

# HECA Research Conference Presenters



## Dr Mary Kelly

### Irish College of Humanities and Applied Sciences (ICHAS)

Mary has spent the last three decades, overseas, in international education, across a number of countries and systems, including within the International Baccalaureate, an educational system that focusses on inquiry, critical thinking, local and global concepts, and disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and transdisciplinary understanding. Mary has a number of postgraduate degrees including a Masters in Science Education from Curtin University in Australia, a Masters in Counselling and Psychotherapy from the Irish College of Humanities and Applied Sciences, and a Doctorate in Teacher Education from the University of Nottingham in the UK. She is also a certified Principal, Coach, and Mindfulness Trainer (MBSR). Mary has a range of research interests, including an interest in the ways in which personal

worldviews guide individual approaches to teaching, counselling, research, and other professional practices and lifestyles. She is also interested in how leadership styles influence organizational change, and the ways in which educational technology impacts teaching, learning, and wellbeing. Mary has published research studies in these areas.

## Orla Butler

### Griffith College



With a passionate interest in inclusive teaching and learning, Orla is based in Griffith College working across a range of areas including learning supports, lecturing and the strategic development of teaching and learning in the college.

Orla is Head of Learning Support at Griffith College and is also a member of the college's Education, Learning and Development group. A skilled academic developer, Orla brings her expertise in inclusive curriculum design and universal design for learning to enhance the learner experience, as lecturer and dissertation supervisor on the MA in Education, Learning and Development programme.

In 2021 Orla was selected as lead researcher, to represent HECA on the National Forum Next Steps project and as part of this work, authored the connected conversations report.

## Alice Childs

### Griffith College

As Learning Technologist Manager, I head-up the Digital Learning Department at Griffith College,



supporting academic staff and students in the area of digital/e-learning. I have extensive knowledge of the Higher Education HE sector in the UK and Ireland, as Associate Principle lecturer in Media, Journalism (UK) and senior lecturer in Teaching and Learning, gaining wide ranging experience in course design and development. With a background in broadcasting (BBC) and over a decade working in senior roles in HE, I specialise in blended programme delivery and pedagogical understanding. Emergent Learning technology, and e-learning are areas of special interest; and I am current chair of the college e-learning committee and a member of the Education and Learning Development (ELDG) core group at Griffith.

## Precious Nwanze

### Dublin Business School

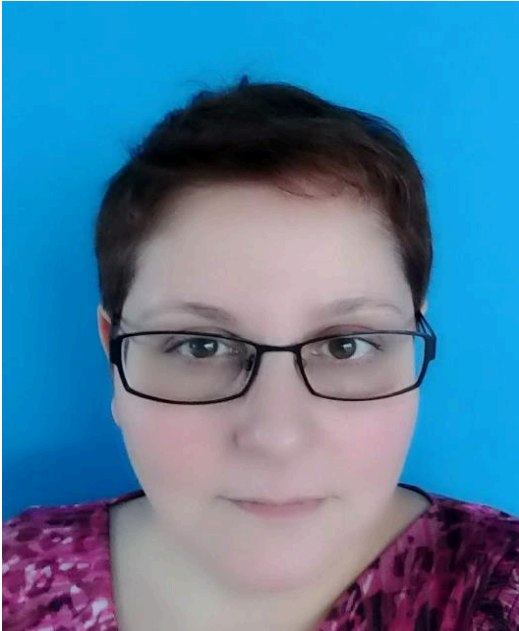


My name is Precious Nwanze. I am a full-time lecturer at Dublin Business School where I teach Economics. Currently, I am a 3rd year doctorate degree student at Technological University Dublin where my research topic is: Global Insights on the Impact of Economic Sustainability on Transforming Education.

I have an undergraduate degree (BA) in Global Business Management from Coventry University in the UK. In addition, I have an undergraduate degree (BSc) in Accounting from Madonna University in Nigeria and I have a master degree (MSc) in Accounting from Anglia Ruskin University in UK.

## **Debora Zorzi**

### **CCT College**



Debora Zorzi is College Librarian at CCT College Dublin. She is responsible for the strategic development and operational management of the College's Library Service. Debora has many years' experience as a librarian. Previous roles include Reader Services Manager at DBS Library. She has also lectured in Research Methods at Dublin Business School. Debora is a graduate of the MSc in Information and Library Management at Dublin Business School. She is Secretary of the CCT Academic Integrity Committee and a member of the CCT Quality Enhancement Committee. She represents the Library on the CCT Academic Council.

