Conceptual Framework’</td>
<td>Sitti Hadijah started her teaching experience as an English teacher at a vocational high school in Pekanbaru, Indonesia. After her first six years of teaching, she has worked as a teacher educator at English Language Education Program, Universitas Islam Riau, Indonesia, since 2015 until now. Her research interests include English language teaching and learning, technology-enhanced learning, and teachers’ professional development. In 2021, she began her journey as a full-time PhD student at School of Education, University of Galway, Ireland. Her PhD project focuses on designing technology-led instructional media to enhance Indonesian students' self-efficacy in using English. She can be reached at <a href="mailto:s.hadijah2@nuigalway.ie">s.hadijah2@nuigalway.ie</a> or <a href="mailto:sittihadijah@edu.uir.ac.id">sittihadijah@edu.uir.ac.id</a>.</td>
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<td>Gitit Indra Putra Wacana, School of Education, University of Galway</td>
<td>‘Technology-Mediated Task-Based Language Teaching: First Steps Towards Enhancing Indonesian Pre-service English Teachers’ Self-Efficacy’</td>
<td>My name is Gitit Indra Putra Wacana from Indonesia, but you can call me Gitit. A dedicated lecturer with Linguistics and Education background with 16 years working experiences in Education Field pursuing for Doctoral Program in the School of Education for 2022 intake at the University of Galway, Ireland. Specialties in Linguistics, Literature, Structure, Syntax, Semantics, Teacher Training and else related to Linguistics and Education. My doctoral study is focused on addressing how can the self-efficacy of pre-service Indonesian English language teachers be enhanced through technology-mediated task-based language learning experience. This doctoral study takes a Design-Based Research approach, which supports a focus on the development of sustainable and scalable innovation in education settings.</td>
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PGR Conference Poster Presenters

Stella Wai-Wan CHOY, Trinity College Dublin, School of Education

'From the Field: Lessons Learnt In Developing a Novel Constructive Play Approach for Young Children with Anxiety'

Stella Wai-Wan Choy is a PhD Candidate at the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. She obtained a M.Soc.Sc.(Counselling)*Distinction in 2008 at The University of Hong Kong. She has been working as a Speech and Language Therapist for 19 years, added the roles of Play Therapist and Psychological Counsellor since 2008, part-time Lecturer at various universities since 2016, and Master thesis and Clinical Supervisor since 2017. Stella’s research interests include Child-Centered Play Therapy, inclusive education for children with anxiety and autism. She is registered at CORU, Association for Play Therapists (APT, US), Approved Counselling Supervisor of Hong Kong Professional Counselling Association (HKPCA), and LEGO®-Based Therapy facilitator (UK).

Deborah Odita, Trinity College Dublin

'How does creativity look like in a bilingual classroom'

Deborah (Debbie) Odita is a first year PhD student in the School of Education, Trinity College, Dublin. Under the supervision of Dr. Erika Piazzoli, Debbie explores how bilingual secondary school students experience creativity using multimodal means. Originally Nigerian, she has lived in Germany for over twenty years and is an English teacher at a bilingual secondary school in The Netherlands. She has three children and three grandchildren. Debbie enjoys reading and is very active in her local church.

Muhammad Zahid

I am PhD scholar in sociology at International Islamic University Islamabad Pakistan. Currently i am a visiting scholar at university of Bath UK. I am exploring factors affecting PhD completion and attrition in Pakistani universities. I am researching what social and institutional factors facilitate or obstruct PhD completion. It's a mixed method study with exploratory sequential design.

Saturday, 13th May 2023

TLRH: Multimedia Stations

Trinity Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin.
Unnikrishnan Madhavan, Trinity College Dublin

‘Communication and Neurocognitive Challenges to the Integration of Teaching and Research in Undergraduate Education’

I’m an academic supervisor in the transnational and transdisciplinary CHARM-EU joint Master Degree programme which includes 5 Universities spread across Europe. As part of this role I have been engaging in reflective practice in integrating challenge-based and research-based learning with programmatic assessment within CHARM. Further, my interest lies in developing curriculum models suitable for embedding Education for Sustainability in Engineering Education by integrating innovation frameworks like systems thinking. To this end I have developed a Trinity Elective- Innovative Frameworks for Circular Economy in Construction.

