

SCoTENS

THE STANDING CONFERENCE
ON TEACHER EDUCATION,
NORTH AND SOUTH

Thirteenth Annual Conference

#SCoTENS2015

TEACHER EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Opening Keynote address

5.30pm Thursday 15 October

Professor Kathleen Lynch, Professor of Equality
Studies, School of Social Justice, UCD

Closing Keynote address

3.30pm Friday 16 October

Professor Ken Zeichner, Professor of Teacher
Education, University of Washington, Seattle

THURSDAY 15 – FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2015, STRAND HOTEL, LIMERICK



TEACHER EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

PROGRAMME

Thursday 15 October 2015

Shannon Suite 2 & 3

- Chair: **Mr Tomás Ó Ruairc**, Director, the Teaching Council and co-Chair SCoTENS
- 4:00 pm Registration and refreshments
- 5.00pm Official Opening by the Northern Ireland Minister of Education, **Minister John O'Dowd, MLA**
- 5.30 pm Keynote address: **Professor Kathleen Lynch**, Professor of Equality Studies, School of Social Justice, UCD – **There is no view from Nowhere, Ideology, Social Justice and Teacher Education**
- 7.00 pm Drinks Reception on Level 6 Foyer to launch two SCoTENS reports:
1. **2014 SCoTENS Annual Report** launched by Professor Emeritus John Coolahan, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
 2. **Creative Classrooms: Imaginative and Innovative Teaching in Ireland**, launched by Professor Emeritus Harry McMahon, University of Ulster
- 7:45 pm Conference Dinner – City View Suite

Friday 16 October 2015

- Chair: **Professor Linda Clarke**, Head of School of Education, Ulster University and co-Chair SCoTENS
- 9:00 am SCoTENS Seed Funding Workshop: Led by **Dr Geraldine Magennis**, Senior Lecturer, St Mary's University College, **Professor Kathy Hall**, Head of School of Education, University College Cork and **Dr Conor Galvin**, Lecturer & Researcher, University College Dublin (optional workshop open to SCoTENS members interested in seed funding)
- 9.30 am Panel Discussion **Teachers need to be able to do more than talk about social justice** Chaired by **Professor Kathy Hall**
- Panel comprising:*
- **Dr Brian Cummins**, Head of Widening Participation, Stranmillis University College
 - **Dr Una O'Connor Bones**, Lecturer, Ulster University
 - **Dr Kevin Cahill**, Lecturer, University College Cork
 - **Ms Rena O'Shea**, Principal, Thomond Primary School, Limerick
- Professor Kathleen Lynch** to conclude session
- 11.00 am Refreshments
- 11.30 am Parallel Workshops

Workshop 1 – The Write to Right

Shannon Suite 2 & 3

Mr Séan Love, Executive Director, Fighting Words, Dublin
Ms Geraldine Wilkins, Development Officer, Fighting Words, Belfast

Fighting Words host daily free creative writing workshops for

primary and secondary schoolchildren. These workshops will demonstrate both models. They will be adaptations of our regular primary & secondary school workshop models in which the participants will create together the beginnings of a couple of stories. The workshop models have been adopted in similar creative writing centres in eight other EU countries and in several other countries around the world. The workshops are creative, productive, educational and good fun – for all ages.

Workshop 2 – Rural Schools in Multi-cultural Settings O'Brien Suite

Dr Geraldine Magennis, Senior Lecturer, St Mary's University College

Dr Maria Campbell, Lecturer, St. Angela's College, Sligo

Mr Kenneth Denny, Principal Scoil Iosa, Ballyhaunis

Mr Kevin Devlin, Principal, St Patrick's Primary School, Dungannon

Mr David Thompson, Principal, Dungannon Primary School

This workshop will be presented by two primary/national school principals via Skype Video Conferencing. Both schools contain a high percentage of newcomer pupils which presents many challenging as well as enriching and celebratory dimensions to educational provision within each context.

The speakers will outline their individual situations in terms of location, staff numbers, pupil enrolment and school environment as a means of providing the audience with a contextual backdrop. They will then discuss the strategies and share good practice that they and their staff have put in place to support newcomer children and their families in educational, social and emotional terms. They will also address the various difficulties they have experienced over the years in meeting the needs of such changing populations. Finally, with a look to the future, the principals will offer their thoughts on what is maybe next in the continued development of this aspect of educational life in modern day Ireland.

