

IRISH SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION

E-NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 37, November 2015

Welcome to the 37th 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.

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1. ISPA NEWS

This is the 37th 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

Irish Social Policy Association Seminar

The Wealth Distribution in Ireland: new data, new insights (Presentation by Cormac Staunton)

Tuesday, 1st December 2015, 7:00pm to 8:30pm, Room 14 Carmelite Centre, 56 Angier Street, Dublin 2. (<https://carmelitecommunitycentre.wordpress.com/>)

Details

The seminar will consist of a presentation from Cormac with an opportunity for questions and debate. The seminar is free to ISPA members. A cover charge of €5 will apply to all non-ISPA members. Membership forms will be available on the night. To register your interest in attending please email the ISPA Secretary, Eoin Carroll at secretary@ispa.ie.

Presentation Abstract

Understanding the distribution of wealth is central to our understanding of economic inequality. Highly unequal societies are typified by high levels of wealth concentration, where wealth is held by very few people. Wealth tends to be distributed more unequally than income, and a highly unequal distribution of wealth causes problems for both the economy and society.

Measuring wealth is notoriously difficult. There is a lack of administrative data on wealth holdings, while surveys of wealth typically underestimate the wealth of those at the top.

Until recently, very little was known about the distribution of wealth in Ireland. The most comprehensive study of wealth in Ireland was from Nolan in 1991, which relied on data from 1987. The publication in 2015 of the results of the CSO's "*Household Finance and Consumption Survey*", part of a Euro-area survey, has generated new data on wealth in Ireland.

This presentation presents an analysis of this new data aimed at establishing new insights into the current distribution of wealth in Ireland and how it has changed over time. It also looks at what is driving the distribution of wealth in Ireland including real assets, financial assets, land and debt. The paper looks at the wealth by different household structures, including single adults, couples without children, couples with children and single-parent households. The presentation is based on a forthcoming TASC research paper on Ireland's wealth distribution.

Cormac Staunton

Cormac Staunton is a Senior Policy Analyst at TASC and holds anMSc in Economic Policy, a post-graduate diploma in Statistics and a BA in Economic and Social Studies, all from Trinity College Dublin. He spent ten years working for the international development and humanitarian NGO Concern Worldwide in a variety of roles in Dublin, New York and Africa. Since joining TASC in January 2014, his work has focused on analysing economic inequality in Ireland, with a particular focus on the tax system.

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**

IPRT CONFERENCE

Theme: Building effective prison monitoring, inspection, and complaints systems
Date: 27th November 2015
Venue: Spencer Hotel, Spencer Dock, Dublin 1.
Other Details: For more information, contact Marie Therese Power at mtpower@iprt.ie or on 01-8741400

COMMUNITY PLATFORM CONFERENCE

Theme: Action for Social Change: Learning from grassroots experience
Date: 2nd December 2015
Venue: F2 Centre in Rialto from 10:00am-1:40pm
Other Details: Contact communityplatform@eapn.ie for further information

YOUTH WORK SYMPOSIUM

Theme: Youth Work Ireland and the DCYA Quality Standards Training and Resources Task Group present a youth work symposium on Child and Youth Poverty.
Date: Thursday 3rd December 2015
Venue: Youth Work Ireland National Office
Other details: For more details and bookings see www.youthworkireland.ie/events or contact Gina gshalpin@youthworkireland.ie / 01-8584512

• UPCOMING SEMINARS/ LECTURES

CARMICHAEL CENTRE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Theme: Talk Three: Fintan O'Toole. Carmichael Centre as part of its 25th anniversary celebrations will deliver a series of evening public lectures over the winter/spring period. The lectures will take place in Carmichael House (7pm -9pm) and will be on the theme 'Irish Civic Society 100 years on from the Proclamation of the Irish Republic'. We have an exciting line-up of excellent speakers in what promises to a stimulating and thought provoking lecture series.

