

**IRISH SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION
E-NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE 32, September 2014

Welcome to the 32nd 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 32nd 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 AGM & SEMINAR ON HOUSING

The ISPA AGM will take place at 6:00pm to 6:45pm on Tuesday November 4th at Management House, DIT, Aungier Street, Dublin 2.

After the AGM, a Seminar on Housing Policy will take place, commencing at 7pm with three speakers confirmed:

(i) Housing – where we are now (is there another bubble?) – Ronan Lyons (TCD)

(ii) Housing -where should we be going? – Nat O'Connor (TASC)

(iii) Social and Affordable Housing and the Recovery – Michelle Norris (UCD)

Further details will be circulated via email over the coming weeks. Please also see www.ispa.ie for further details on this event.

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

2. UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

NATIONAL DEMENTIA CONFERENCE

Date: 8th October 2014

Venue: Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin

Other Details: Please see www.cmgevents.ie/events/the-national-dementia-strategy-conference for further details

IRISH SOCIAL SCIENCES PLATFORM & IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL CONFERENCE

Theme: Status, Challenges and Prospects

Date: 2nd October 2014

Venue: Rehenhan Hall, South Campus, Maynooth University

Other Details: Please see www.airo.maynoothuniversity.ie/events/issp-one-day-conference-october-2nd-2014-social-sciences-ireland-status-challenges-and for further details

ANNUAL EQUALITY MAINSTREAMING CONFERENCE

Theme: Think Equality, Act Equality

Date: 14th October 2014

Venue: Dublin Castle

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

NATIONAL DISABILITY AUTHORITY CONFERENCE

Theme: Employing People with Disabilities

Date: 29th October 2014, 9.30am – 3.30 pm

Venue: Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin 1

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

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH OPEN CONFERENCE

Date: 14th October 2014

Venue: Titanic, Belfast

Other Details: Please see www.iphopenconference.com for further details

THE IRISH HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUALITY COMMISSION DESIGNATE & LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND CONFERENCE

Conference Theme: Criminal Justice and Human Rights in Ireland

Date: 11th October 2014

Venue: The Law Society, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7

Other Details: To register to attend please email: Lspt@lawsociety.ie

IRISH FORUM FOR GLOBAL HEALTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Conference Theme: Partnerships for health: the role of partnerships in realising health-related development goals. Co-hosted by Concern Worldwide and the Centre for Global Health, TCD

Date: 5th and 6th November 2014

Venue: Trinity College Dublin

Other Details: Please see www.globalhealth.ie/events/ifgh-international-conference-2014 for further details

ESRI CONFERENCE

Conference Theme: Leaving School in Ireland – Post school Transitions and Policy

Speakers: Damian English (Minister of State at the Departments of Education and Skills and Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation); Professor Liz Thomas (Edge Hill University); Selina McCoy, Emer Smyth, Seamus McGuinness and Elish Kelly (ESRI)

Date: 6th November 2014

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

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

GROWING UP IN IRELAND 6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Date: 26th November 2014

Venue: Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin 1

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

• UPCOMING SEMINARS/ LECTURES

NEVIN	ECONOMIC	POST	BUDGET	SEMINAR
Theme: Discussion		on	Budget	2015
Date: 22 nd October			2014	4pm
Other	Details: Please	see	www.nerinstitute.net/events	for further details

NEVIN ECONOMIC RESEARCH SEMINAR

Theme: Equitable Water Charges

Speaker: Dr Tom McDonnell (NERI)

Date: 12th November 2014 4pm

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

EU	COMMISSION	SEMINAR
Theme: European Economic Policy – what's in it for Ireland?		
Date: 20 th October 2014	6	8 pm

Venue: Dublin City University (DCU)
Other Details: Please see www.europeanmovement.ie for further details
NEVIN ECONOMIC RESEARCH SEMINARS
Theme: Earnings and Low Pay in Northern Ireland
Speaker: Paul McFlynn
Date: 4th June 2014, 4pm
Other Details: Please see www.nerinstitute.net/events for further details