Workshop 3 – Teaching English as an additional language: perspectives from North and South Henihan Suite

Dr Barbara Skinner, Senior Lecturer, Ulster University

Dr Barbara O'Toole, Senior Lecturer, Marino Institute of Education

This workshop will present the current linguistic landscape in Ireland, North and South, and will examine some of the challenges and opportunities involved in teaching English to students from minority languages. Theoretical perspectives such as social interaction theory will be explored. The importance of a sociocultural / socio-political perspective on minority languages and cultures will be emphasised. Within these theoretical frameworks, specific teaching approaches will be presented, and the potential of these approaches in classroom settings will be discussed.

Workshop 4 – Collaborating for social justice in the primary school: lessons from a literacy initiative Wogan Suite

Ms Suzanne McCanney, Learning Support Manager, Middletown Centre for Autism



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Dr Áine Cregan, Senior Lecturer, Mary Immaculate College

Dr Carmel O'Doherty, Senior Inspector, Department of Education and Science

Ms Tracie Tobin, Principal, St Michael's Infant School, Limerick

Mr Tiernan O'Neill, Principal, Corpus Christi Primary School, Moyross

The workshop presentation will focus on the Limerick DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) primary schools' literacy initiative: its origins, implementation, and impact in schools. The workshop will focus on contemporary research on models of teacher education. Vignettes of practice from an Infant School will highlight the learning from and importance of implementing a balanced literacy framework. Lessons from a vertical co-educational school will emphasise the importance of teacher networks, collaboration and reflective practice.

12.45 pm Lunch

1:45 pm Workshops (as above)

3.00 pm Refreshments

3.30 pm Keynote address: **Professor Ken Zeichner**, Professor of Teacher Education, University of Washington, Seattle

How Teacher Education can Contribute to Social Transformation and Greater Justice

4:30 pm Final Q&A

5.00 pm Official Closing by the Republic of Ireland Minister for Education and Skills Minister, **Jan O'Sullivan T.D.**

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS AND CHAIRPERSONS



Mr Tomás Ó Ruairc was appointed Director of the Teaching Council in May 2012. He is also currently the Southern co-Chair of SCOTENS (the Standing Committee on Teacher Education North South). Previously, Tomás was in a senior position in the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht. Prior to that, he was Deputy CEO and Director of Education Services in

Foras na Gaeilge. He has considerable experience in the field of education, having served as a member of the NCCA (National Council for Curriculum and Assessment) from 2006 to 2009; Chair of its Languages Committee (Primary) in 2009; and as Head of Irish and Chair of the Academic Council in Froebel College of Education from 2000 to 2005. He was a teacher in Athlone Community College, Co. Westmeath. He has produced syllabus and teaching materials in the area of teaching of Irish to adults for UCD (Diploma in Irish) and Gael Linn. He has presented a number of papers on matters related to teacher professionalism, which can be accessed via <http://www.teachingcouncil.ie/promoting-teaching/education-papers.1585.html>



Minister of Education

Mr John O'Dowd MLA has been a member of Sinn Féin for over 25 years, spending 14 years as a Councillor on Craigavon Council and being elected, in 2003, as MLA for Upper Bann. Between 2007 and 2011 he was Sinn Féin group leader in the Assembly and served as Chair of the Public Accounts Committee before

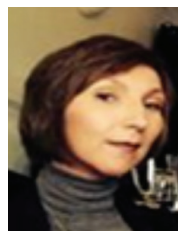
becoming a member of the Education Committee in 2008. On 16 May 2011 he was appointed Minister of Education in the north's Executive. Mr O'Dowd is married with three young children.



Professor Kathleen Lynch is Professor of Equality Studies at University College Dublin, where she also holds a Senior Lectureship in Education. Kathleen is currently Head of the UCD School of Social Justice. Her major area of equality research has been in education but for the last 10 years Kathleen has also been working on issues of egalitarian theory and practice with colleagues in Equality Studies at UCD and beyond. Kathleen has authored two significant works in this field: *Equality: From Theory to Action* (2004, 2009) and *Affective Equality: Love Care and Injustice* (2009). The latter was listed as one of Ireland's 100 best books in 2009 by the Irish Times. More recently, in partnership with Bernie Grummell and Dymphna Devine, Kathleen has also published a second edition of their *New Managerialism in Education: Commercialization, Carelessness and Gender* (2015). Professor Lynch also publishes extensively in academic journals and keynotes regularly on issues to do with social justice, inequality, and education. Her work reflects a lifelong interest in equality and social justice both at the level of theory and practice.



