

IRISH SOCIAL POLICY ASSOCIATION

E-NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 39, September 2016

Welcome to the 39th 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 39th 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 RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The Irish Social Policy Association (ISPA) hosted a research conference addressing *Social Policy in Recession and Recovery* at the Carmelite Centre, Aungier Street, Dublin 2 on Friday July 1st 2016. The conference provided an important forum for researchers in social policy and related academic fields. Further details on the event including abstracts and paper presentations are available on the ISPA website www.ispa.ie

ISPA SEMINAR: ADVANCED NOTICE

The ISPA committee is busy planning for our next seminar due to take place in November 2016. Further details on this upcoming event will be circulated once details are finalised. Please see www.ispa.ie for further details.

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**

HEALTH MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE OF IRELAND CONFERENCE

Theme: Getting it right.
Date: 29th September 2016
Venue: RDS, Dublin 4

Other Details: For more information, please see www.hmi.ie/conference

NATIONAL DISABILITY AUTHORITY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Theme: Ordinary Homes, Ordinary Places: Planning, designing and building supportive communities for people with disabilities
Date: 11th October 2016
Venue: Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin 1

Other Details: For more information, please see www.nda.ie

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY CONFERENCE

Theme: The Historical Studies Committee of the Royal Irish Academy in association with the Department of Justice and Equality and NUI Galway presents this conference in citizenship entitled 'Enfranchising Ireland? Identity, citizenship and state'
Date: 20th October 2016
Venue: Academy House, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2
Other Details: For more information, please see www.ria.ie

YOUTH WORK IRELAND NATIONAL CONSENSUS CONFERENCE

Theme: Wellbeing 2016

Date: 22nd October 2016

Venue: Dublin Castle, Dublin 2

Other details: For more details please see www.youthworkireland.ie

POBAL CONFERENCE

Theme: Creating an Inclusive Labour Market

Date: 9th November 2016

Venue: Helix Theatre, Dublin City University

Other details: For more details please see www.pobal.ie

SOCIAL JUSTICE IRELAND SOCIAL POLICY CONFERENCE 2016

Theme: Basic Income: Radical Utopia or Practical Solution?

Date: 22nd November 2016

Venue: Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin

Other details: For more details please see www.socialjustice.ie To register go to: <https://groupvite.io/v/taggy>

ESRI CONFERENCE

Theme: Poverty and Quality of Life: National and International Perspectives

Date: 16th November 2016

Other details: For more details please see www.esri.ie

ESRI CONFERENCE

Theme: 50th Anniversary of Social Research at the ESRI

Date: 29th November 2016

Venue: Economic and Social Research Institute, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2

Other details: For more details please see www.esri.ie

GROWING UP IN IRELAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Date: 3rd November 2016

Venue: Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin 1

Other details: For more details please see www.esri.ie

- **UPCOMING SEMINARS/ LECTURES**

SOCIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION IRELAND TRAINING SEMINARS

Due to the demand for our May 2016 training, 'Programme Evaluation in Practice', the SRA (Ireland) have decided to re-run this training for people on our waiting list in the Carmelite Centre in Dublin (half day, morning event) on 7 October 2016.

There are a small number of available spaces, please register your attendance asap.

The SRA (Ireland) are also delighted to be holding several training events in Belfast:

Introduction to Evaluation – 29th September 2016

Advanced Evaluation: Options and choices for impact evaluation – 30th September 2016

Qualitative Multi-method Data Collection – 10th October 2016

The cost to attend a one-day SRA course is £260. Members of SRA get a 25% discount and pay £195.

Full details can be found on the SRA website www.the-sra.org.uk/home/sra-ireland Or contact the SRA for any queries www.the-sra.org.uk/home/contact

ISPC AND CHILDREN'S RESEARCH NETWORK SEMINAR

Theme: Using Research to Improve Practice

Date: 6th October 2016

Venue: River Lee Hotel, Cork city

Other details: For more details please see www.childrensresearchnetwork.org

AGE ACTION SEMINAR

Theme: Healthy Ageing in the Global South: challenges and opportunities

Date: 9am – 1pm, 13th October 2016

Venue: Alexander Hotel, 41-47 Fenian Street, Dublin 2

Other details: For more details please see www.ageaction.ie

ESRI RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

Theme: Energy policy – what happens next?

Speaker: Professor Dieter Helm, University of Oxford

Date: 1pm, 4th October 2016

Venue: Economic and Social Research Institute, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2

Other details: For more details please see www.esri.ie

Theme: Financial Inclusion—What's it Worth?

