

## Fáilte an Uachtaráin President's Welcome

A chairde, Delegates,

Dear Principal/Deputy Principal(s) Please find enclosed information in relation to our upcoming Annual Conference. The Conference this year is being hosted by Cork and Kerry ETB regions of PDA and has an interesting theme and experienced speakers. It will be held in the Strand Hotel Limerick (November 13 -15). I urge you to write the dates in your diary and make an early booking to reserve accommodation.



For many years, the Conference has included an annual CPD for Principals and Deputy Principals and it is important to state that it is open to all, irrespective of membership. We have a long-standing agreement that attendees at the conference are entitled to travelling expenses, overnight accommodation and Conference fee payment. You should seek prior approval from your ETB in respect of such expenses.

It is important to note that the PDA, as a sub-committee of the TUI, has an input at the highest level and members' views, concerns and opinions help to inform the TUI in negotiations with the DES. We liaise frequently with TUI on key issues in order to ensure that our concerns are given due consideration.

Wishing you the very best in your work and hoping you continue to see PDA as a vital support and provider of information and CPD for your working life. The PDA officers are available to offer help and advice if you ever need it.

**Stephen Goulding**

*President PDA*



PRINCIPAL AND DEPUTY PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION  
CUMANN PRÍOMHOIDÍ AGUS PRÍOMHOIDÍ TÁNAISTEACHA

## Cork and Kerry PDA National Conference 2019

*Leadership for Creativity and Inclusion*

**Strand Hotel Limerick  
November 13th, 14th, and 15th 2019**



### Registration for Conference - 3 Step Process

- Step 1** Book Conference Hotel by calling The Strand Hotel Limerick 061 421800 and request PDA Conference Rates
- Step 2** Make Conference Payment by cheque or electronic transfer from personal account or through your ETB (Account details on registration form)
- Step 3** Complete Registration Form and forward to Treasurer (details on Registration Form)

**PDA Website: PDA.ie**

**Conference November 2019**

# Conference Speakers for PDA Conference 2019

## *“Leadership for Creativity and Inclusion”*

### John Doran

John Doran has been a teacher and guidance counsellor for over 25 years. He is passionate about the transformative power of education to disrupt poverty, and help young people do all that they can, with all that they have, in the time that they have got, in the space that they are in.



John speaks to Management Bodies, Businesses, Education Trusts, Teachers, Parents and Students on the topics of Resilience, EQ, Well-being in the workplace, Stress Management, and maximizing performance, both nationally and internationally.

He has just returned from a speaking tour of schools in Sydney, Australia. John is a TED speaker and a media contributor, and is the author of ‘Ways to Well-Being’, which is designed to help 15-18 year olds explore how to maintain their own sense of well-being, leading to improved academic outcomes in school and a sense of accomplishment in life. Currently taught in over 150 schools both here and in mainland Europe, and an international edition is about to be released in the UAE.

### Brian Mac Giolla Phádraig

Brian is a divisional inspector with the Department of Education and Skills. He is based in Athlone and currently assigned to the Office of the Chief Inspector and to the Evaluation Support and Research Unit of the Inspectorate.



In this role he provides support to the Chief Inspector and the Senior Management Group of the Inspectorate. He is working on a number of projects including developing the Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection (CPSI) model and realigning the evaluation of provision for learners with special educational needs in post-primary schools to take account of recent developments in special education. Before joining the inspectorate, he was a primary teacher and principal.

### Ger Power

Ger is Senior Inspector with the Department of Education and Skills. He is currently assigned to the Inspectorate’s Evaluation, Support and Research Unit (ESRU) with responsibilities in the areas of

- Inspection planning
- inspection model development
- STEM

Prior to appointment as an inspector in 2007, Ger taught Technical Graphics and Engineering in CBS Tramore County Waterford for almost ten years.

### Dr. Jennifer McMahon

Dr. Jennifer McMahon is a psychologist and educator. She joined UL in February 2013 and is Lecturer in Psychology and Inclusion in the School of Education.



She has worked in the area of autism and mental health since 2006. Prior to joining UL she worked for Jigsaw – the National Centre for Youth Mental Health, firstly as a researcher in evaluating Jigsaw mental health services at a national level and then as a project manager to establish a Jigsaw in Limerick.

As part of this work Jennifer was instrumental in conducting a large scale needs and resource analysis of youth mental health needs across Limerick. Jennifer’s research largely focuses on building capacity in teachers to promote students social and emotional wellbeing and support student mental health issues as they arise.

She has been funded by the National Office for Suicide Prevention and the Teaching Council for her work.

## Seamus Lahart

Seamus Lahart President of TUI will attend TUI Forum on Thursday afternoon November 14th.



## John MacGabhann

John MacGabhann General Secretary of TUI will attend TUI Forum on Thursday afternoon November 14th.



## Johanna Fitzgerald

Dr Johanna Fitzgerald is the Head of Educational Psychology, Inclusive and Special Education in Mary Immaculate College. She lectures across a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Inclusive and Special Education in Mary Immaculate College and supervises postgraduate research. She worked as a post-primary teacher, SENCO and Special Education Teacher for a number of years, both in Ireland and the UK. She also worked with the Special Education Support Service (SESS) as an Assistant National Coordinator. She is involved with a number of research and knowledge exchange projects with both the Joint Managerial Body and the Education and Training Board of Ireland and provides CPD to post-primary schools. She coordinates and chairs the MIC SENCO Forum, a professional learning network for special educational needs coordinators in post-primary schools in Munster. She is Chairperson of the JMB Special Educational Needs Advisory Group. Current research interests include leadership in education, with a particular emphasis on developing the role of Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) as strategic leaders; teacher professional learning; and inclusive and special education.