Professor Linda Clarke is Head of the School of Education in the Ulster University. She is also currently the Northern co-Chair of SCOTENS. Her primary teaching responsibilities in Ulster relate to initial teacher education and continuing professional development of teachers. After graduating with a BSc (Hons) (Geography and Education) from the New Ulster University in 1983, she taught in post-primary schools in Northern Ireland and in England (Comprehensive and Grammar, Private and Public Sectors) for c.15 years including 7 years as Teacher in Charge of Subject/HoD. In 1999 she completed her Masters in Education Technology and in 2008 her PhD; The development and analysis of a model of student teachers' online learning: a case study of PGCE Geography. Her research is predominantly focused on the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to enhance teaching and learning, Communities of Scientific Enquiry and Teacher Education, using Communities of Practice Theory as an analytical lens.



Dr Geraldine Magennis is a senior lecturer in Education and Literacy at St Mary's University College in Belfast. She teaches at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, including Master's dissertation supervision. Her particular interests concern the teaching of reading in the early years as well as the tutor/student relationships that form on the road to professional development and maturity. This has led her to create a number of extra-curricular, voluntary programmes for students, especially in the area of reading acquisition. In addition, she has long-standing connections to the American education system through her achievement of a Fulbright Teacher Exchange scholarship in 1996/97 and her continued involvement with the Irish Institute at Boston College.



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Professor Kathy Hall is Professor of Education and Head of the School of Education in UCC. She has published in areas of learning, inclusion and language. Her most recent book is *Networks of Mind: learning, culture, neuroscience* (Routledge, 2014) with Curtin and Rutherford.



Dr Conor Galvin is a University Lecturer & Researcher at UCD Dublin College of Human Sciences, where he teaches on various education, development practice, ICT and research programmes. Dr Galvin regularly speaks at conferences and events in Ireland and Europe on topics to do with the information society, education policy, the

politics of education, new literacies, and technology enhanced learning. In recent times, has keynoted Media & Learning, IADIS e-Society, LILAC, eTwinning, British Council, Apple Education and Microsoft Innovative School events. His research interests include the impact of new and emerging technology on learning and society, the politics of professionalism, literacy in an information age, and technology enhanced learning. Dr Galvin is Director of the UCD CHS Graduate School and of the Masters in Development Practice programme at University College Dublin and coordinates the Foundation in Sustainable Development Practice for the Dublin alliance. He also contributes to peace support education programmes at the UN School Ireland (UNTSI) where he directs field exercises for both humanitarian and military personnel preparing for PSO deployment. Dr Galvin holds The President's Award for Teaching Excellence at UCD Dublin. Before joining UCD Dublin he worked at University of Wales Swansea and University of Cambridge, England.



Dr Brian Cummins is Head of Widening Participation (WP) in Stranmillis University College and leads a number of projects aimed at raising educational aspirations within underachieving communities and also the promotion of 'Males in Teaching'. Brian coordinates the Stranmillis A3 Centre (established September 2015). This provides

a focus point within the University College for all statutory WP activity and additional community engagement associated with educational Aspiration, Attainment and Access attainment amongst socially disadvantaged individuals and communities. Brian teaches across the undergraduate BEd programme including the 'Working with Disadvantaged Pupils' module and also co-teaches on Social Disadvantage on the MEd degree.



Dr Una O'Connor Bones is based in the UNESCO Centre, School of Education at Ulster University. She is a primary teacher by training and has maintained an educational focus throughout her career, working as both a researcher and lecturer. Her interests can be broadly defined within a model of diversity and social inclusion that encompasses special

education, community ('good') relations, citizenship, community cohesion, the lived experience of children and young people, parental engagement and teacher education. Her most recent

work adopted an inter-disciplinary approach to explore educational outcomes for children through a range of perspectives, involving active engagement and knowledge transfer with a wide range of stakeholders. Whilst maintaining its educational origins, these outputs have inter-disciplinary relevance beyond the environs of schools to inform wider political, health, social, cultural and economic agendas.



