



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



Whitaker
Institute



2021 Annual Report Executive Overview

Whitaker Institute for Innovation and
Societal Change

Date: March 2022

2021 Annual Report

Executive Overview

Whitaker Institute for Innovation and Societal
Change

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Directors Message

This 2021 Annual Report is an opportunity to showcase the outstanding achievements of researchers and staff at the Whitaker Institute last year.

As outlined in this report, Institute members continued to produce a large output of impactful research, with 484 separate scholarly publications across a broad range of formats, including 220 peer reviewed journal articles as well as numerous books, book chapters, conference publications and published reports.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the Institute continued to host a series of very successful seminars and webinars, featuring many Institute members and eminent external speakers.

As can be seen below, Whitaker members remained very active in media debates around diverse issues of topical interest.

I would especially like to highlight the success of Institute members in attracting competitive research funding across a range of projects, with €3.7 million in external research grants won last year with the support of the team at the Institute.

I am also pleased to note the data and analysis in the Appendix that provide evidence of our success in outreach and engagement.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my colleagues on the Institute's Executive Management Team (Elaine Wallace, Angela Sice and Courtney Yanta) for their continued dedication and hard work.

Prof. Alan Ahearne
Director

Scholarly Outputs

Table 1:

2021 Whitaker Institute Publication Counts derived from NUI Galway's Institutional Research Information System

Publication Type	Count for 2021
Book	6
Book Chapter	32
Conference Contribution	51
Conference Publication	62
Edited Book	10
Other Journal	8
Other Publication	64
Peer Reviewed	220
Published Report	31
Grand Total	484

Media Coverage / Selected News Items

Sharon Donnery, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland, virtual visit to the Whitaker Institute at NUI Galway



Sharon Donnery, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland

On 30 March, the Whitaker Institute was delighted to welcome Sharon Donnery, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland. Deputy Governor Donnery delivered a lecture to students and staff members at NUI Galway about the effects of COVID-19 on employment, incomes and savings, and the importance of looking beyond the aggregate numbers to understand the full effects of the pandemic. Ms Donnery described the uneven labour market impacts from the pandemic, where the young, female and those with lower education levels have been particularly affected. She noted that being out of work for long periods can discourage workers, and lead to dropping out of the labour force. These effects are important to keep in mind as we emerge from the pandemic, for individual welfare, long term distributional effects and future economic growth prospects.

To watch a recording of Deputy Governor Donnery's lecture and to view related press, click [here](#).

In Conversation with Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe, T.D.: Navigating Ireland's Post-Covid Economic Recovery



Top Left to Right: Mr. Cian Twomey, Minister Paschal Donohoe
Bottom Left to Right: Professor Geraint Howells, President Ciarán Ó hOgartaigh

On 22 April, the Whitaker Institute was delighted to welcome Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe for a fireside chat with Cian Twomey, Lecturer in Economics at the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics. Professor Geraint Howells, Dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Law opened the session, followed by the President of NUI Galway Ciarán Ó hOgartaigh who introduced the Minister.

On April 14th, the Department of Finance published the Stability Programme Update (SPU) for 2021, setting out the medium-term trajectory for the Irish economy. Commenting on the SPU, Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe noted that ‘the impact of the pandemic on the domestic economy and the public finances has been severe. However, the acceleration of the vaccination programme means that the beginning of the end is, hopefully, now in sight. The strength of our economic model and more importantly, our people, clearly demonstrate that we should face this current period with optimism. We can and we will rebuild our economy, get our people back to work and safely emerge from the pandemic.’

The webinar with Minister Donohoe discussed these points in the context of wider European and global challenges.

A recording of the event is available to watch [here](#).

Whitaker Institute Policy Brief Series



This year saw continued success with Whitaker's popular Policy Brief Series. The briefs, provide succinct yet informative analyses on some of Ireland's current public policy issues reflecting a variety of research topics being conducted by Institute-affiliated members. 2021 saw the publication of 14 new policy briefs, to bring the total in the series to 92. Topics ranged from Determinants of adherence to COVID-19 physical distancing measures in the Republic of Ireland to Why older rural women in Ireland want to work: it's not all about the money. To read published briefs or to sign up to receive new policy briefs click [here](#).

The 5th International Symposium on the Oceans in National Income Accounts



On 24-25 March, the Socio-Economic Marine Research Unit (SEMURU), was delighted to host the 5th International Symposium on the Oceans in National Income Accounts. As well as showcasing the work of the MOSES project the 2 day symposium involved representatives from government, industry, academia and international organisations who shared their national and international perspectives on progress made in measuring the ocean economy. They discussed ways in which international ocean economy statistics can be improved through satellite and natural capital accounting approaches as well as examining how the usage of such information by policy makers can be improved.

All sessions are available to watch back [here](#).