## **Tiernan O Sullivan**

### **Dublin Business School**



Tiernan is the Research Librarian at Dublin Business School. He is responsible for eSource, the college's institutional repository. His role involves information literacy training, research support, and reference services for students and faculty at the college. He is a managing editor of the DBS Business Review and Vice Chair of the DBS Research Committee.

**Ann Byrne**  
**Hibernia College**



Ann Byrne is the Digital librarian for Hibernia College. She has nearly 20 years' experience working in academic libraries and previously held positions in the Tallaght branch of TU Dublin (formerly ITT) and UCD. Ann has particular expertise and interest in the online library environment, information literacy, and academic writing and referencing. Ann is an active member of the HECA Library Group. She holds a primary degree and two post-graduate degrees from UCD, including her library and information studies qualification. As well as being a librarian, Ann is also a qualified and accreditation psychotherapist with primary and post-graduate qualifications from IICP.

**John Meegan**  
**Hibernia College**



John is a lecturer and researcher in Education with the School of Education, Hibernia College. John teaches and works across both the Primary and Post-Primary Professional Masters in Education (PMEP/PMEPP) programmes. On the PMEP programme, John is the lead lecturer for Digital Technologies for Teaching, Learning and Assessment. John also lectures on the Digital Technology in Teaching and Learning module on the PMEPP programme. Prior to his role with Hibernia College, John worked as a primary school teacher from 2011 to 2018 before taking a full-time secondment role with the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST). John spent three years working as an advisor on the digital-technologies team (primary) from 2018 to 2021. John's research interests include narrative and inquiry research, creative methodologies, future skills, initial teacher education, and digital technologies for teaching, learning and assessment.

## Liana Quigley Araujo

**St. Nicholas Montessori College of Ireland**



Liana Quigley Araujo is a primary school teacher with over 7 years experience working in the special education sector. She graduated from St. Nicholas Montessori College of Ireland in 2021 with a BA Honours in Montessori Education and also holds a BA Honours in Psychology and a Postgraduate Diploma in Special and Additional Learning Needs. Liana has a strong interest in sensory processing and behavioural psychology, drawing from these to create a supportive learning environment for her pupils. Her research investigates how teachers are able to support the sensory differences in pupils with autism spectrum disorders, highlighting the impact on teaching and learning as well as the need for greater training and collaboration between educational professionals to better support pupils. Liana hopes to continue to spread awareness of sensory differences and to advocate for those with additional needs through her online community and beyond

## Kristin Finkbeiner

**St. Nicholas Montessori College of Ireland.**

Kristin has obtained her doctorate in Cognitive Psychology from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, 2017. She has recently completed her MA in Counselling and Psychotherapy in ICHAS, Limerick and is a Graduate Member of the Psychological Society of Ireland. Kristin has also completed a postgraduate diploma in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and relevant certificates in Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Informed Practice, Hypnotherapy, Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction and Jungian Archetypes.



Kristin is available for both short-term (solution focused) and long-term (depth) work with adult individuals.

The techniques that Kristin uses to work with clients include cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectic behavioral therapy, acceptance and commitment therapy, internal family systems, person-centered psychotherapy, and mindful self-compassion based approaches. She is currently a Lecturer in the Psychology department at St. Nicholas Montessori College of Ireland.

## Gabriel Bueno Pimentel Borges

### CCT College



Gabriel is an Engineer with more than 8 years of experience in Inventory Management and Supply Chain. Academically, Gabriel dedicated his studies toward accessibility. His final work for his BEng degree assessed the accessibility of a new building from the campus where he studied, listing suggestions the Federal Technological Education Center should adopt to adequate the building to the national accessibility standardization. For his Master's in Data Analytics in CCT College Dublin, Gabriel took a different path from civil engineering by diving into computer vision studies, proposing an algorithm to recognize signs of Lámh language, a sign language from Ireland which supports people who face difficulties to communicate verbally. The final chosen machine learning model was able to recognise 8 signs very well and other 6 with reservations, being a very important first step to create

a tool for communication partners to learn and improve their skills. Gabriel's dissertation, "The use of deep learning solutions to develop a practice tool to support Lámh language for communication partners", was recently shortlisted in the AI Awards Ireland 2022 in the category 'Best Application of AI in a Student Project'.

## Dr Muhammad Iqbal

### CCT College

Muhammad Iqbal has been working as a lecturer at CCT College Dublin's ICT faculty since 2011.