Aisling Duhy, Technological University Dublin

‘Disruptive Technology: Exploring Student Choice’

Orla Devine, University of Galway - Education Department

‘An examination of the development of epistemic agency in Irish primary school teachers through Galton’s lens.’

Orla Devine is a PhD student in the School of Education at Galway University. Orla has worked for over twelve years as a qualified primary school teacher. She has extensive experience teaching at all class levels. She also has significant experience working in Special Needs Education and has recently worked in a number of roles with Hibernia College including leading School Placement and Research Supervision. Orla has a master’s in educational policy, Practice and Planning from the Institute of Education in London, where she was working as a teacher at the time. Orla has also undertaken further professional development in terms of postgraduate Diplomas in Law in Education and Educational Leadership. Orla is currently undertaking a Doctorate on the subject epistemic agency and its development amongst Irish primary teachers.
Siobhán Canavan, School of Education, Dublin City University

'A Q Methodology Study of Early Childhood Teachers: Exploring the Effectiveness of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in Pre-Primary Schools.'

Siobhan Canavan has worked in special education for sixteen years in a school for children aged 4 - 18 years. She is an Adjunct Assistant Professor with the Centre for Education and Lifelong Learning, at the National College of Ireland, and an Academic Tutor with Kilkenny Carlow ETB teaching Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) programmes. She holds a BA (Hons) ECEC and MA in Teaching and Learning in Further and Higher Education. Siobhán is a 3rd-year doctoral student at Dublin City University and has been awarded the Institute of Education Postgraduate Bursary Award for 2022 at DCU. Siobhán has a huge interest in inclusive education across the continuum of education but particularly in ECEC. Currently, she is undertaking Q methodology research to explore the views and opinions of early childhood educators on implementing UDL in ECEC.

Karina Curley, School of Inclusive & Special Education, Dublin City University

'Exploring the degree to which students who are socioeconomically disadvantaged feel a sense of belonging in higher education, focusing on ethnic minorities, including migrants, refugees and students who have experience of the international protection process'

Karina Curley is the Widening Participation Officer in the Student Support and Development Service in Dublin City University (DCU). She is a qualified teacher, facilitator and life coach with extensive experience working with individuals and communities experiencing social, educational and economic disadvantage. She has worked across various educational settings in Ireland and abroad, including eight years as a teacher in Africa. Most of her experience as an educator has involved working with socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals and groups to support access and retention to all levels of education. These experiences and interactions have fostered her passion for inclusion and nurtured her belief in the value of education as a right and a passport to enhanced opportunities, employment and options in life. Karina holds an MA in Adult and Community Education and is currently a third-year student on the Doctorate of Education with the School of Inclusive and Special Education in DCU. Her research topic is an exploration of students’ sense of belonging in higher education.
Sarah Porcenaluk is a second-year PhD student from the School of Education at the University of Galway. She is originally from the United States, where she was a primary school teacher and an Instructional Mathematics Coach. She earned an MEd in K-8 Mathematics and Science Education from the University of Central Florida in 2019. Sarah’s research focuses on primary mathematics education and investigates how continued professional development can be structured to assist teachers in using evidence-based pedagogies. Her project is currently in its second year of implementation, in which she is collaborating with primary teachers to develop a toolkit to help them ask higher-level thinking questions to students in mathematics lessons. Outside of her research, Sarah has facilitated online professional development opportunities for teachers in Ireland through the Galway Educational Centre. She has also assisted with presenting workshops for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in the United States. She runs her own website, sarahporcenaluk.com, which aims to help teachers learn about best mathematics teaching practices and stay current with educational research.