Open Innovation with Henry Chesbrough

All-island innovation programme
Presents
Open Innovation with Henry Chesbrough

Featuring a live Q&A
Prof. Henry Chesbrough
Haas School of Business
Innovation Thought Leader

March 3rd Register online

On March 3rd, the Whitaker Institute at NUI Galway in partnership with the InterTradelreland All Island Innovation Programme hosted an online lecture followed by a live Q&A session with Professor Henry Chesbrough; a leading scholar in open innovation management. Professor Chesbrough coined the term 'open innovation' and developed the concept in his 2003 book, 'Open

Innovation: The New Imperative for Creating and Profiting from Technology'. Since then, he has become a leading scholar and practitioner internationally in the open innovation paradigm, which centres around the need for companies to use 'outside-in' and 'inside-out' ideas and paths to market.

In this lecture, which specifically addressed SMEs on the island of Ireland, Professor Chesbrough explained why engaging in open innovation is imperative more than ever in response to the COVID pandemic.

To read more about the event, click [here](#).

Industry 4.0 in Healthcare: Future Trends and Best Practice for SMEs

On 15 March, the Whitaker Institute in collaboration with InterTradelreland and the Western Development Commission, were delighted to host a virtual panel event on industry 4.0 in the healthcare sector. The panel event, which was part of the All-Island Innovation Programme that aims to disseminate thought leadership and best practice on innovation to SMEs, discussed future trends across the healthcare field – diagnosis, therapeutics and manufacturing. The two panellists gave insights into technological trends occurring given their areas of specialisation, and significantly, how SMEs can effectively engage with industry 4.0 and strengthen their capacity to do so.

All-island innovation programme
Presents
Industry 4.0 in Healthcare: Future Trends and Best Practice for SMEs'

15th March Register online



A recording of the event is available to watch [here](#).

SMEs Innovating for Sustainability

All-island innovation programme
Presents
SMEs Innovating for Sustainability

16th June Register online

InterTradelreland NUI Galway OE Gaillimh DCU RYAN ACADEMY UCC QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST



On 16 June, InterTradelreland, in collaboration with NUI Galway, was delighted to host a virtual panel event focusing on sustainable innovation practices among SMEs. The panel event, which was part of the All-Island Innovation Programme discussed how and why SMEs should embrace sustainability – ‘meeting our needs without comprising future generations in meeting their needs’ – as a

space for innovating (e.g. environmental sustainability, social sustainability). The panel included an SME manager providing an in-practice case of an SME that has innovated around environmental sustainability (waste management); an academic on future trends in this space and what SMEs should prepare for; as well as a specialist on accessing resources for such innovations. The event is particularly relevant to SMEs where sustainability has not been a core aspect of the business model to date.

Click [here](#) to watch the event back.

Unleashing Innovation with UN Sustainable Development Goals

InterTradelreland
All-island innovation programme
Presents
"Unleashing Innovation with UN Sustainable Development Goals"

16th November Lecture 2pm Masterclass 3pm Online

InterTradelreland NUI Galway OE Gaillimh QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST UCC



Professor Jay Friedlander
Sharpe-McNally Chair of Green and Socially Responsible Business at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine

On 16 November the Whitaker Institute was delighted to host a lecture followed by a masterclass ‘Unleashing Innovation with UN Sustainable Development Goals’ as part of InterTradelreland’s All-Island Innovation Programme. The lecture provides senior leaders, social innovators and sustainability champions in small and medium enterprises (SMEs), a framework to embed sustainability firmly in their

organisation. It aims to systematically remove the barriers preventing sustainable innovation.

A gap exists between the aspirations and implementation of the U.N. SDGs. Research shows that while most business leaders agree that sustainable development is important, few understand how to make sustainability strategic. As a result, sustainability efforts happen in an ad hoc fashion rather than a systemic approach – reducing impact and wasting valuable resources. Those enterprises aligning the UN SDGs with their strategy are reaping substantial benefits. Sustainability initiatives have been transformed from a focus on legal compliance and disjointed efforts with marginal performance, to a force driving innovation.

A recording of the lecture is available to watch back [here](#).

Whitaker Webinar Series



The successful Whitaker Webinars series continued this year with twenty-three webinars from nine clusters. The webinars provided an opportunity to welcome international speakers and discuss research from our members.

You can find out more about the webinars and watch recordings available by clicking on the titles below.

[Whistleblowers After Disclosure: Financial Impacts, Career Paths, and Survival Strategies](#)

[Negotiating Intercultural engagement in Ireland: Irish immigration policy and its impact on the day-to-day lives of migrants](#)

[Understanding psychosocial determinants of adherence to physical distancing guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

[Aggression and its Victims: Exploring Recent Developments in International Law](#)

[Gender and Whistleblowing: A hidden aspect of speaking up](#)

[Engendering the Macroeconomy: Current Efforts and Future Directions](#)

[Health workers and extending working life policy in Ireland: evidence from the DAISIE project.](#)

[Scaling Up Startup Organizations](#)

[Still a Singular Stance? Explaining the evolution of Irish Defence policy 2001-2021](#)

[We found it!: The missing link in management control systems in Not for Profit \(NPO\) Organizations](#)

[Research Informing Hospitality Reform](#)

[Is Technology Changing the Face of Sport for the Better?](#)

