

IRISH SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION

E-NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 35, May 2015

Welcome to the 35th edition of the Irish Social Policy Association (ISPA) e-newsletter. The newsletter is published four times a year and highlights upcoming conferences, events, publications and other developments in the broad social policy area. Contact details are included below.

CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

1. ISPA News
2. Upcoming Events
3. Recent publications
4. Careers in Social Policy
5. Contacting the ISPA Newsletter
6. Membership of ISPA
7. ISPA History and Committee members
8. Joining/Leaving the ISPA Mailing List

1. ISPA NEWS

This is the 35th e-Newsletter of the Irish Social Policy Association. There will be four e-newsletters throughout the year. The following are the scheduled dates which you will receive your copy via email:

Mid-September
Mid-November
Mid-February
Mid-May

ISPA Social Policy Conference September 18th and 19th, Dublin

The ISPA will hold a research conference in Dublin on the 18th and 19th of September. The conference theme will be '***Social Policy in Ireland: past, present and future***'. The conference is intended to provide a forum for the presentation of recent and ongoing research on all aspects of social policy issues. A Call for Papers will be issued shortly and a full agenda will be available in July.

ISPA Spring 2015 Seminar

On 22nd April 2015, The ISPA held a Seminar entitled ***Community Sector and Social Partnership 1987-2008, Analysis & Prospects*** presented by Joe Larragy

(Maynooth University). Further details on this event and previous Seminars are available from our website www.ispa.ie

Queries regarding the newsletter, any comments, suggestions or submissions for future editions please email newsletter@ispa.ie DISCLAIMER: The ISPA does not take responsibility for advertising events. If you would like an event to be advertised it must be received one week before publication

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2. UPCOMING EVENTS

- **UPCOMING CONFERENCES**

MOTHERHOOD AND CULTURE INTERNATIONAL AND INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

Theme: Motherhood and Culture: Identity, Diversity and Values

Date: 15th-17th June 2015

Venue: Iontas Building, Maynooth University

Other Details: For more information please go to maynoothuniversity.ie

THIRD MAYNOOTH INTERNATIONAL YOUTH STUDIES CONFERENCE

Theme: Youth on the Move?

Date: 15th-17th June 2015

Venue: Maynooth University

Other Details: Hosted by the Centre for Youth Research & Development, Maynooth University Department of Applied Social Studies, in association with the Research Committee on Youth of the International Sociological Association and the Research Network on Youth and Generation of the European Sociological Association. For more information please go to maynoothuniversity.ie

ESRI BUDGET PERSPECTIVES CONFERENCE

Date: 17th June 2015, 8.30am-12.45pm

Venue: ESRI, Dublin 1

Other Details: The macroeconomics session will include a presentation by David Duffy and Kieran McQuinn from the Quarterly Economic Commentary team, and a panel session on current issues. In the microeconomic session, tax and welfare options will be explored using SWITCH, the ESRI tax-benefit model. The final paper will then examine the extent to which recent initiatives have helped to make work more financially attractive.

- **UPCOMING SEMINARS/ LECTURES**

UCD SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCE AND THE GEARY INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY PUBLIC LECTURE

Theme: Active Labour Market Policies: Responses to Unemployment in Sweden & Ireland

Speakers: Dr. Renate Minas, Stockholm University, Prof. Philip O'Connell, Director, Geary Institute for Public Policy

Discussant: Dr. Kasey Threadwell-Shine, Department of Social Protection

Chair: Dr. Mary Murphy, NUI Maynooth

Date: Wednesday May 27th 2015, 4-6pm

Venue: James Connolly Hall, Liberty Hall, Dublin 1

Other Details: For more information about this event please go to www.ucd.ie

NERI SEMINAR

Theme: The Long-Term Effects of Population Ageing and Skill Upgrading on European Income Distributions

Speakers: Dr Karina Doorley, LISER (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research)