Dr Kevin Cahill is a lecturer in the School of Education at University College Cork. Prior to this, Kevin taught English at second level for seventeen years. He was a SEN teacher whilst also working as an Associate for the Special Education Support Service (SESS).

Kevin lectures in Pedagogy, Curriculum Design, Assessment, Psychosocial Aspects of Learning, Sociology of Education, Sociology of Sport and Teaching Students with Special Educational Needs. Kevin qualified with a BA in English & History (1996), Postgraduate Diploma in Education (1997), Postgraduate Diploma in Learning Support (2003), Masters in Education (2005) and PhD in Education (2012). The focus of his PhD study was an ethnographic study on the interplay between social class, school choice and student identity. His research interests lie in the areas of student identity and social class, adolescent literacy development and special educational needs.



Ms Rena O'Shea is currently Principal of the newly amalgamated Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) Band 1 Thomond Primary School. Prior to this she was Principal of St Munchin's Girls' and Infants' DEIS Band 1 school for seven years and Home School Community Liaison Co

ordinator across three DEIS Band 1 primary schools for three years in Limerick city. Rena's areas of special interest are behaviour and holistic education. Her dream is for equality of opportunity for all children rooted in a belief in Social Justice.



Mr Séan Love is Executive Director of Fighting Words, a creative writing centre co-founded with author Roddy Doyle in January 2009. Fighting Words provides free tutoring and mentoring in all forms of creative writing for children and young adults, hosting 10,000 students every year. There are Fighting Words outlets in Dublin and Belfast. Sean was previously Executive

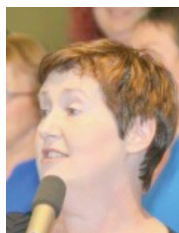
Director of Amnesty International Ireland from 2001-2008. He holds a BA in history and Masters in information studies.



Ms Geraldine Wilkins is Development Officer at Fighting Words Belfast since its inception in February 2015. Geraldine studied economics at LSE and Queen Mary College London. In a working career that has spanned the private, public and community sectors, Geraldine's interests have consistently addressed issues of social and economic justice and the generation of opportunities for children and young people through creativity.



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Dr Maria Campbell is a Lecturer in the Education Department at St. Angela's College, Sligo. Maria teaches on the undergraduate initial teacher education programme and teaches on and develops new postgraduate programmes. She has worked on a number of international research projects in Europe and Africa and her research interests and

publications focus on teaching and learning in multicultural contexts; the use of Educational Technology in teaching and learning; and the reconceptualisation of Initial Teacher Education.



Mr Kenneth Denedy began his career as a primary teacher in Co. Mayo in 1985. He subsequently taught overseas in a variety of locations including Kuwait, London and Saudi Arabia where he gained extensive experience and expanded his role to include coordinator and head of programmes. Since returning to Ireland in 1998 he has served as principal in two schools, completed his Masters in Physical Education and held the positions of Chairperson of the Active Schools Flag Initiative committee and of ICT tutor in Mayo Education Center.



Dr Barbara Skinner is a Senior Lecturer in TESOL at Ulster University in Coleraine. She is Course Director for the MA TESOL programme, member of the Research Institute for Social Sciences and has published research in the area of teacher mentoring, student teachers' classroom interaction, intercultural learning and threshold concepts in teacher education.



Dr Barbara O'Toole is a Senior Lecturer in education at Marino Institute of Education in Dublin. Her research interests include intercultural education, human rights education, and language education within a framework of critical multiculturalism. She is a director of the Master in Education Studies (Intercultural Education) at MIE, which is

accredited by Trinity College Dublin and which has been in place since 2012.



Ms Suzanne McCanney is the Learning Support Manager in Middletown Centre for Autism. Prior to this, she was Assistant Advisory Officer for Special Educational Needs in the Western Education and Library Board (WELB). Suzanne also worked as a Project Manager for the Cross-Border Parent Community and School Partnership

Programme; part of the focus for this programme was developing transition resources for children with autism. She has worked with children with autism in her capacity as a resource teacher for Special Educational Needs in the Republic of Ireland. Suzanne is a qualified teacher and has a Master's degree in Special Educational Needs Teaching.