[Economic and environmental impacts and opportunities of working from home](#)

[Would you trust a robot more than your doctor? Trust and technology terrorism in medicine](#)

[Modelling demand for marine and coastal tourism in Ireland](#)

[The Rise of Digital Ephemerality](#)

Social Marketing: A Behavioural Change Rebel turning 50 series

[Session 1 - Professor Maria Raciti and Professor Sharyn Rundle-Thiele](#)

[Session 2 - Dr Ann-Marie Kennedy & Dr Sarah Duffy](#)

[Session 3 - Dr Dmitry Brychkov, Dr Sinead Duane](#)

[Session 4- Tina Flaherty & Maeve McArdle](#)

[Session 5 - Prof Jeff French & Prof Suzanne Suggs](#)

[Session 6 - Dr Rowena Merritt & Dr Fiona Harris](#)

[Session 7 - Prof Alan Tapp & Prof Gerard Hastings](#)

[Session 8 – Prof Philip Kotler](#)

RTÉ Brainstorm

RTÉ Brainstorm

This year saw an ongoing contribution from Whitaker Institute members to RTÉ Brainstorm, A total of 18 were published to the outlet. RTÉ Brainstorm is where the academic and research community will contribute to public debate, reflect on what is happening in the world around us and communicate fresh thinking on a broad range of issues.

Professor Emer Mulligan launched Ireland's first free tax clinic



Ireland's first free tax clinic has been set up in NUI Galway by Professor Emer Mulligan, of the Performance Management cluster, to educate students about their entitlements, obligations and how to manage their tax affairs. The pioneering initiative sees tax students in the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics work in partnership with teaching staff and professional tax advisors in providing an online and confidential service.

The NUI Galway Tax Clinic, supported by external tax advisors, was established initially to assist the University's students, with a view to extending its services to community groups which are unable to access or afford tax information.

The service offered practical tax information and support to students with tax concerns and queries arising from a change in their circumstances, particularly as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. [Continue reading...](#)

NUI Galway President's Awards for Research Excellence



Dr Eoin Whelan, Dr Tom McDermott, Dr Jane Walsh

Congratulations to Whitaker Institute members who were awarded for their research excellence as part of the President's Awards for Research Excellence. Dr. Eoin Whelan received the award for Research Supervisor, Dr. Thomas McDermott received the Early-Stage Researcher award and Dr. Jane Walsh received the award for Established Researcher.

Read more [here](#).

Dr Shane Conway Wins Geographical Society of Ireland (GSI) Doctoral Research Award 2020

Congratulations to Whitaker Institute member Dr Shane Conway, of the Environment, Development and Sustainability Cluster, who was recently announced as the winner of the Geographical Society of Ireland (GSI) Doctoral Research Award 2020. Dr Conway was presented with the award for his PhD research that explored the human dynamics affecting intergenerational farm transfer in later life

Read more [here](#).



Dean's Award Recipients



Dr Jane Walsh, Dr Michael Lang, Dr Lorraine Morgan

Congratulations to Whitaker Institute members who won Dean's Awards in the last quarter.

Dr. Jane Walsh was awarded the Dean's Award for Research Impact (Dec 2020) in the College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies in recognition of her work as Principal Investigator on the Irish Cancer Society funded Moving On Project. This project was designed to improve the health and wellbeing of cancer survivors through promoting physical activity using

personalised goal setting and mobile technology. Dr Michael Lang and Dr Lorraine Morgan were recipients of the College of Business, Public Policy and Law Awards for Teaching Excellence.

Community Engagement in Galway Bay

Cuan Beo, a community based coastal organisation working in South East Galway Bay, published a report 'An Economic Assessment of the Marine Resources of the South-East Galway Bay Catchment' on Friday 19th November. The report highlights the importance of the marine resource of South East Galway Bay. It was launched at a regional event held on Friday the 19th of November at the Galway Bay Golf Resort, Oranmore. The event was attended by local politicians and policy makers, representatives of State agencies together with those working and living in the coastal catchment including farmers and fishermen, community groups, tourism and recreation groups, scientists, environmental groups and those who rely on the sea and the coastal natural resources of South East Galway Bay for a living.



Mr. Diarmuid Kelly, Chairperson of Cuan Beo and Prof Stephen Hynes at the launch of Cuan Beo's report on the Economic Assessment of the Marine Resources of South East Galway Bay Catchment

A panel, including Prof Stephen Hynes (SEMRU, Whitaker Institute), Ms. Elaine Donohue (Bia Innovator), Ms. Ciara O'Halloran (Flaggy Shore Oysters), Mr. Alan Farrell (Galway County Council) and Mr. Ruairí Ó Conchúir (LAWPRO) discussed the findings of the report and their implications for the future development of the region in a sustainable way. The panel was moderated by Dr Micheál Ó Cinnéide (former EPA Director and now Corrib Beo). The report structure was modelled on the 'Ireland's Ocean Economy Report' series developed by SEMRU.

The report is available to download [here](#).

LEADER Programme 2014-2020 Case Studies from Ireland



Dr Shane Conway and Minister Heather Humphreys, T.D.