## Fiona O'Brien

Fiona O'Brien is Team Leader for School Leadership at Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT), a Department of Education and Skills schools' support service. Fiona has been seconded to JCT since 2016 and prior to this she was Principal of Killarney Community College between 2007 and 2016, and Deputy Principal at Deansrath Community College, Dublin between 1999 and 2007. A qualified Home Economics teacher, Fiona has over 16 years' experience in school leadership and led her school teams to implement significant educational change. A key aspect of Fiona's responsibility within JCT is to support school leaders nationally in deepening their understanding of the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015). The full implementation of the new Framework has significant implications for how each school makes their key decisions, as well as how it embarks on its strategic planning. The JCT leadership team supports schools in successfully making these changes. They help make connections between the school self-evaluation process, junior cycle reform and the quality framework as schools embark on the journey of embedding these changes into their culture of teaching, assessment, learning and reporting.



## Joe O'Connell

Dr Joe O'Connell is a native of Limerick city and was educated in CBS Sexton Street, NUIG, and the University of Manchester.

Joe has served as a post-primary school principal, was founding director of St Senan's Education office supporting the Boards of Management of the Catholic Dioceses of Limerick, Kerry and Killaloe and also served as director of Limerick Education Centre. He currently supports organisations such as the Centre for School Leadership (CSL) the IPPN (The Irish Primary Principals Network), NAPD (National Association of Principals and Deputies), the JMB (Joint Managerial Body) and the ETBI (Education and Training Boards of Ireland) in addressing issues such as leading learning and teaching, organisational development, managing and building the relationships across the school community, dealing with challenging situations and promoting collaborative leadership and team development. He teaches Education Legislation and Governance on the MA programme in Christian Leadership in Education in Mary Immaculate College Limerick.



## Anne Looney

Anne Looney is the Executive Dean of Dublin City University's new Institute of Education. From 2001 until 2016 she was the CEO of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, the agency responsible for curriculum and assessment for early years, primary and post-primary education in Ireland. She also held the position of Interim CEO at the Higher Education Authority until March 2017.

A former teacher, she completed her doctoral studies at the Institute of Education in University College London. In 2014/2015 she was Professorial Research Fellow at the Learning Science Institute Australia, based at Australian Catholic University in Brisbane.

Her current research interests include assessment policy and practice, curriculum, teacher identity and professional standards for teachers and teaching. She has also published on religious, moral and civic education, and education policy. She has conducted reviews for the OECD on school quality and assessment systems.

She is a member of the boards of Early Childhood Ireland, and the Ark Cultural. She tweets at @annelooney



## Joan Russell

Joan Russell Director of Schools Support Services (ETBI)

Joan was a Principal of a Vocational School for three years before being appointed as Education Officer to Co. Cork VEC in 2005. She was appointed as CEO (Acting) of Co. Cork VEC in 2010 and fulfilled that role up to the amalgamation of Co. Cork and City of Cork VECs in July 2013. She was then seconded from CETB to work as Project Officer for Instructional Practices and has been recently appointed as Director for School Support Services Post-Primary (ETBI).

Joan was a member of the Teaching Council 2012 – 2016 and a member of the National Council for Special Education (NCSE), 2010 – 2015. Joan has a keen interest in professional development. She qualified as a Home Economics teacher, has a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership as well as Higher Diploma in Educational Administration and a Higher Diploma in Professional Studies (School Planning).



## Wednesday 13th November

3.00 – 7.00pm Registration of Delegates  
8.30 -9.30pm **John Doran** – Resilience and stress management for school leaders  
9.30 - Social Evening/Finger Food

2.20- 3.15pm

TUI Forum and Discussion  
**Seamus Lahart** TUI President/  
**J. McGabhann** TUI General Secretary

3.15 – 3.45 pm

Health Break/Visit Exhibitors

3.45- 4.40pm

**Fiona O’Brien** - Leading and managing changes to assessment at Junior Cycle

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## Thursday 14th November

9.00-10.00 am Registration of Delegates continued  
Visit Exhibitors  
9.45- 10.00am Introduction/Opening remarks  
10.00-10.30am **Barry Slattery NCCA**- Senior Cycle Review

4.40-5.40pm

**Dr. Johanna Fitzgerald MIC** - Critical role of school leadership team in meeting the diverse needs of learners

7.30pm

Pre Dinner Reception

8.00pm

Conference Banquet –  
After Dinner Speaker

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10.30-11.00am **Dr Joe O’Connell** - Addressing Leadership Challenges in Managing Change

## Friday 15th November

11.00-11.30am Health Break/Visit Exhibitors  
11.30- 12.00 noon **Dr Anne Looney** - Creativity in Education

9.00- 9.30pm

Exhibitors

9.30-10.00pm

Conference Business - Reports and Elections, and Motions

12.00-12.45pm Panel Discussion with Conference Speakers- Facilitator **Joan Russell ETBI** Director for School Support Services

10.00-11.00pm

**Brian MacGiollaphadraig** and **Ger Power**- DES Inspectorate on Child Protection and Safeguarding model of Inspection

1.00- 2.00pm Lunch

11.00-11.30pm

Health Break / Visit Exhibitors

2.00-2.20pm PDA President’s Address:  
**Stephen Goulding**

11.30-12.30pm

**Dr Jennifer McMahan** - Emotions and feelings, what are they good for? Supporting students social emotional learning in schools