Overview

Mission:
By 2020 the Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection will be the leading national and international research agency for teacher professional development in the areas of culturally responsive school evaluation, quality assurance and inspection.

Nationally EQI has created an unrivalled research, publication and school support reputation over the last two decades. EQI is a multidisciplinary research group examining the impact of evaluation and inspection in education and related fields, based at the School of Education Studies, DCU.

EQI has a strong commitment to: researching evaluation as a theoretical field and the impact of changing conceptions of value, quality and achievement within education systems search; and developing evaluation capacity within Irish education.

EQI has played central role in the creation and maintenance of the Irish Evaluation Network (IEN) and it has developed an international profile in the field of cultural responsiveness in evaluation and assessment.

It is seeking to enhance its links with evaluators and welcomes the opportunity to collaborate across the full range of evaluation practice.

Research Areas

EQI researchers work in three thematic areas:

EQI

School Evaluation & Inspection

Researches methods of evaluating educational organisations and professionals, specifically: school inspection; and school and teacher self-evaluation.

EQI

Culturally Responsive Evaluation & Assessment

Researches educational evaluation and assessment which is methodologically and contextually culturally defensible. CREA was developed in partnership with the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

EQI

Irish Evaluation Network

The Irish Evaluation Network is composed of individuals interested or involved in evaluation in Ireland. EQI is home to a base of the Irish Evaluation Network.

Why work with us?

EQI works with numerous national and international organisations “leading public debate and providing critical analysis” in a number of areas:

Research

EQI currently researches in collaboration with leading international research centres and institutes including the UCL Institute of Education, the Centre for Educational Measurement Durham; Arizona State University; and the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

Capacity Building

EQI has aided capacity building for the Professional Development Service for Teachers, the Department of Education and Skills, the Department of Education (Northern Ireland) and the Inspectorates in both North and South of Ireland.

Programme development and research pathways

Staff from EQI have developed modules on evaluation that are delivered across all Initial teacher Education programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

With the development of the Institute of Education, DCU will become the most significant provider of research and education on the Island of Ireland. Working with EQI will enable you to work with international experts in the fields of evaluation, quality and inspection.

Centre Members

Prof. Joe O’Hara
Joe is the Director of the Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection and Head of the School of Education Studies.

Dr. Shivaun O’Brien
Shivaun is a lecturer in the School of Education Studies and Director of School placement for the undergraduate and post-graduate teacher training programmes.

Dr. Martin Brown
Martin has planned and led educational evaluations in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Europe and the Middle East.

Claire O’Rourke
Claire is a research assistant in the Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection.

Prof. Gerry McNamara
Gerry leads the Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Evaluation and is former Head of the School of Education Studies.

Prof. Michael O’Leary
Michael is Prometric Chair in Assessment at DCU and Director of Postgraduate Studies in Education at St Patrick’s College

Conor Sullivan
Conor is secretary of the Irish Evaluation Network and a technical officer in the School of Education Studies.

Prof. Stafford Hood
Stafford is Founding Director of CREA in the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Adjunct Professor at the School of Education Studies, DCU