Date: 3rd June 2015, 4pm

Venue: INTO Learning Centre, 38 Parnell Square, Dublin 1

Other Details: Please see www.nerinstitute.net for further details

MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY RESEARCH SEMINAR

Theme: Sustaining Resilient Families, Households and Communities

Date: 28th June 2015, 10.30am – 4pm

Venue: Conference Rm 2.31, NIRSA, Iontas Building, North Campus, Maynooth University

Other Details: Please see maynoothuniversity.ie for further details

ESRI SEMINAR SERIES

Theme: The Effects of Financial Vulnerability and Mothers' Emotional Distress on Child Social, Emotional and Behavioural Wellbeing: a Structural Equation Model

Speaker: Dr Morag Treanor (University of Edinburgh)

Date: 11th June 2015, 3.30pm

Venue: ESRI, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2

Other Details: Please see www.esri.ie for further details

If you have a submission or suggestion on any upcoming events, seminars, presentations, launches or conferences and would like them to be included in a future edition, please email newsletter@ispa.ie DISCLAIMER: The ISPA does not take responsibility for advertising events. If you would like an event to be advertised it must be received one week before publication

3. RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- NESC (2015) *Ireland's Private Rental Sector: Pathways to Secure Occupancy and Affordable Supply*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nesc.ie
- O'Donnell, T.A. (2015) *Employment Impacts and the New Minimum Wage Research*, NERI ResearchinBrief. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- Collins, M. (2015) *Taxes and Income Related Taxes Since 2007*, NERI Working Paper Series. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
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RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE ESRI:

- Russell, Helen / Maître, Bertrand / Watson, Dorothy *Trends and Patterns in Occupational Health and Safety in Ireland*, ESRI Research Series 40

- Watson, Dorothy / Maître, Bertrand *Fuel Poverty: a Matter of Household Resources or a Matter of Dwelling Efficiency?* ESRI Research Bulletin 2015/2/3
- Lunn, Pete / Kelly, Elish *Participation in School Sport and Post-School Pathways*, ESRI Research Bulletin 2015/2/4
- Banks, Joanne / Maître, Bertrand / McCoy, Selina *Insights into the Lives of Children with Disabilities: Findings from the 2006 National Disability Survey* ESRI and the National Disability Authority

For details on any of the above ESRI publications and a comprehensive list of all recent ESRI publications please see www.esri.ie

UPCOMING/RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE POLICY PRESS (UK)

- *Dark secrets of childhood: Media power, child abuse and public scandals* (Fred Powell, Margaret Scanlon). This ground-breaking book explores the relationship between the media, child abuse and shifting adult-child power relations which, in Western countries, has spawned an ever-expanding range of laws, policies and procedures introduced to address the ‘explosion’ of interest in the issue of child abuse.
- *Ethnic identity and inequalities in Britain: The dynamics of diversity* (Stephen Jivraj, Ludi Simpson). This important book is the first to offer in-depth analysis from the last three UK population censuses focusing on the dynamics of ethnic identity and inequalities in contemporary Britain, with contributions from experts based at or affiliated to the Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity. Further details on the above publications are available from www.policypress.co.uk
- *Resilience in the post-welfare inner city: Voluntary sector geographies in London, Los Angeles and Sydney* (Geoffrey DeVerteuil). Moving beyond theoretical notions of ‘resilience’ this is the first book to offer a conceptual and empirical approach to exploring and comparing the process of resilience across service ‘hubs’ in three complex but different global inner-city regions: London, Los Angeles and Sydney.

If you wish to have a recently published book/paper listed in this section of future newsletters please e-mail details formatted as above to newsletter@ispa.ie DISCLAIMER: The ISPA does not take responsibility for advertising events. If you would like an event to be advertised it must be received one week before publication

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4. CAREERS IN SOCIAL POLICY

FLAC: LEGAL AND POLICY OFFICER

The primary purpose of this role is to undertake research and policy analysis and to implement FLAC’s policy and campaigns, with a focus on Access to Justice, Civil Legal Aid and Social Welfare. This is a full-time position for two and a half years from 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2017.

Specific Duties

The Legal and Policy Officer will be employed to undertake legal and policy work in

the areas of Access to Justice, Civil Legal Aid and Social Welfare Law. The Legal and Policy Officer will report to the Director General and will work under the supervision of the Director General.