ESRI ANNUAL GEARY LECTURE
Theme: Austerity, the Public Sector and the Threat to Gender Equality
Speaker: Professor Jill Rubery, University of Manchester Business School
Date: 23rd October 4pm
Venue: ESRI, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2
Other Details: Please see www.esri.ie for further details

ESRI RESEARCH SEMINAR

Theme: Social Mobility and Cultural Omnivores
Speaker: Professor Tak Wing Chang, University of Oxford
Date: 6th November 2014, 4pm
Venue: ESRI, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2
Other Details: Please see www.esri.ie for further details

- **UPCOMING LAUNCHES/ CAMPAIGNS**

LAUNCH OF BOOKLET ON THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF GROWING OLDER IN IRELAND

Since 1992, 17th October has been recognized by the United Nations as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The day has become a rallying point in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty.

In order to highlight the impact that austerity measures have had on older people's incomes and experience of poverty in Ireland, Age Action will launch a short booklet on October 16th to mark the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The booklet will include information on changes to income and how this has impacted on older people's experience of energy poverty and their access to health services.

Date: 16th October 2014, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Venue: Alexander Hotel, Dublin 2

Other Details: For further details or to register for the event contact Naomi Feely at socialinclusion@ageaction.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

- Larragy J. (2014) *Asymmetric Engagement – the Community & Voluntary Sector in Irish Social Partnership*. See <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/applied-social-studies/news/joe-larragy-book-launch-asymmetric-engagement> for further details on launch.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul (2014) *'It's the hardest job in the world': An exploratory research study with one parent families being assisted by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul* (Research by OCS Consulting). A PDF copy of this publication is available to download from www.svp.ie
- Nevin Economic Research Institute (2014) *Quarterly Economic Observer–Autumn 2014*. A PDF copy of this publication is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- Nevin Economic Research Institute (2014) *Quarterly Economic Facts – Autumn 2014*. A PDF copy of this publication is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- McCarthy D. (2014) *Examining the need to reduce jobseekers allowance for young people, NERI Research inBrief (no.14)*. A PDF copy of this publication is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net
- Collins M. (2014) *Modelling the Distributive Impact of Indirect Taxation Changes in the Republic of Ireland. NERI Working Paper/ No. 20*. A PDF copy of this publication is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE ESRI:

- [McCoy, Selina](#) / [Quail, Amanda](#) / [Smyth, Emer](#)
[Why Does School Social Mix Matter?](#)
ESRI Research Bulletin 2014/3/4
- [Wren, Maev-Ann](#) / Gillespie, Paddy (NUI Galway) / [Smith, Samantha](#) / Kearns, Karen / Crichton, Siobhan (King's College London) / Parkin, David (King's College London) / Hickey, Anne (RCSI) / Horgan, Frances (RCSI) / Wiley, Miriam
[Towards Earlier Discharge, Better Outcomes, Lower Cost: Stroke Rehabilitation in Ireland](#)
Report prepared for the Irish Heart Foundation by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)
- [McCoy, Selina](#) / [Smyth, Emer](#) / [Watson, Dorothy](#) / [Darmody, Merike](#)
[Leaving School in Ireland: A Longitudinal Study of Post School Transitions](#)
ESRI Research Series 36

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)

- *Climate Change and Poverty: A New Agenda for Developed Nations* by Tony Fitzpatrick. Climate change and poverty offers a timely new perspective on the 'ecosocial' understanding of the causes, symptoms and solutions to poverty and applies this to recent developments across a number of areas, including fuel poverty, food poverty, housing, transport and air pollution.

- *New Media & Public Activism: Neoliberalism, the State & Radical Protest in the Public Sphere* by John Michael Roberts. In this highly topical book, John Michael Roberts employs a political economy perspective to explore the relationship between financial neoliberal capitalism and digital publics. He offers an indispensable guide to understanding the relationship between the state, new media activism and neoliberal practices.

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

4. CAREERS IN SOCIAL POLICY

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES – QUALITY MATTERS

Quality Matters is a research and project management social enterprise based in Dublin, working nationally. We support the development of high quality, evidence-based services for marginalised communities within the Irish not for profit sector, both statutory and community and voluntary. We provide cost effective services, listening well and giving organisations the support they need, when they need it.