Speaker: Michael Ehrmann, European Central Bank

Date: 4pm, 17th November 2016

Venue: Economic and Social Research Institute, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2

Other details: For more details please see www.esri.ie

- **UPCOMING REPORT LAUNCH**

*In here, time stands still: The Rights, Needs
and Experiences of Older People in Prison*

In advance of the UN International Day of Older Persons, IPRT is delighted to invite you to the launch of a new report on the rights, needs and experiences of older people in prison in Ireland. The launch takes place on Friday 30th September 2016 in the Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8 from 11.00-13.00.

To register for the event please see www.iprt.ie/events-signup or contact Lorraine Whitty on 01-8741400 or lwhitty@iprt.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

- Collins, M. (2016) *Health Insurance and the Living Wage. NERI Research in Brief*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net

- Goldrick-Kelly, P. (2016) *How Does Ireland's Income Tax Compare? NERI Research in Brief*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net

- Collins, M. (2016) *Employees on the Minimum Wage in the Republic of Ireland: NERI Working Paper*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.nerinstitute.net

- Care Alliance Ireland (2016) *An Analysis of Home Care Supports Funded by the HSE 2008-2016: Briefing Paper*. A PDF copy is available to download from www.carealliance.ie

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE ESRI:

- Bercholz. M & J. FitzGerald (2016) *Recent Trends in Female Labour Force Participation in Ireland*. QEC Special Article.

- McCoy S, B. Maitre & D. Watson (2016) *The Role of Disability and Parental Expectations in Child Wellbeing*. ESRI Research Bulletin.

- McGuinness S. & L. Ortiz (2016) *Examining the Determinants and Consequences of Skill Gaps within Firms*. ESRI Research Bulletin.

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)

- *The new age of ageing: How society needs to change* by Caroline Lodge, Eileen Carnell and Marianne Coleman. As we age, society's negative assumptions mean we become a burden, a problem and the excluded 'other'. With a convincing call to embrace all that is positive about ageing comes this timely book from the authors of *Retiring with Attitude*. Debunking the myth of the ageing time bomb it presents a new, yet realistic, way for society to engage with older people from a myriad of perspectives, including consumerism, media, work, housing, community and 'beauty'. Brought alive by the voices of people aged 50 to 90, it proves ageing is not passive decline but a process of learning, joy, political engagement, challenges and achievement. Increased longevity has consequences for us all. By challenging our assumptions and stereotypes, this book demonstrates that we are capable of living better together longer in this new, older world.

- *Social problems in popular culture* by R. J. Maratea and Brian Monahan. 'Popular culture' is more than just a broad term for entertainment and frivolous diversions and is highly relevant to many aspects of society.

In this exciting textbook, the authors offer insights into the important, but often overlooked, relationship between popular culture and social problems. Drawing on historical and topical examples, they apply an innovative theoretical framework to examine how facets of popular culture—from movies and music, to toys and games, as well as billboards, bumper stickers, and bracelets—shape how we think about, and respond to, social issues.

Including student features and evocative case studies, this is the first book to make the link between popular culture and social problems and will help students understand the relationship between them. Deftly combining the fun and irreverence of popular culture with a critical scholarly inquiry, this timely book delivers an engaging account of how our interactions with popular culture matter more than we think!

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

SOCIAL POLICY OFFICER: SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The purpose of the role of Social Policy Development Officer is to collate and analyse data, develop social policy positions and submissions for SVP and advocate for progressive change for those they assist, among policy makers and other relevant external audiences, including campaigning strategies.

The successful applicant will possess the following:

- Ideally be educated to Master's degree level in Social Sciences, Development or Equality Studies or a related discipline,
- In depth knowledge of at least two of the following four policy areas: energy poverty; early childhood care and education; housing / homelessness; financial inclusion,
- Experience of developing and implementing engaging public facing advocacy campaigns, using a variety of channels and platforms and effective calls to action would be a distinct advantage,