1. To conduct research and assist in the formulation of policy in areas of law which are particularly relevant to FLAC's work on behalf of marginalised and disadvantaged groups, with a particular focus on access to justice, civil legal aid and social welfare.
2. To develop and implement FLAC campaigns with a particular focus on access to justice, legal aid and social welfare law reform, including liaising with FLAC partners, lobbying and advocacy, and from time to time representing FLAC at national and international fora.
3. To support the Senior Solicitor and Director General on social welfare and legal aid casework.
4. To provide second-tier advice and specialist information to NGOs and CICs on the areas of access to justice, civil legal aid and social welfare law and to support FLAC's telephone information line team with specific enquiries.
5. To prepare legal information materials and to provide training to Citizens Information Centres and other NGOs on Civil Legal Aid and Social Welfare Law.
6. To comply with FLAC's Health and Safety policy and procedures
7. Any other duties as may reasonably be required from time to time in connection with this position.

Requirements for this position

Qualifications

Relevant degree

Experience

- Experience in the areas of Social Welfare Law and/or Access to Justice
- Experience of research and campaigns

Other

- A commitment to human rights and social justice issues
- Strong organisational, analytical, administrative and IT skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

To apply for this position please send CV and covering letter by email to recruitment@flac.ie or post to FLAC, 13 Lower Dorset Street, Dublin 1 by Friday 5th June at 5pm. Interviews will take place on Monday 15th June 2015.

P: (01) 8873600; F: (01) 8745320; E: info@flac.ie; W: www.flac.ie

NORTH DUBLIN HOME CARE: RESEARCHER

North Dublin Home Care is a not-for-profit organisation that delivers high quality care and support to service users living in the community to promote and encourage their independence. We provide a service that is driven by community need and in line with all relevant requirements, regulations and legislation.

We are currently seeking a researcher to facilitate and support the implementation and evaluation of projects and initiatives related to research, evaluation and audit. Collaboration will be necessary with all relevant health and social care professionals to support and progress projects. The researcher will have to clearly identify aims and objectives to support consistent, measurable improvements that relate to the project outcomes.

Key Responsibilities:

The role will require the researcher to:

- Design methodologies to evaluate programmes through the use of qualitative and quantitative data;

- Identify strengths, limitations and cost-effectiveness of projects;

- Create and deliver project work plans and revise as appropriate to meet changing needs and requirements;

- Analyse the data generated through research and evaluation processes;

- Present information that measures performance against agreed outcomes and targets;

- Produce reports and papers regarding research projects and findings, including the preparation of progress reports for funding bodies as required;

- Develop and maintain strong working partnerships within internal and external stakeholders such as the Health Service Executive and other not-for-profit companies as required;

- Support the dissemination of research by attending meetings, assisting in the preparation of reports and publications and delivering presentations;

- Monitor and evaluate the objectives and outcomes of projects undertaken;

- Organise and manage own workload and prioritise allocated project aims to ensure deadlines are met.

- Supervise and mentor Research Assistant(s) if applicable.

Knowledge/Experience

Essential:

A primary degree in a relevant health-related discipline such psychology, health or social science.

Relevant experience in an administrative role managing complex projects or tasks for a variety of stakeholders.

Ability to work autonomously.

Excellent organisational skills.

Ability to multitask and work on several of projects simultaneously.

Ability to build and maintain strong working relationships in a multidisciplinary environment.

Excellent report writing and verbal communication skills.

Experience of conducting qualitative fieldwork.

Experience in analysis of qualitative and quantitative data.

Knowledge of the structure of the Irish Health and Social Care services.

Demonstrated competence in core ICT functions including MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Full clean driving license.

Desirable:

A masters' degree in a relevant health-related discipline, such as psychology or social science;

Previous experience in Irish Health and Social care setting;

Experience in, or knowledge of, the not-for-profit sector in Ireland;

Good understanding of ethics in research.

Salary:

This is a full time permanent contract subject to funding.