We need research associates who care about social justice and have excellent research and people skills. The associates that we work with all have expertise in an area of health or social services, have excellent listening and communication skills, are efficient in their work processes and are strategic thinkers - being able to creatively solve problems as they arise. Most importantly, they are highly motivated to use their significant skills to promote equality by helping charities and state services achieve their mission.

We are looking for associates who are interested in undertaking project specific roles. If you think you may be a good match, send us your CV with a cover letter explaining why. We are looking for junior and senior associates who have proven experience of research (qualitative or quantitative) and experience of strategic planning or project management.

Shortlisting will be undertaken, followed by brief phone interviews and then full interviews. At the phone interview stage applicants will be asked to supply two pieces of writing: one short and informal (i.e. a blog), and one more formal (i.e. research paper). The position is for project specific work on an independent contractor basis. Fees agreed on a per-project basis but approximately €100 - €160 per day commensurate with experience.

To apply please send a concise CV and brief cover letter outlining your suitability for our team to aoife@qualitymatters.ie For inquiries call us on 01-8720030. **Closing Date:** Close of Business 10th October 2014

BLANCHARDSTOWN LOCAL DRUGS & ALCOHOL TASK FORCE: RESEARCH & TRAINING OFFICER

Blanchardstown Local Drugs & Alcohol Task Force is seeking a Research and Training Officer.

The successful applicant will be able to:

- Develop the capacity of the BLDATF to collect ongoing research data
- Create studies or contribute to existing research studies which shape and define the work of the taskforce
- Implement ongoing Training Needs Analysis of the BLDATF and local projects
- Develop an evidence base for local interventions which will guide service development
- Produce yearly research and training plans

Qualifications: Master's Degree Social Policy; Social or Health Research

3 years post qualification work experience in a relevant field such as Social Research, Social Work, Training, Rehabilitation or Health Services. Ability to supervise staff, undertake reviews and establish training needs

Excellent IT and presentation skills. Ability to work on own initiative and pro-actively improve services and initiate projects. **Salary** €42,834

This is a permanent position subject to continued annual funding. One year probationary period will apply. Please send CV and covering letter to the address below by email only: Jim@bldtf.ie **Closing date** 16/10/2014

MEDICAL RESEARCH CHARITIES GROUP: RESEARCH SUPPORT MANAGER

The Medical Research Charities Group (MRCG) is a group of 35 medical research and patient support charities, whose main purpose is to support members in their efforts to instigate and participate in research projects both in Ireland and internationally.

Job Title: Research Support Manager

Job Description: Work with MRCG members to increase their research capacity and maximise patient-led research opportunities and outcomes. Work to increase patient involvement in research.

Qualifications and Experience: The successful candidate will have a PhD, in a biomedical or health related discipline, or equivalent experience in a health or biomedical research environment. The candidate will have experience of successful research grant writing and knowledge of grant awarding bodies. Experience in dealing with human subjects for the purposes of research is also desirable.

This contract will be for 2 years part-time (hours tbd). Salary range for this role will be €40,000 – €45,000 full-time equivalent commensurate with experience and skills. The position will be based in the MRCG office at Camden Row Dublin 8.

Please forward your cover letter and CV to Marie Downes, mdownes@mrcg.ie

Closing date for applications is Friday October 17th at 5pm.

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 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

5. CONTACTING THE ISPA

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

ISPA Secretary Lorna Roe: 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 ISPA Committee for 2013-2014 is as follows: Micheal Collins (Chair), Lorna Roe (Vice Chair), Frank Mills (Treasurer), Caroline Fahey (Secretary), Ann Stokes (Newsletter Officer), Marcella McGovern (Postgraduate Officer), Martin Power (Website officer), Claude Delaney, Eithne Fitzgerald, Tony McCashin, Geoffrey Cook, Pdraig Rehill, Catherine Anne Field, Vivienne Byers, Sarah Craig, Michelle Murphy, Eoin Carroll and Eamon Murphy.

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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