- Good working knowledge of the annual Government Budget cycle, and ways to influence same,
- Good working knowledge of social inclusion related policy making processes at EU, National and Local level and of current and emerging issues in this area,
- Good working knowledge of civil society organisations in Ireland who conduct advocacy,
- Understanding of quantitative and qualitative research,
- At least two years' experience of contributing to the development of a Social Policy / Advocacy Agenda within an organisation,
- At least two years' experience of developing policy position papers and policy liaison work with a variety of both Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations,
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal: ability to present ideas clearly, concisely and in a timely manner to various audiences including the media and general public,
- An ability to establish and maintain positive working relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders, and interact effectively with voluntary members,
- Ability to work in a team, to give and take feedback in a constructive manner, and to contribute new ideas and approaches,
- Excellent problem solving skills in interpersonal situations both internal and external to the organisation and results oriented approaches,
- Experience of collating and updating policy documents based on a variety of sources; experience of policy liaison to influence the annual Government Budget cycle would be a distinct advantage,
- Providing administration support and experience of maintaining contact databases is desirable,
- Experience of working in a voluntary organisation or with a voluntary board of management on issues of social concern would be a distinct advantage,
- Experience of establishing strong working relationships with colleagues from different functions within an organisation, and with a variety of different organisations would be a distinct advantage,
- Experience of representing policy positions to the media would be a distinct advantage,
- Experience in conducting and commissioning research would be desirable,
- Information Technology: high level of familiarity with IT and online platforms, Excel, Access or SPSS. Expertise in other applications including social media would be beneficial.

Please see www.svp.ie for further details on this position. The closing date for receipt of applications is 11th October 2016.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT: GENIO

Genio is recruiting a Research Assistant based in our office in Dublin. This is a full-time position and the successful candidate will be joining our current creative and innovate team to work on exciting new developments in the areas of disability, mental health and dementia. Please visit www.genio.ie to download the Research Assistant Job Spec.

The closing date for applications is 14th October 2016. Please email a covering letter and your Curriculum Vitae to maria.pierce@genio.ie

PROJECT MANAGER: CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ALLIANCE

The Children's Rights Alliance unites over 100 members working together to make Ireland one of the best places in the world to be a child. The Children's Rights Alliance is recruiting a Project Manager for our Child Refugee Initiative to join our fantastic team.

Leadership, Management and Organisational Development

- Lead and manage the Children's Rights Alliance's Child Refugee Initiative and ensure that outputs are delivered effectively, efficiently, on time and in budget
- Contribute to strategic planning, work planning, budgetary and evaluation activities
- Assist the Chief Executive and other staff to prepare reports for the Alliance Board, funders, donors and evaluators
- Participate in regular supervision with the Legal and Policy Director and actively participate in team meetings and reviews
- Consult with and ensure that the voice of child-refugees informs the Children's Rights Alliance's project outputs
- Consult with relevant Children's Rights Alliance members working in the area
- Oversee, contract and implement training

Research and Policy Activities

- Research and prepare accessible and succinct policy papers, submissions and reports
- Monitor protection and refugee-related developments at the international and national level, and alert the Alliance to potential opportunities to positively impact and influence Ireland's policies towards refugee children including those that are unaccompanied or awaiting recognition of their status
- Prepare and disseminate child-refugee related information materials to key stakeholders including the Alliance's membership
- Contribute child-refugee related content to key Alliance flagship projects including the Report Card Series, Know Your Rights, UN reports, pre-budgetary submissions

Communications, Advocacy and Representation

- Provide support to the Chief Executive and Communications and Development Manager on the design and delivery of child-refugee related advocacy, public affairs and information activities
- At the request of the Chief Executive, represent and promote Alliance positions at national and international fora with regards to child-refugee activities

- At the request of the Chief Executive, liaise with key decision makers, statutory bodies, voluntary bodies, international organisations, practitioners, academia, other NGOs and members
- At the request of the Chief Executive, represent and promote child-refugee issues in the media

Terms: This is a full time position with a salary range of €45,000-€51,600 and a 10% contribution to pension after six months. This is a two-year temporary contract position initially with a six month probationary period. Some travel will be necessary for this role. For a complete job description and further details, please visit our website: www.childrensrights.ie or send queries to jobs@childrensrights.ie

A letter of application, along with a CV should be sent to Tanya Ward, Chief Executive, Children's Rights Alliance, 7 Red Cow Lane, Dublin 7 or to: jobs@childrensrights.ie The deadline for receipt of applications is 12 noon, Tuesday 18 October 2016

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 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

Membership rates for 2016 are:

- **Individual members: €30 per year**
- **Student/unwaged: €10 per year**
- **NGO: €60 per year**
- **Corporate membership: €100 per year**

- **Life member: Once off fee of €350**

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 2016-1017 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, Ciaran O'Donnell, 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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