My name is Dalal AlMuhaideb, a PhD researcher in Education department at National Ireland University (Maynooth) and I’m a Ph.D. representative for my department, Education. I work as an English lecturer at the Curriculum and Teaching Methodologies Department in the in Saudi Arabia. Besides my ten-year academic work, I have worked with Saudi Ministry of Education in a number of projects and supervised a number of English trainee teachers at intermediate and high schools in my home country, Saudi Arabia. I’m currently working on my thesis: “Exploring ‘Student voice’ and its Relationship to Learner Autonomy in EFL Teaching and Learning in Saudi Arabia. My research interests are: student voice, learner autonomy, teaching and learning in EFL classrooms.
Mary-Elaine Tynan, School of Education, Trinity College Dublin

"Toward an inclusive and participatory model of student voice prescribed text selection process for Leaving Certificate English"

Mary-Elaine Tynan is currently working as an Education Officer for the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). She has worked extensively in a variety of education contexts prior to her role in NCCA; as a secondary school teacher of English and French; a full-time advisor with JCT; a part-time facilitator for NIPT and PDST and as a lecturer and supervisor on the PME Programme in the School of Education, TCD. She has also authored books including Fire and Ice, the leading English textbooks for Junior Cycle English students. Mary-Elaine holds a BA, MA and PGDE from University College Dublin and is currently a first year PhD student in the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. Her PhD research is about student/learner voice and how this might be effectively integrated in the prescribed text selection process in Leaving Certificate English.

Emer Byrne, School of Education, Trinity College Dublin

'Is there a place in the Irish post-primary curriculum for sleep education'

Emer Byrne has been teaching in a DEIS school on Dublin's Northside for 18 years. During this time she fulfilled many roles including Maths teacher, yoga instructor and Home School Community Liaison. She has a keen interest in her students mental and physical wellness and embarked on her part time PhD research in the area of adolescent sleep in 2019.
Valentina Papandroulidaki, Trinity College Dublin. School of Linguistic, Speech, and Communication Sciences (Mphil in ELT)

'Beyond the Exam: Exploring adolescent students' foreign language enjoyment in EFL exam classes'

Valentina is an enthusiastic EFL teacher with a real passion for educating people. She holds a BA Honors degree in English Language and Literature from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and in 2022 she was granted a full scholarship by the same university to complete her M. Phil in ELT at Trinity College Dublin. This year she has served as Trinity’s Modern Greek teacher, and she has also participated in Trinity Inc Inclusive Practices Module. As a postgraduate student her main research interests revolve around the psychology of learning and teaching, and more specifically teachers’ and students’ wellbeing, motivation, and foreign language enjoyment. During the second semester of her studies, she co-founded a non-profit peer mentoring service that provided support to ELT practitioners. Prior to her MPhil, Valentina worked as a teacher for educational companies, public and private institutions across Greece and the UK, while in 2021 she took part as a teacher trainer in the PRELIM Project 2, helping a group of Professors from the University of Laos develop their English language skills and digital competencies. Valentina’s work on the art and science of learning has been featured in various ELT magazines, such as IATEFL YLTSIG and ELT News.

Derek Maher, Trinity College Dublin, School of Education

'Mathematics, Matilda and Mathematical Preparedness'

Derek Maher is a Deputy Principal and Teacher of Mathematics, and a Year 4 Doctorate of Education researcher in the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. His research explores the use of Transition Year to ‘mathematically prepare’ students in advance of Leaving Certificate Mathematics. His research areas include mathematics education, STEM education, curriculum development and cooperative learning. Derek has a BSc in Applied Mathematics & Biology, a PGCert and a PGDELM from Maynooth University; a a PDE, a PGCert and a MEd from Trinity College Dublin and a PGDip from UCD.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop 1: Inclusion As Process</th>
<th>Arts Building: Level 3, Room 3105</th>
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| **Inclusion in Education and Society (IES) Research Group**  
Dr Patricia McCarthy, Mary Quirke & Sarah Coughlan |  |
| The Inclusion in Education and Society (IES) research group was established within the School of Education in 2010. Underpinned by the values of inclusion in and of itself, the research group is based on the central principle of supporting inclusion across all facets of learning and different cultures at national and international level. |  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop 2: Arts Education: Innovations, Challenges, and Opportunities</th>
<th>Arts Building: Level 3, Room 3106</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arts Education Research Group (AERG)</strong></td>
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<td>AERG is an inter-disciplinary group and has strong links with art education organisations nationally and internationally. This collaboration not only facilitates the potential for lively and enriching inter-disciplinary exchange across a number of disciplines, but also serves to provide an important focal point for research in the area of the Arts in Education in wider society.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Workshop 3: The Viva Voce</th>
<th>Arts Building: Level 3, Room 3098</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Professor Andrew Loxley</strong></td>
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<td>This workshop focuses on the Viva Voce for Doctorate students. Covering what it entails, what to expect, and how to prepare for it. This milestone is an integral part of the PhD journey, and the workshop aims to equip attendees with the necessary knowledge and skills to navigate it confidently.</td>
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Dr Patricia McCarthy