Salary €37000 per annum. Applicants must be available for interview on the 2nd June 2015 at a time allocated by the company.

To Apply:

Send a cover letter along with your CV by email to debbie.rooney@ndhc.ie before closing date of 25th May 2015 at 5pm.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL POLICY TCD: PHD STUDENTSHIP

Applications are invited for a PhD studentship in the School of Social Work and Social Policy. This studentship is open to current students on the full-time Ph.D.

Register, or new entrants for entry in September 2015 or March 2016. The postgraduate studentship fully covers EU or non-EU fees and an annual maintenance of €8,000 for three years.

Eligibility Requirements:

Applications are invited from candidates who hold a masters degree, or a primary degree (1st class or 2.1 honours) or equivalent.

Application process:

Please complete the attached application form for consideration of this award. Please submit one electronic version to Ms Laura Cusack at lcusack@tcd.ie and one hard copy to the address below **by 12 Noon on Friday, May 29th 2015.**

Ms Laura Cusack, School of Social Work & Social Policy, Room 3063 Arts Building, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2.

GENERAL CAREERS INFORMATION

The following websites are a good source of information on career opportunities in the social policy and research/social policy related area:

www.activelink.ie/ce

www.publicjobs.ie/ce

www.irishjobs.ie

Also, many of the main third level institutions offer a wide range of social policy and research opportunities. We hope that future editions of the ISPA e-Newsletter will contain further lists of current vacancies in the field of social policy.

If you have a submission or suggestion on any current vacancies and would like them to be included in a future edition, please email newsletter@ispa.ie
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5. CONTACTING THE ISPA

The following are the contact details of the association. We strongly encourage communication by e-mail.

ISPA Secretary Eoin Carroll: secretary@ispa.ie
Newsletter: newsletter@ispa.ie
Treasurer: treasurer@ispa.ie

PLEASE NOTE that all submissions, suggestions, events and job vacancies should be sent to the newsletter@ispa.ie address. The closing date for receipt of submissions for the next issue is the 1st of the month.

6. MEMBERSHIP OF ISPA

If you or your organisation would like to become a member of ISPA, please complete the [membership registration form](#) (return address on the document). Alternatively, contact the ISPA secretary at secretary@ispa.ie

7. ISPA HISTORY AND CURRENT COMMITTEE

The Irish Social Policy Association, which was established in 1997, aims to provide a forum for the analysis, discussion and development of social policy in Ireland, North and South. The inspiration to form a cross border Association dedicated to social policy in Ireland came from Dr Patricia Kennedy and Dr Nessa Winston from the Department of Social Policy and Social Work, University College Dublin.

The Association endeavours to broaden the debate on social policy by providing a forum for discussion that embraces the views and opinion of a wide range of relevant actors. ISPA brings together professionals and non-professionals with an interest in social policy, academics, policy makers, officials in the civil service and public service bodies, employer and trade union organisations as well as organisations and groups in the not-for-profit sector. Through the Association, discussions and debates have been stimulated on a variety of contemporary social policy issues.

CURRENT ISPA COMMITTEE

The The ISPA Committee for 2014-2015 is as follows: Micheál Collins (Chair), Lorna Roe (Vice Chair), Eoin Carroll (Secretary), Michelle Murphy (Treasurer), Ann Stokes (Newsletter), Marcella McGovern (Post Grad Officer), Eamon Murphy (Website), Vivienne Byers, Geoffrey Cook, Sarah Craig, Catherine-Anne Field, Eithne Fitzgerald, Tony McCashin, Frank Mills, Nat O'Connor, Pdraig Rehill and Justyna Szewczyk.

8. JOINING/LEAVING THE ISPA MAILING LIST

If you wish to have your details added to the ISPA mailing please e-mail the following address with the word "ADD" in the subject line: mailinglist@ispa.ie

To have your details removed from the ISPA mailing please e-mail the following address with the word "REMOVE" in the subject line: mailinglist@ispa.ie

The ISPA updates our mailing list approximately once every six weeks.

A pdf copy of this and previous newsletters is available on the ISPA website at www.ispa.ie

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