Date: 2nd December 2015

Venue: Carmichael House, Dublin City Centre

Other details: To secure your place please book below or please email info@carmichaelcentre.ie. For further information on any of these events please contact Ken Kilbride on 01-8735702 ext. 313, email ken@carmichaelcentre.ie

SOUTH DUBLIN COMMUNITY PLATFORM

Theme: Hanging out the Washing on the Poverty Line

Date: Monday, 7th December 2015, 1.45pm to 4.30pm

Venue: Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin 22.

Other Details: RSVP to telephone: 01-4627149 or email: info@sdcp.ie

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

- Goldrick-Kelly, P. (2015) *Trends in Health Spending, NERI Research Brief (no28)*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- Goldrick-Kelly, P. (2015) *Trends in Education Spending, NERI Research Brief (no27)*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- McDonnell, T.A. (2015) *Cultivating Long-run economic growth in the Republic of Ireland, NERI Working Paper, 2015/31*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- MacFlynn, P. (2015) *Household Income in Northern Ireland, is there generational divide? NERI Research Brief (no25)*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- Migrant Rights Centre Ireland (2015) *All Work and Low Pay: The Experience of Migrants Working in Ireland*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.mrci.ie

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE ESRI:

- Gusciute E., E.Quinn & A. Barrett (2015) *Determining Labour and Skills Shortages and the Need for Labour Migration in Ireland, ESRI Research Series*
- Wren M., S. Connolly & N. Cunningham (2015) *An Examination of the Potential Costs of Universal Health Insurance in Ireland, ESRI Research Series*
- Barrett A., A. Bergin , J. FitzGerald , D. Lambert , D. McCoy , E. Morgenroth , I. Siedschlag & Z. Studnicka (2015) *Scoping the Possible Economic Implications of Brexit on Ireland, ESRI Research Series*
- Kelly E., S. McGuinness & J.R Walsh (2015) *An Evaluation of the Back to Education Allowance, ESRI Research Series*

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)

- *Why we can't afford the rich* (Andrew Sayer). Why we can't afford the rich exposes the unjust and dysfunctional mechanisms that allow the top 1% to siphon off wealth produced by others. With an updated Afterword, Andrew Sayer shows how the rich worldwide have increased their ability to hide their wealth, create indebtedness and expand their political influence.

- *The global financial crisis and austerity: A basic introduction* (David Clark). Written by an expert in political science and straddling finance, economics and political science, this entry-level summary demystifies global finance and puts the financial crisis in its historical context. It also outlines the policy responses of Western governments to the crash and the ensuing recession and turn to austerity.
- *After urban regeneration: Communities, policy and place* (Dave O'Brien, Peter Matthews). Focusing on the history and theory of community in urban policy, and including a unique set of case studies that draw on artistic and cultural community work, *After urban regeneration* engages with debates on how urban policy has changed and continues to change following the financial crash of 2008

Further details on the above publications are available from www.policypress.co.uk

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

SERVICES AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER NALA

The National Adult Literacy Agency is an innovative independent expert body committed to ensuring people with literacy and numeracy difficulties can fully take part in society and have access to learning opportunities that meet their needs. Set up in 1980, we have been a leading campaigning and lobbying force on adult literacy issues. We have been involved with tutor training, developing teaching materials, distance education services, policy making, research and campaigns to raise awareness of the causes, extent and responses to adult literacy difficulties in Ireland.

We are now recruiting for a brand new position of Services and Research & Development Manager to play a pivotal role within the organisation's management team structure. The successful candidate will be responsible for a variety of tasks to include team leadership, strategy and policy development, nationwide service delivery, R&D and training and education.

The successful applicant will possess:

- A relevant 3rd level degree
- 7-10 years relevant work experience
- 3 years management experience
- Research qualification desirable
- Proven track record of strategy development and delivery
- Strong relationship development skills
- Proven written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrable project management skills
- Full driving licence with access to a vehicle

The salary on offer is €65,000 per annum

To apply, please send your CV and cover letter to gilly@gillybalmer.ie

Closing date for all applications is Friday 11th December at 5:30pm

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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