Dr Patricia McCarthy graduated with a PhD from Trinity College Dublin in 2014. Her thesis focused on the educational experiences and transition opportunities of vision impaired/blind young people. Since 2013, Patricia has been a Visiting Research Fellow in the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin where she has been a Master thesis supervisor and an active member of the research community. A key component of her research to date focuses on UD(L), inclusion and participation of marginalised groups; Patricia’s ontological position as a disabled researcher has been instrumental in the development of her research and recent publications. She also serves as the PME Sociology of Education module coordinator and contributes to the Disability Rights Practicum Coordinator on the Arts, Science and Inclusive Applied Practice in the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities, Trinity College Dublin. Beyond her work at Trinity College Dublin, Patricia guest lectures on Inclusive Education, Inclusive Research Practices and Disability studies. She is the current Co-Chair of the Equality Committee - Staff Disability Working Group, TCD. Co-Convenor of the TCD Disabled Staff & Postgraduate Forum, and member of the NCSE Consultative Forum (2019-2022).

Mary Quirke

Mary Quirke is currently a PhD researcher in the School of Education at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, and a guidance practitioner. Mary has a passion and knowledge about guidance and inclusion in education due to her active engagement with learners, teachers, and employers in Ireland & across Europe. Mary’s primary research interests include UD(L), career guidance/educational guidance and counselling, professional practice development, and inclusion practices.

Sarah Coughlan

Sarah is a final-year PhD candidate in the School of Psychology (Trinity College Dublin) who is using bio-ecological and transactional frameworks to research the language development of preterm-born infants. In particular, Sarah is currently investigating the association between parent-child conversations and language development during infancy and toddlerhood. Alongside her PhD, Sarah teaches in the School of Education (M.Ed Psychology of Education course; Trinity College Dublin) and is an active member of the ‘Inclusion in Education and Society / Universal Design Think Tank’). Before starting her PhD, Sarah completed a BA in Psychology in Trinity College Dublin and an MSc in Human Cognitive Neuropsychology at the University of Edinburgh.

Professor Andrew Loxley

Professor Andrew Loxley has been in the School of Education Trinity College Dublin since 2002. A sociologist by trade, he teaches in the areas of research methodology and education policy. Amongst other activities he established in 2005 (and still co-ordinates) the professional doctorate in education and has undertaken research and written on doctoral education, higher education policy and the Irish knowledge economy.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aidan Raftery, Duleek BNS/DCU</td>
<td>Aidan Raftery is currently a primary school principal in Duleek Boys National School in Co. Meath. He has previously worked as a mainstream and special education teacher. Aidan is a graduate of the BEd from Mary Immaculate College and holds a Masters in Special Educational Needs (MSEN) from Dublin City University (DCU). Aidan is passionate about special and inclusive education with research interests in the area of inclusion, leadership and professional learning. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education at DCU and coordinates a local principal support group for principals of mainstream schools with special classes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan Feeney</td>
<td>I am a primary school teacher, Montessori Director, Special Education teacher, Mindfulness and Yoga teacher and currently a stay at home mum/carer for my three children, two of whom have additional needs. I have a special interest in Additional Needs Education, homeschooling, forest schooling, wellbeing and childhood mental health, anxiety in children, post pandemic aftereffects on children's education, learning and mental health. Need for a new approach to the school day/week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbie Matthews</td>
<td>Robert Matthews works as Advocate with Donegal ETB on the Youthreach programme. He has a Masters in Education from NUIG, MSc in Guidance, HDip in Computing and Post Grad Certificate in 21st Century Teaching from Trinity College Dublin. Robert has a keen interest in technology and was selected as the Irish representative for a European project exploring Digital Youthwork. He is particularly interested in how the use of technology can help engage educationally disadvantaged young people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mags Amond</td>
<td>Mags, a retired second level science teacher, recently finished her PhD, titled 'Desire Lines in Open Space :: An Exploration of the Teach Meet Phenomenon', using sensemaking methodologies of appreciative inquiry and interpretative phenomenological analysis with descriptive statistics. Other areas of interest are cooperative learning, open education practice, unconferences, and creative computational thinking in STEAM &amp; ASTEM activities. Mags chairs the steering committee for the Our Kids Code project, and is a volunteer ambassador for CESI.ie, the Computers in Education Society of Ireland.</td>
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<td>Michelle Kehoe, TCD</td>
<td>Michele Kehoe is a DEd candidate in TCD School of Education. Her research is exploring the relationship between emotional intelligence and attitudes and intentions to teach in an inclusive classroom among primary school teachers. Michele is an assistant professor in the School of Business in the National College of Ireland.</td>
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### Sylvia Healy, TCD