Dr Áine Cregan was a Fulbright Scholar in the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she completed a doctoral program in Reading, Language and Learning Disabilities in 1989. She is a Senior Lecturer in English at Mary Immaculate College. She was a consultant to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) primary

Committee on English in the Revised Primary Curriculum, a member of the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) committee on Child Literacy and Social Inclusion, and is involved with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment as an advisor on an Early Years and Primary Language Committee. Her research interests are in the areas of Oral Language development and Educational Disadvantage.



Dr Carmel O'Doherty is a Senior Inspector in the Department of Education and Skills since 1998. Prior to joining the Inspectorate Carmel worked as a primary school teacher and as an education officer with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment. As an inspector Carmel has worked in various units including the Evaluation Support and Research

Unit where she contributed to research publications including Literacy and Numeracy in Disadvantaged Schools (2005). Her doctoral work focused on the experiences of change and reform on teachers' lives. She has worked with the Social Inclusion Unit in the Department, supporting the work in DEIS schools in Limerick city, and has been involved in this project since its inception.



Ms Tracie Tobin is Principal in St Michael's Infant School in Limerick. She graduated from Mary Immaculate College in 1996 with a BEd degree and in 2008 with a Graduate Diploma in Special Educational Needs. She is particularly interested in the Maths Recovery Programme and completed a Master's in Education on this topic in 2009. Tracie is particularly interested

in educational disadvantage and has worked in DEIS schools for all of her teaching career. She is currently Chairperson of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation's National Equality Committee. Tracie is also Chairperson of Bedford Row Family Project which is based in Limerick City. This fosters a strong link between her work in education to the community and outreach programmes offered by the Project to families affected by imprisonment.



Mr Tiernan O'Neill is a graduate of Mary Immaculate College. Following his completion of a BEd he began his teaching career in Corpus Christi Primary School, Moyross in 2001. Having spent over 14 years working in the school as a class teacher, home-school-community liaison co-ordinator and now Principal, Tiernan has seen at first

hand the devastating consequences of poverty and educational underachievement. His years spent working in Moyross coupled with the pivotal role the school plays in one of the most marginalised communities in the state has led to his involvement in various programmes and initiatives that are tackling the devastating effects of social exclusion. Tiernan is currently the chairperson of



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the Moyross Regeneration Committee and was a board member of the Limerick Regeneration Agency.



Professor Ken Zeichner, a former elementary teacher, is the Boeing Professor of Teacher Education at the University of Washington, Seattle. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Education, a Fellow in the American Educational Research Association (AERA), and a former Vice President of AERA. His recent publications

include "The Struggle for the Soul of Teaching and Teacher Education (Journal of Education for Teaching 2014), "Venture philanthropy and teacher education policy in the U.S." (Teachers College Record, 2015), "Democratizing Teacher Education" (Journal of Teacher Education, 2015) and "Teacher Education and the Struggle for Social Justice" (Routledge, 2009). His current work focuses on teacher education policy and engaging local communities in teacher education.



Minister for Education and Skills

Ms Jan O'Sullivan T.D. is a Labour Party TD representing the Limerick City constituency. A former pre-school and secondary school teacher Jan became involved in politics in Limerick through Jim Kemmy and the Democratic Socialist Party which later merged with the Labour Party. She was elected to

Seanad Éireann following the 1992 General Election and was subsequently elected to Dáil Éireann in a by-election in 1998. Jan has since been returned to represent the constituency in the following three general elections. In July 2014 she was delighted to be appointed as Minister for Education and Skills. Jan is married with two children.

SCOTENS COMMITTEE (2014-2015)

Professor Linda Clarke and Mr Tomás Ó Ruairc (co-chairs), Dr Noel Purdy, Dr Geraldine Magennis, Professor Teresa O'Doherty, Dr Eugene Toolan, Professor Anne O'Gara, Dr Conor Galvin, Professor Kathy Hall, Dr Pamela Cowan, Dr Carmel Gallagher and Mr David Duffy

SPONSORS

The Department of Education and Skills, Dublin; the Department for Employment and Learning, Belfast; the Department of Education, Bangor.

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CONTACTS

The Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South (SCoTENS)

The Secretary of the Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South is **Ruth Taillon**, and its Administrator is **Eimear Donnelly**. They can be contacted at the **Centre for Cross Border Studies**, 39 Abbey Street, Armagh, BT61 7EB
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