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, T.D. recently launched a booklet produced by the National Rural Network (NRN) team in the Discipline of Geography's Rural Studies Centre at NUI Galway, Dr Shane Conway and Dr Maura Farrell, which celebrates the success of the LEADER Programme in Ireland over the past 30 years.

The new booklet tells the stories of 72 inspirational projects and initiatives located throughout Ireland funded under each of the three core themes (Economic, Social and Environment) of the €250 million LEADER Programme 2014-2020. Through its 'bottom up', locally led, framework, the multi-annual LEADER Programme has supported the delivery of local development actions

which address the overarching needs of rural communities throughout Ireland in an innovative, integrated and inclusive manner since 1991.

The booklet is available to download [here](#).

Selection of Studies from Whitaker Members

Vaccine Hesitancy



Dr Jane Walsh

Young women are significantly less likely to say they would accept a Covid-19 vaccine, a new joint Irish-UK research project has revealed.

The vaccine hesitancy study carried out by NUI Galway, in collaboration with University of Huddersfield, England, canvassed the views of 1,000 people online in Ireland and the UK, recording their attitudes and intentions in relation to Covid-19 vaccination programmes.

Findings of the research were presented in May to the Behavioural Change Subgroup that advises the Government's National Public Health Emergency Team (Nphet) They include:

75% of those who participated in the survey intend to get a Covid-19 vaccine; 11% said they would not; and 14% said they were unsure.

Women and younger people were significantly less likely to report intention to avail of a Covid-19 vaccine.

Women aged under 30 were significantly less likely to say they would accept a Covid-19 vaccine, with fewer than 70% indicating a positive response and 20% indicating high levels of uncertainty.

The study garnered significant media attention. To read more about the study and the associated press, click [here](#).

Studies from Dr Elaine Wallace highlighted in the media

Dr Elaine Wallace, co-leader of the Performance Management Cluster, has undertaken several studies which have garnered media attention

One of the studies revealed four different types of individual who post about charity on their social media, and it found that some types are less altruistic than they might first appear. The research was conducted in collaboration with the University of Zaragoza in Spain and follows charitable initiatives such as the Ice Bucket Challenge and #nomakeupselfie which, as well as being awareness and fundraising initiatives, became social media sensations. The authors investigated the views of 243 Irish and 296



Dr Elaine Wallace

US Facebook users who had posted about a charity on Facebook. They measured their Conspicuous Donation Behaviour, their Facebook activity (their time spent online and number of Facebook friends), their traits (such as materialism and self-esteem), and their intention to donate time or money to that charity. Read more [here](#).

Dr Elaine Wallace's research published in Personality and Individual Differences investigated the effect of Instagram's recent initiative of hiding Likes from followers on users' wellbeing. Results showed that receiving greater Likes reduces loneliness but increases negative affect, and this outcome is exacerbated by the visibility of Likes. Vulnerable narcissism was also associated with loneliness. The study was picked up by multiple news outlets. Both the study and associated press are available to read [here](#).

Domestic Violence - The Cost of Doing Nothing



Dr Nata Duvvury

Ground-breaking research at NUI Galway on the economic cost of domestic violence (DV) in low and middle-income countries has been pivotal to developing new legislation and policies to protect women in Egypt, South Sudan and Vietnam. Women experience DV behind closed doors; however, its impact reaches beyond the individual and their family, having serious consequences for national economies. Recognition of these consequences is key to governments enacting new legislation, investing in support and judicial services, and scaling up prevention efforts.

NUI Galway's theoretical frameworks, toolkits and manuals are increasingly used worldwide to guide costing projects, ultimately seeking to eliminate this pervasive form of violence.

Led by Whitaker Institute members Dr Nata Duvvury and Dr Srinivasan Raghavendran, interdisciplinary researchers at the Centre for Global Women's Studies (Dr Stacey Scriver, Dr Caroline Forde and Dr Mrinal Chadha) have built a robust evidence base on DV's costs in the Global South. Read more [here](#).

Reports & Books from Whitaker Institute Members



An expert group, building on the findings of the National Remote Work Surveys and stakeholder consultations, has called on the Government to introduce a range of measures to support continued remote working.

The Group made up of representatives from the NUI Galway Whitaker Institute, the Western Development Commission (WDC), and industry met with various companies, key employer and employee representative organisations and policy stakeholders throughout 2020 and has identified several recommendations for both organisations and government.

While the report was written during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has acted as a catalyst for identifying the opportunities and challenges of remote working, it is aimed at identifying policies and practices which will support remote working in a post pandemic environment. The report draws on remote working experiences from several companies who have well-established remote working practices before COVID-19. Click on the report cover to read more.

Professor Alan Ahearne, Director of the Whitaker Institute, and Professor Stephen Hynes, SEMRU cluster leader, have published a new report as part of the Marine Institute funded project Challenges and Opportunities for Ireland's Major Ocean Economy Industries.

Click on the cover to download the report.