Sylvia Healy is a D.Ed. researcher in TCD’s school of education, researching the role of informal education in advancing microbiology literacy. She is also a microbiology lecturer in TU Dublin, where she is the principle investigator in a project on probiotics. She also teaches the Stem and Society module in Trinity's Arts, Science and Inclusive Applied Practice programme. She is a member of the Science and Society research group and has interests in science communication, public health and inclusive education among others.

### Ciara Mathews

Ciara Mathews is a PhD student in the School of Education, researching under the supervision of Prof. Conor Mc Guckin. Ciara’s work focuses on the educational messaging accompanying "digital parenting", with particular interest in the impacts of risk perception and parental self-efficacy on parental digital mediation approaches.

### Katharina Kurz, Maynooth University

I am a doctoral researcher, pursuing a joint PhD in Anthropology & Education at MU. The focus of my dissertation lies on the relationship between informal and formal educational settings, and builds on new developments in interdisciplinary discourses in the growing fields of public pedagogy, critical university studies, decolonial thought, theories of affect, relationality, embodiment and aesthetics. Methodologically, it combines traditional and digital ethnography with engaged educational research. It takes place in multiple locations, such as traditional higher education classrooms, community settings and libraries, pedagogic online settings, public arts-based spaces. This dissertation project contributes to recent scholarly movements concerned with democratic futures and the formulation of a new kind of politics (i.e. Latour 2018) that reach beyond classical conceptions that shape the modern practice of the humanities (Braidotti 2013). Findings will build on research exploring the pedagogic intersection of emerging cultural and social movements at national and transnational scale (e.g. the restorative justice/practice movement) and possibilities and limitations for institutionalising their underpinning principles.

### Dr Joseph Roche

Joseph Roche is an Associate Professor in Science Education at Trinity College Dublin. He is the Director of Research at the School of Education and leads the Science & Society Research Group which coordinates international research projects on science communication, informal learning, citizen science, public engagement, and higher education science. He is the Principal Investigator of GlobalISCAPE — a European Commission funded research project exploring the global state of science communication. Joseph has worked at NASA and was a Visiting Scholar at Harvard. He is a Fellow of Trinity College Dublin and is the author of the textbook “Essential Skills for Early Career Researchers”.
**Kate Smith**
*Trinity College Dublin*

Having completed my undergraduate degree in Education and Psychology in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, I am now working as a primary school teacher in a large urban DEIS school in Dublin. Additionally, I am completing my Masters of Education in Early Intervention in Trinity College Dublin. I have previously worked with Clare CYPSC in coordination with TUSLA and CAMHS to research and publish a school avoidance behaviour toolkit to aid and support teachers. However, my current area of research interest has moved away from school avoidance and is focusing instead on children with selective mutism. I am currently conducting field research and writing my dissertation on how teachers can use Aistear and play based methodologies to support the socialisation and verbalization skills for children with selective mutism.