Muhammad had previously been a research student at Dublin City University, where he graduated in 2009



with a PhD in numerical modeling and simulations of discharge plasmas. Later, he was appointed as a post-doctoral researcher at Dublin City University for the Precision Strategic Research Cluster project, which focused on the development of innovative algorithms, object-oriented programming, fluid dynamics, mathematical modeling, and data analysis of complicated plasma processes. From 2014 to 2020, Muhammad worked as an associate lecturer in the school of computing at National College of Ireland. Recent areas of interest for Muhammad's research include software development & models, programming paradigms, data analytics, and deep learning algorithms. In 2021, Muhammad's received a Teaching Hero award from the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning as voted for by CCT students.

**Dr Michael Kane**  
**Dublin Business School**



Dr Michael Kane studied English and German literature at University College Dublin and completed his doctorate in comparative literature at the University of Bern in Switzerland. He is the author of two books: *Modern Men: Mapping Masculinity in English and German Literature 1880 – 1930* (Cassell, 1999) <https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/modern-men-9780304703104/>) and *Postmodern Time and Space in Fiction and Theory* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020) <http://www.palgrave.com/9783030374495>).

He has also written several articles and translated literary and academic texts for publication. He is currently working on an article on short works by Kafka and Beckett. His research interests include cultural theory, modernism, modernity, postmodernity, fiction, Irish literature, German literature, comparative literature, gender studies, literary translation.

**Patrick Sneyd**  
**CCT College**



Patrick Sneyd (B.Sc, M.A, M.Sc, MMII Grad): The early part of my career was in audience research for media organisations including RTE and The Irish Times. Over the past decade, I have held several data analyst roles, across the media, insurance and government sectors.

I have recently completed a M.Sc. in Data Analytics in CCT where my main research area focused on the analysis of music via neural networks.

## Amy Hayes

### Dublin Business School



In 2016, I received my BA in History and Ancient Classics from Maynooth University. This year, I completed my MSc in Information and Library Management from Dublin Business School, graduating with a First Class Honors. My thesis for this course focused on the perceptions of open educational resources in higher education in Ireland. I am currently working as a Library Assistant in IBAT College, Dublin. Nadia O'Brien

## Nadia O'Brien

### Griffith College



Nadia O'Brien holds a BA in Modern Languages and Classics and two level 9 postgraduate teaching qualifications. In 2022, Nadia completed an MBA in International Business, earning a first-class honor's distinction.

Nadia joined Griffith College in 2015 as a lecturer and has since worked in a variety of roles and departments across the college. In her current role as Quality Assurance – Project Manager, Nadia works closely with the Quality Assurance and Enhancement Department (QAED) and the college's faculties and departments to support and enhance the operation of the college's QA systems.



## Michael Kiely

Dublin Business School



Michael Kiely is an academic and researcher specialising in research into association football, pre-codified football in Ireland, the mapping of Irish Women's Football and generally in the interactions between sport and society.

## Dr Andrew Brown

Dublin Business School



Dr Browne has studied at third-level in the United States and Europe. He finished his BA at St. Patrick's College DCU with a double first-class honours and received prizes for the highest marks in History and English, the first time that was accomplished. At Trinity College Dublin he was awarded a first-class honours for his MPhil dissertation on Samuel Beckett. Dr. Browne was then awarded a highly competitive Doctoral Teaching Fellowship at NUI Galway where he wrote his PhD dissertation on Thomas Kinsella. He was later awarded an Irish Research Council Fellowship and an Arts Faculty Write-up Fellowship. Dr. Browne became an Information Professional through a first-class honours MLIS at UCD.

Dr Browne has lectured at DBS for the last ten years and has also lectured and tutored at NUI Galway, UCD, and Maynooth University. He currently coordinates the Business MBA Programmes and the 3BA Capstone Programme. He was the Course Director for the Kilkenny First Arts, Maynooth University's English Department programme. Dr Browne has published essays

and poetry in the US, Europe and Australia. He is an active Humanities and Social Sciences researcher with broad interests. Dr. Browne worked with colleagues in UCD to develop The Research Accelerator Project which involved the research and development of a 3rd level research programme utilising open access resources. This became the inspiration for a project at DBS which developed a Research Accelerator for Level 9 students built on similar open access principles. Dr Browne, as the Practice Research Coordinator, works across the college to encourage research and collaboration both within and without DBS. Dr Browne is actively continuing research into Academic Integrity, the poet Thomas Kinsella and the novelist John Banville.