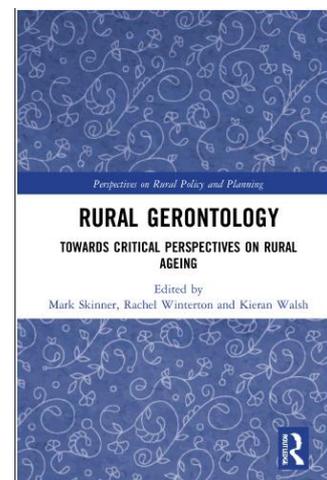


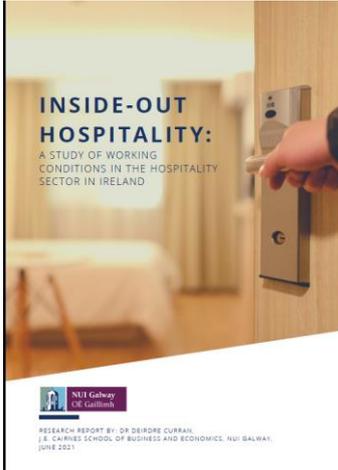
The EPA funded SHEER Wellbeing project, led by the Whitaker Institute and partnering with the Insight Centre for Data Analytics and the HSE, have launched their report *Our Environment, Our Health, Our Wellbeing: Access to Blue/Green Spaces in Ireland*. The study aimed to explore the key forces and patterns at work in relation to access to blue/green spaces in Ireland and possible impacts in national, regional and local contexts through data analytics, visualisation and mapping.

Click on the cover to download the report.

Whitaker Institute member Dr Kieran Walsh, of the Population and Migration cluster, has co-edited a new book entitled *Rural Gerontology: Towards Critical Perspectives on Rural Ageing*. Whitaker Institute members Dr Nata Duvvury and Dr Áine Ni Leime, Gender and Public Policy cluster leaders, have also co-authored a chapter in the book entitled *Rural women, ageing and retirement*.

To read more about the book and purchase it, click [here](#).





Hospitality workers feel vulnerable, underappreciated and sidelined during the often heated debate between the sector, the government and public health experts. Whitaker Institute member Dr Deirdre Curran, of the Work, Organizations and Society Cluster, has conducted research into conditions for workers in the hospitality sector, including a recent study which reported that 77 per cent of 257 hospitality respondents had sometimes or often experienced verbal abuse at work.

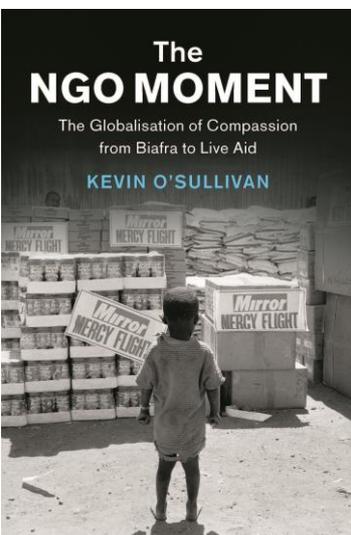
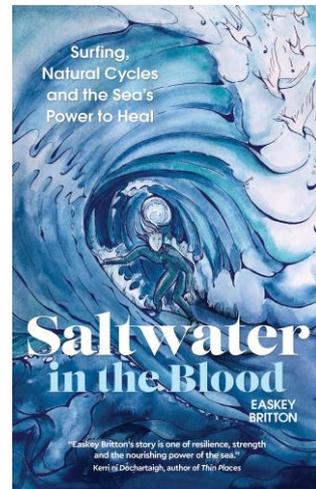
As part of the research, Dr Curran invited participants to submit audio files of their experiences working in hospitality. Three of those files are available to listen to [here](#).

Click on the cover to download the report. The report also garnered media attention, which is available to read [here](#).

Whitaker Institute member Dr Easkey Britton, of the Applied Systems Thinking cluster, has published a new book *Saltwater in The Blood*.

Powerful feminist nature writing by the pioneer of women’s big-wave surfing in Ireland. Easkey Britton provides a rare female perspective on surfing, exploring the mental skills it fosters, and the need to recognize the value of the ocean and of nature’s cycles in our lives. This is an incredibly inspiring exploration of the sea’s role in the wellness of people and the planet, beautifully written by Easkey.

Find out more about the book [here](#). The Irish Times has also written a review of the book, available to read [here](#).



Whitaker Institute member Dr Kevin O'Sullivan, of the Conflict, Humanitarianism and Security Cluster, has published a new book titled *The NGO Moment: The Globalisation of Compassion from Biafra to Live Aid*.

