

Conference Participants

Monsignor James Cassin is Executive Secretary to the Education Commission of the Irish Catholic Episcopal Conference. In this role he works closely with school management bodies and liaises with school patrons throughout Ireland. He was previously President of St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny.

Further information: <http://www.catholicbishops.ie/education>

Roddy Doyle is an Irish novelist, dramatist and screenwriter. Several of his books have been made into successful films, beginning with *The Commitments* in 1991. He won the Booker Prize in 1993. Roddy grew up in Kilbarrack, Dublin. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from University College, Dublin. He spent several years as an English and geography teacher before becoming a full-time writer in 1993. In January 2009 he established in Dublin a creative writing centre, Fighting Words. Fighting Words is open to students of all ages, and a core principle is that all tutoring in creative writing is provided free.

Michael Finucane has been the Principal of O'Connell Secondary School since 1997, having previously taught Business and Accountancy in the school. He has been the leader of a dedicated team in the school which, in the late 1990's, began to cater for the educational needs of accompanied and unaccompanied minors from overseas. Initially these students came from the various countries of the African continent, but in more recent years many have come from different locations in Eastern Europe. At present, O'Connell School is the educational home to students of over 40 different nationalities. Michael has been to the forefront in leading the ongoing campaign seeking greater resource to cater for the specific language and learning needs of these pupils. In December 2007, Michael was the recipient of an award for the Afternoon Show on RTE for displaying a degree of kindness to pupils. The school was the winner of the National Action Plan Against Racism Award at the M.A.M.A. Media and Multicultural Awards this year.

Further information: <http://www.iol.ie/~oconnell/>

Dr Debbie Ging is a lecturer and researcher in the School of Communications in Dublin City University. Her work focuses on representations of gender and ethnicity in the media, and on reception studies / media audiences. She has a particular interest in the potential uses of media in the classroom for challenging racism, sexism and homophobia, and encouraging children to engage critically with the world, both real and mediated.

Further information: <http://www.someone-elses-shoes.ie/index.html>

Marie Griffin is Education Officer with County Dublin VEC. The County Dublin area has had a huge increase in the number of newcomer Irish in recent years and I have been involved in responding to that need, in terms of language and intercultural education, at both adult and second-level. County Dublin VEC has also been invited to become patron

of the first Community National Schools in the State and these are responding to the diverse needs of the new Ireland. I was formerly Principal of Deansrath Community College in Clondalkin which has a long history of catering for newcomer Irish students.

Professor Jagdish Gundara is Professor of Education, Emeritus at the Institute of Education, University of London; He is also UNESCO Chair for International Studies and Teacher Education at the Institute's Department of Learning, Curriculum & Communication. He has worked for many years on research and teaching in the area of multiculturalism and citizenship education.

Further information:

http://ioewebsserver.ioe.ac.uk/ioe/cms/get.asp?cid=16520&16520_0=5167

Dr. Miriam Judge is a lecturer on the multimedia programme in the School of Communications. Miriam previously worked in the audio-visual industry as a Corporate Video Producer/Director, researcher and scriptwriter and in the computer industry in a training and instructional design capacity. Her Phd work was in the area of ICT in Education and her research work to date has built on her expertise in that area.

Further information <http://www.someone-elses-shoes.ie/index.html>

John Lalor is a lecturer in the School of Education Studies at Dublin City University. Currently co-ordinator of the Diploma and Degree years of the part-time BSc in Education & Training John teaches at undergraduate level in the areas of Curriculum Evaluation, Curriculum Design and Implementation, Research Methods and Teaching Practice. At post-graduate level his work involves the supervision of Masters thesis students on the MSc in Education and Training, Leadership strand.

Further information: http://www.dcu.ie/info/staff_member.php?id_no=2216

Conor Lenihan T.D. is Minister of State with special responsibility for Integration Policy at the Department of Community, Rural, and Gaeltacht Affairs, the Department of Education and Science, and the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. He was elected to Dáil Éireann in 1997; formerly Senior Executive with telecommunications company. He was appointed Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs with special responsibility for Overseas Development and Human Rights in September 2004. Member of the Committee on Public Accounts from 1997 to 2004. Vice Chairman of the Committee on Enterprise and Small Business from 2002 to 2004. He was a member of the British/Irish Parliamentary Body from 1997 to 2004.

Further information:

<http://www.education.ie/home/home.jsp?maincat=17216&pcategory=17216&ecategory=44317§ionpage=12251&language=EN&link=link001&page=1&doc=39088>

Áine Lynch started her career as a trainee accountant but then changed direction and qualified as a general and pediatric nurse. After a number of years in nursing she went back to fulltime education where she completed an honours degree in Behavioural Sciences. She moved to Ireland in 1996 and worked for two years in the area of child psychiatry in the Eastern Health Board following which she went on to work for the ISPCC as the Childline Manager. She finished her nine years with the ISPCC as the Director of Services, and in August 2007 Áine was appointed CEO of the National Parents Council Primary. Áine passionately believes all decisions in schools should be child centered, without compromise and believes this will be best achieved by fostering positive relationships between parents and teachers, particularly between Parent? Associations and school leaders.

Further information: www.npc.ie

Dr. Carmel Mulcahy is Head of the School of Education Studies at Dublin City University where she has led research on value and education. Carmel was centrally involved in the development of the ethical core curriculum for Educate Together Schools and has published widely in this area. Since 2006 she has led the Irish phase of the EU Funded research project “Strategies for inclusion and social cohesion in Europe from education”.

Further information http://www.dcu.ie/info/staff_member.php?id_no=1354

Breda Naughton is the Principal Officer in the Integration Unit of the Department of Education and Science. She works closely with the Minister for Integration and with his office. The main focus of the work of the Integration Unit at present is the preparation of an Intercultural Education Strategy for Minister Lenihan, T.D. and for Minister O’Keeffe. The Strategy will be based on the findings of the consultation process held in the latter half of 2008 with the key stakeholders and on the findings of a number of research/evaluation projects.

Further information: www.education.ie

Tomás O Dúlaing B.Ed, M.Eq is principal of Griffeen Valley primary school, a multi-denominational, multi-ethnic school in Lucan, Co. Dublin. Tomás taught for 15 years in Dublin’s North Inner City and was principal of a special school for children with severe behavioural/emotional difficulties for 3 years. Prior to taking up his current post Tomás was principal of an all-Irish, interdenominational school in Dunboyne, Co. Meath.

Further information: <http://www.gveducate.org/>

Dr. James O’Higgins-Norman is a lecturer and Chair of Graduate Teacher Education in the School of Education Studies at DCU. For almost ten years James has worked on research in the area of pastoral care, wellbeing and equality in second level schooling. He has published on school ethos, bullying and faith based schools in secular society. In

2009 he will be a visiting scholar at the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he is working on the development of an anti-bullying programme for use in schools.

Further information: http://www.dcu.ie/info/staff_member.php?id_no=2379

Declan Tuite is a lecturer, researcher and currently has the role of Programme Chair of the BSc. In Multimedia in the School of Communications in Dublin City University. Declan has a background in production having worked in studio and live as a sound engineer, research and development in interactive TV and Web services before taking up a teaching role in DCU 2001. He is currently researching his PhD which is principally concerned with eParticipation and eInclusion. His teaching covers three main strands; multimedia authoring, new media and society & project development.

Further information <http://www.someone-elses-shoes.ie/index.html>