**Manvi Jindal**
*UCD*

I am a second year PhD student in the school of economics at UCD being supervised by Prof. Benjamin Elsner. My topic of research is to identify and evaluate policies that reduce barriers and foster a deeper social and economic integration of people with disabilities. My research will focus on three important domains, namely schools, firms, and the state. (a) Schools: the early onset of disabilities, both intellectual and physical, can have a lasting impact on school performance. I will evaluate recent interventions providing special education to improve the attendance, performance, and well-being of young people with disability. Peer effects model and fixed estimation effects will be used along with differences in differences technique to establish causal inference for improved school performance and attendance based on in-group characteristics such as gender composition (b) Firms: what can firms do to foster the integration and participation of people with disabilities? I will evaluate the management culture and worker inclusiveness for improved worker loyalty and firm performance. (c) Social Security: I will exploit changes in eligibility thresholds of disability insurance schemes to assess the impact of insurance coverage on labour force participation and labour market outcomes of PwD. I have succeeded in publishing my paper “Locomotor, Hearing and Visual Impairment Evaluation for Assessment of Government Aid using Logarithmic Charts, Haryana” in the peer-reviewed Journal of Disability Management and Rehabilitation. It focused on policy-relevant analysis of the prevalence and regional disparities of different types of disability in Haryana (India).

**Dr Donatella Camedda**, TCD

Donatella Camedda is Assistant Professor in Education in the School of Education. She is the Co-ordinator of the Arts, Science and Inclusive Applied Practice (ASIAP) programme at the Trinity Centre for People with Intellectual Disabilities. Donatella’s research interests lie in the area of inclusive education, more specifically regarding teacher education for inclusion, inclusive practice for people with intellectual disabilities, equality and diversity, disability and intersectionality, educational policy. Her work involves creative methodology and cross-disciplinary approach.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tanya Zubrzycki, TCD</td>
<td>Tanya is an Assistant Academic Director at Dublin Business School and is in the final stages of completing her PhD at the School of Education, Trinity College Dublin. Her PhD topic relates to the shifting boundaries of academic work in the Irish technological higher education sector.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Cardiff</td>
<td>Principal researcher on the Inspiring Women education design research study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Murray</td>
<td>Senior manager in FE colleges in NI. Interested in current research in early childhood education and inclusive approaches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noha Maakafi, University of Galway</td>
<td>My topic of research is the impact of motivation on reading comprehension among Saudi students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keitumetse Mabole, Maynooth University</td>
<td>Interests: indigenous knowledge, marginalisation, lifelong learning, adult and community education</td>
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<td>Anastasia Kdodenko</td>
<td>Areas of interest: social justice education; community building; authentic assessment; research-oriented classroom; self-awareness and mindfulness approach to t&amp;l.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Dunne, TCD</td>
<td>Sarah Dunne is a TCD D.Ed researcher in her 4th year. Current research is focused on 3D printing musical instruments and generating digital archives.</td>
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<td>Aris Siswanti, University of Galway</td>
<td>Aris Siswanti is a research student at University of Galway. She is currently working on research on women writers' collectives. Her research interests are gender and literature, feminism, and popular culture. Her email address is <a href="mailto:siswantiaris3@gmail.com">siswantiaris3@gmail.com</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald Othieno</td>
<td>Impact of Universal Design for Learning based interventions on education of students with intellectual disabilities. Area of interest is inclusive education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anastasia Kiourtzoglou</td>
<td>PhD candidate Research proposal: Physical re-enactment as a tool for shared-decision making in a medical context.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariana Rios</td>
<td>Postgraduate student at TCD doing currently research on Learner Autonomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiona McKibben</td>
<td>PhD Research Officer, The School of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jingni Liang</td>
<td>Currently, I’m doing some research about intercultural communication competence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xi-Ning Wang TCD</td>
<td>Xi-Ning Wang is the final year PhD at school of education and school of computer science and statistics. She works on Extended Reality and Educational experiments. Her latest paper is just published on Computer &amp; Education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yingying Shangguan</td>
<td>Improvisation applied in second language classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hong Wu</td>
<td>The impact of immersion education on students</td>
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