About the Book:

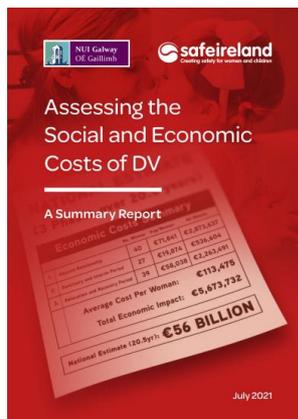
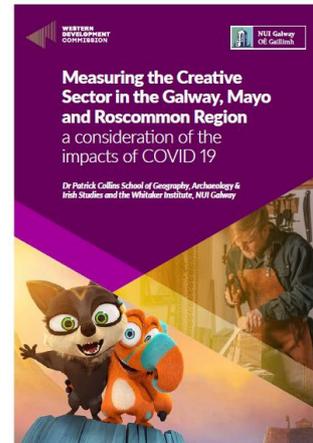
This book is a study of compassion as a global project from Biafra to Live Aid. Kevin O'Sullivan explains how and why NGOs became the primary conduits of popular concern for the global poor between the late 1960s and the mid-1980s and shows how this shaped the West's relationship with the post-colonial world. Drawing on case studies from Britain, Canada and Ireland, as well as archival material from governments and international organisations, he sheds new light on how the legacies of empire were re-packaged and re-purposed for the post-colonial era, and how a liberal definition of benevolence, rooted in charity, justice,

development and rights became the dominant expression of solidarity with the Third World. In doing so, the book provides a unique insight into the social, cultural and ideological foundations of global civil society. It reveals why this period provided such fertile ground for the emergence of NGOs and offers a fresh interpretation of how individuals in the West encountered the outside world.

Click on the cover to find out more.

The Western Development Commission (WDC) have published summary data from the recent survey of Creative Economy SMEs in the Galway, Mayo, and Roscommon counties. This sector survey was commissioned by the WDC and undertaken by Dr Patrick Collins NUI Galway (School of Geography, Archaeology and Irish Studies and the Whitaker Institute), under the auspices of the West Regional Enterprise Plan[1]. The survey gathered responses from over 140 Creative Economy businesses and sought to identify and examine the challenges and opportunities they faced during the Pandemic.

To read more about the survey and download the report, click the cover.



A new report carried out by Whitaker Institute members Dr Nata Duvvury and Dr Caroline Forde, of the Gender and Public Policy Cluster, for Safe Ireland has found that the aggregate cost of domestic violence to a woman, over her journey from abuse to safety, is approximately €113,475 over a time span of 20 years or more.

The report garnered significant media attention and is available to download by clicking on the cover.

Institutional Events

Table 2: 2021 Events Summary

Event Type	Total for 2021
Industry Event	4
Report Launch	1
Public Lecture	2
Lecture	1
Symposium	1
Conference	1
Webinar	25
Total	35

Competitive Funding

Table 3: Competitive Funding

Funding Body	Title of Project	Principle Investigator	Amount Awarded
European Union			€1,636,016
	Peatlands and People	Dr Christine Domegan	€1,100,000
	EnergyProspects (PROactive Strategies and Policies for Energy Citizenship Transformation)	Prof Frances Fahy	€536,016
Irish Research Council			€144,155
	Using Spatial Data Analytics to Explore Crime Patterns and	Michael Lang	€10,000

	Perceptions of Safety In Rural Ireland		
	Virtually Engaged Positive Ageing: Operationalising active retirement associations for engagement and connectivity – Virtual-EngAge	Kieran Walsh	€96,455
	Mental Health Spillovers from Serious Family Illness: A Microeconomic Analysis	John Cullinan	€8,100
Marine Institute			1,380,899
	Changing Ocean Ireland: Forecasting Biodiversity and Ecosystem Response. (CÓIR)	Professor Peter Croot, Dr Anthony Grehan, Professor Stephen Hynes	€688,970
	Strategic Partnership Agreement in Marine Socio-Economics between Marine Institute and NUI Galway	Stephen Hynes	€691,929
Other Government			€565,338
Science Foundation Ireland	Advancing Theoretical Diversity on the Normalisation of Digital Transformations (Norm_DT)	Noel Carroll	€159,419
Safefood	Safefood - Fiscal and pricing policies related to food and non-alcoholic drinks: a review of the evidence	Edel Doherty	€45,801
National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education	Inclusive Learning at NUI Galway	Dr Shivaun Quinlavin and Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley	€120,000
NUI Galway	Citizen Development Lab	Noel Carroll	€135,780
NUI Galway	Eden Shannon	Christine Domegan	€104,338

Major Research Projects

Energy PROSPECTS



EnergyPROSPECTS is an EU Horizon2020 project, which started with a kickoff meeting in May this year, hosted by the lead partner NUI Galway. The 3-year project aims to develop a broad understanding of energy citizenship, which we understand as a policy concept, a socio-

technical imaginary, a knowing-of-governance, i.e., a social construction of desirable/normal civic agency in future energy systems. The project identifies and examines a range of cross-cutting issues in energy citizenship, which will inform iterative typology development and criteria for case selection. Drawing on existing databases and a search for new cases, the project will select 500 initiatives and undertake mapping and typology refinement exercises to demonstrate the depth/breadth of the energy citizenship concept in theory and practice. 40 cases will be selected for in-depth analysis exploring development, evaluation, intermediaries, institutions, governance and ICT in energy systems. Using a multi-actor perspective, the project will develop an empowerment toolkit for practitioners and citizens, co-create viable strategies, and develop new business and social innovation models, and new forms of organisation to advance energy citizenship. A critical part of the research involves analysing the external and internal contextual conditions as they support or hinder energy citizenship in its various forms.