## Rita Day

### Dublin Business School



Rita Day is the Academic Director of Business, Law, and Marketing and Dublin Business School.

Rita has been the Academic Director of Dublin Business School since December 2019. Before working at DBS Rita worked at St. Mary's University College (a College of Queen's University, Belfast) and in Southampton Solent University. She holds a Master of Education (MEd) and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Ulster University and is a doctoral candidate for the Doctor of Education (EdD) at the University of Winchester, and is a Senior Fellow of Advance HE.

## Marie O Neill

### CCT College



Marie O' Neill works as Head of Enhancement and Head of the Centre for Teaching and Learning at CCT College Dublin and is a member of the CCT Management Team. Her role involves working with institutional staff to implement enhancements to teaching, learning and research activities. Previously, Marie worked as a professional librarian in the libraries of the Technological University Dublin, University College Dublin, the Oireachtas, the Welsh Office, King's Inns and Dublin Business School. Marie is a Council member of the Library Association of Ireland as well as a member of the Association's Library Publishing Group. She is also active in the Special Interest Group for Library Publishing of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) and recently spoke in IFLA's World Library Congress 2022 on library publishing and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

## Michelle Hall

### St. Nicholas Montessori College of Ireland.

Special Education Teacher in a DEIS Band 1 mixed gender urban school since 2021. Worked as a Special



Needs Assistant for 12 years in mainstream primary schools, special classes for ASD and special school settings.

Qualifications:

- First Class Honours BA in Montessori Education (St. Nicholas' Montessori College of Ireland)
- BA in Applied Early Childhood Studies (DKIT)
- Advanced Diploma in Special Educational Needs (Leeds Beckett University).
- Michelle received a Certificate of Merit from HSRA in 2021 for a digital research poster of her dissertation Play and Autism in Irish Primary Schools.

She also works as a County Councillor is currently the Mayor of Drogheda and Chairperson of East Border Region Ltd.

## Irene O'Dowd

### Hibernia College



Irene O'Dowd is a Researcher in Digital Learning at Hibernia College. She is responsible for coordinating research activity in Hibernia's Digital Learning Department. She has Masters degrees in education and international relations and has published and presented research nationally and internationally. She is a member of the HECA research committee.

Niamh Brennan is DBS Lecturer in "Open Librarianship" and in "Professional Development & Organisational Awareness" (MSc Information and Library Management). She is also Programme Manager of TCD Research

## Niamh Brennan

### Dublin Business School



Informatics in Trinity College Dublin, where she works on research reporting, evaluation, impact, research skills training and open scholarship via Trinity's CRIS (Current Research Information System) and its integrated institutional repository, TARA (Trinity's Access to Research Archive). She is course coordinator of Trinity's compulsory online doctoral students' course 'Research Integrity and Impact in an Open Scholarship Era'. Niamh manages Ireland's National Open Access Desk in TCD as P.I. and Irish partner in OpenAIRE (EC FP9, Horizon2020 & Horizon Europe). She was a member of the European Commission OSPP Expert Group on Skills for Open Science and co-authored its report and she also co-wrote Ireland's 'National Framework on the Transition to an Open Research Environment'. She is a member of Irish Open Access Publishing (IOAP) and is technical lead on a new (November 2022) NORF-funded project investigating the feasibility of Diamond Open Access publishing for Ireland.

## Conor Murphy

### Dublin Business School



Conor has been deeply involved in filmmaking and film lecturing over the last two decades in Ireland and across Europe.

Prior to his current role at DBS, he lectured at UCD and the National College of Art and Design (NCAD), in addition to collaborations with Staffordshire University and University of West of Scotland (UK).

From 2018 – 2021, Conor was a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Paris 3, La Sorbonne Nouvelle (France). See IMDB link for filmmaking industry credits. <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3334788/>

- M.A. in Film Studies and Screen Production (UCD)
- M.Ed (University of Sheffield)
- B.A. (UCD)
- Former Chair of Filmbase (Dublin)
- Founder Member of Screen Talent Europe (EU and EFTA)

Since 2014, Conor has been the Editor-in-chief of the Open Access online journal "Studies in Arts and Humanities" ([www.sahjournal.com](http://www.sahjournal.com)).

Research interests include:

- Emerging and Independent Film Production
- Experimental and Avant-garde Film
- Developing Digital Humanities
- OA (Open Access) Publishing