Click [here](#) to read more about the project.

Peatlands and People

Peatlands and People is a 7-year EC-funded LIFE Integrated Project, led by Bord na Móna, that collaborates locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to generate and share solutions and knowledge for a systemic transformation to achieve this carbon neutral future through three pillars. Pillar 1 (Peatlands Centre of Excellence), Pillar 2 (Just Transition Accelerator), Pillar 3 (People's Discovery Attraction). Ireland has a high proportion of Europe's remaining peatlands, including a variety of raised and blanket bogs, fens and wet and dry heath. These peatlands have immense value as carbon sinks and protect biodiversity as well as providing other ecosystem services. While the harvesting of peatlands is detrimental to the environment, restored bog can actively sequester carbon. In this way, intact bogs play an important role in combating climate change by storing excess CO₂ they have removed from the atmosphere. The restoration of peatlands is considered in the Irish Climate Action Plan (2019), which sets out 183 actions targeted at tackling climate change and achieving net zero carbon energy systems while creating a resilient and sustainable country. Read more about the project and related press [here](#).



Strategic Partnership Agreement in Marine Socio-Economics between Marine Institute and NUI Galway

The project is jointly funded by NUI Galway and the Marine Institute as part of the Strategic Partnership in Marine Socio-Economics, which is supported under the Marine Research Programme by the Irish Government. The research is framed with reference to 3 key areas of collaboration:



- Ireland's Ocean Economy – Analysis and Annual Reporting
- Spatial, Macro, Micro & System Level Analysis
- Socio-economic analysis and advice supporting national socio-economic requirements for the implementation of Marine Strategy Framework (MSFD) and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Directives

The overall aim of the project is to build on the experience of SEMRU and the Marine Institute in estimating the value of Ireland's ocean economy in order to further strengthen the collection, reporting and monitoring of Ireland's Ocean Economy across the maritime sectors of: Shipping & Maritime Transport, Marine Tourism and Leisure, Cruise, Marine Retail Services, Sea-Fisheries, Aquaculture, Seafood Processing, Oil and Gas, Marine Manufacturing, Engineering and Construction, High Tech Marine Products and Services, Marine Commerce, Marine Biotechnology and Bio-products and Marine Renewable Energy. Measuring the links between the sea and national economies is an increasingly important issue for maritime nations. Through the project SEMRU is working with the Marine Institute and other agencies on creating a deeper knowledge and understanding of the drivers of growth at a sectoral level.

Read more about the project [here](#).

Inclusive Learning at NUI Galway: Centring the Student Voice in Higher Education



NATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The [Inclusive Learning at NUI Galway](#) project led by Dr Shivaun Quinlivan and Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley, and funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, launched its report on 9 December.

The project had a number of aims. In the first instance it set out to enhance inclusive teaching and learning practice at the university for postgraduate students, particularly those from diverse backgrounds. The goal of the project was to centre the student voice – to hear directly from our students, and to learn from their lived experiences, with a view to improving the learning experience for all students.

Student diversity is a strategic priority at NUI Galway. However, in line with the university's values of Respect and Openness, the focus of this project is on students' sense of inclusion at all levels within the university, including the barriers they experience to inclusion and participation. Our project focuses on the experiences of international and intercultural students, students with disabilities, LGBT+ students, students of different genders, and students with caring responsibilities (particularly those who are parents). It also explores the experiences of students during the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly in relation to remote learning. Having identified a range of issues, the report makes a number of recommendations to address systemic and attitudinal barriers to learning and build a truly inclusive learning environment.

These include the development of an anti-racism policy and a reasonable accommodation policy for students with disabilities, the provision of training, and the gathering and monitoring of student diversity data.

The report is available to download [here](#)

Citizen Development Lab

Whitaker Institute member Dr Noel Carroll received funding from the NUIG Strategic Fund to seed fund the establishment of the Citizen Development Lab at NUI Galway.



CITIZEN DEVELOPMENT LAB

The Citizen Development Lab was established with a view to supporting organisations to research improved approaches to sustain digital transformations through the rapid-cycle innovation it enables. There is growing evidence that Citizen Development can have a profound impact on organisations' operational efficiency and agility. By empowering people to solve problems, we can also scale transformations more effectively and efficiently. We aim to investigate how organisations have adopted citizen development and current efforts to assess its impact on digital transformation initiatives. The fund will support the recruitment of a Postdoctoral researcher over the next two years.

To find out more about the project, click [here](#).

Research Infrastructure

Local Authority Finances



Winner of the 2014 WA and the 2015 World Summit Award, the website www.localauthorityfinances.com aims at increasing awareness of how taxpayers' money is spent locally by providing cross-council information on local authority spending and income, disaggregated by expenditure function and revenue source. Aimed at improving transparency and accountability, the interactive web application can be used to readily access and more easily understand individual council income and spending budgets, but also cross-council comparisons, with a view to identifying differences in local authority spending and income, but also star performers and council laggards. The project will contribute to a wider debate on the future role of local government in Ireland, but also on current issues relating to, for example, local authority financial performance, balance between business and non-business local taxes (e.g. commercial rates versus local property tax), decentralisation of expenditure functions (including social housing), planned city council boundary extensions and local council mergers, and the future governance of local governments e.g. the role of Chief Executive versus directly-elected Mayor. Over the longer term, this project will, by highlighting cross-council differences and best performing councils, help to measure and, ultimately, improve the financial performance of local authorities. This project is of interest to a number of different stakeholders, including local and national policymakers, political parties, media outlets, researchers and academics, and above all, communities, taxpayers and citizens. Click [here](#) to visit the website.

Appendix

NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

Whitaker
Institute

WHITAKER INSTITUTE IN THE MEDIA 2021



279
MEDIA
MENTIONS FOR
WHITAKER
MEMBERS

70 in local
Media Outlets

201 in National
Media Outlets

8 in International
Media Outlets



242 ONLINE MEDIA HITS



20
RADIO
BROADCASTS



10
PRINTED ARTICLES



7
TELEVISION
APPEARANCES

Impact*



7,720,037
PEOPLE REACHED



€212,003
WORTH OF PRESS

*The data shown is only reflective of 77 of the 279 media mentions
Source: NUI Galway press office



THE
WHITAKER INSTITUTE
ONLINE
2021

MAILING LIST

36,534

Campaigns opened



491

New subscribers

TWITTER

15,461

Profile Visits



393,901

Impressions

192

New Followers

WEBSITE

29,855

New Users

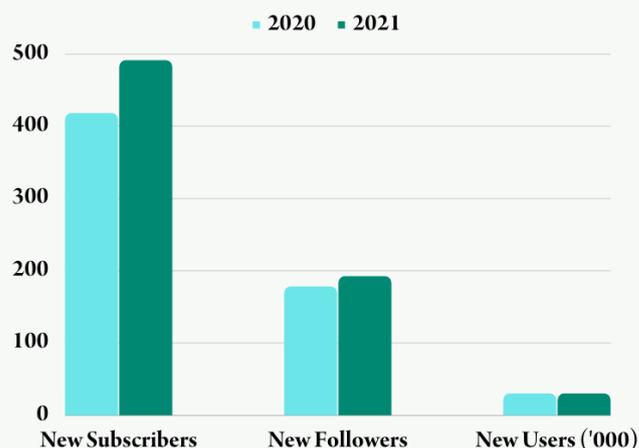


71,114

Page Views

41,412

Engagements

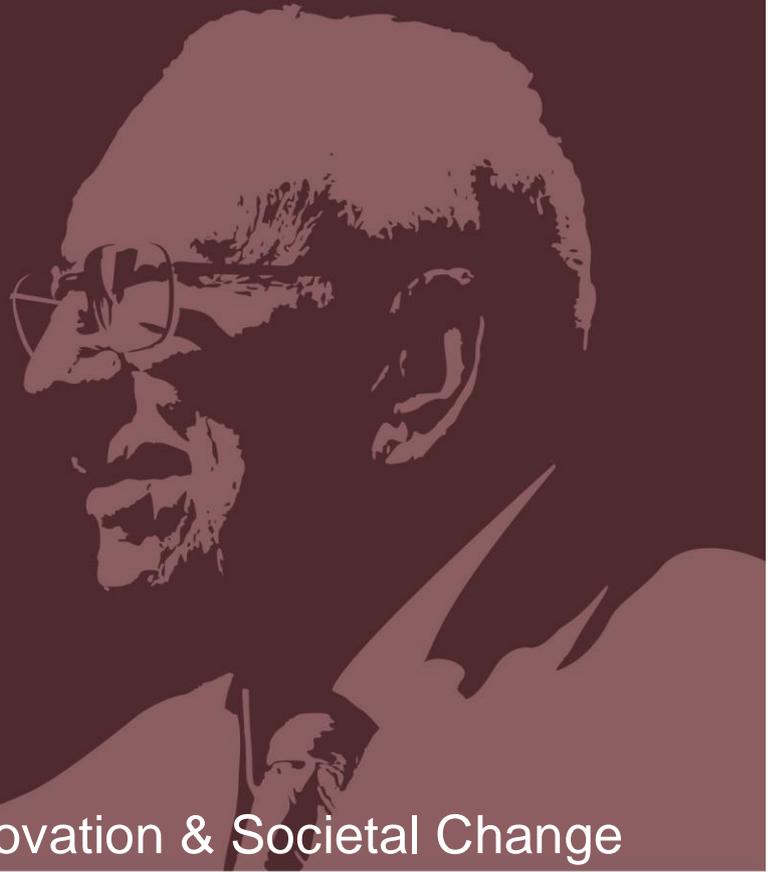




NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



Whitaker
Institute



Whitaker Institute for Innovation & Societal Change

Cairnes Building
National University of Ireland Galway
Galway
Ireland

T: +353 (0)91 492817
E: whitakerinstitute@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/whitakerinstitute

