



IUSA Annual Conference *Bringing People Together in a Polarising World*

11th May 2022 | Westbury Hotel, Dublin

<http://www.irishusalumni.com/conference>



Bringing People Together in a Polarising World



What

The Irish U.S. Alumni Association is delighted to welcome you to this year's IUSA Conference. As we move from a world online, to meeting in person once again, we want to provide an opportunity to collaborate, network, discuss and learn from our colleagues once again. This year, our conference title is 'Bringing People Together in a Polarising World'. The format of the conference will include lightning talks of 7 minutes each, followed by moderated panel discussion and audience Q&A.

Following the conference, the IUSA Distinguished and Emerging Leader Awards will be presented to alumni who have demonstrated exemplary leadership in our community. We are also honoured to receive an address from the new U.S. Ambassador to Ireland Claire Cronin.

Where & When

4:30pm until 10:00pm, 11th May 2022 at The Westbury Hotel, Dublin.

How much?

€65 Conference is open to everybody.

Twitter Hashtag

#IUSACon2022

Programme

16.30 Conference Registration and Welcome Reception

17.00 Lightning Talks: 'Bringing People Together in a Polarising World'

- Dr. Orna Young
- Mr. Rory Montgomery
- Prof. Brian MacCraith

Q & A moderated by Ms. Brenda Power

19:00 Networking Reception in The Sidecar Bar

20.00 Awards Dinner

Presentation of Alumni Awards 2022

Ms. Noeline Blackwell and Mr. Lye Ogunsanya

Address from Ambassador Claire Cronin

22.00 Event ends

Dinner

Yes. Dinner is included. A three course meal prepared by the Westbury chefs is included in the conference fee.

How Do You Sign Up

Sign up through Paypal on the website <http://www.irishusalumni.com/conference/>



Our Line Up

We have a mixture of keynote speakers and interactive discussions throughout the programme. Please check out our website for full updates and links to the speakers.

Tweet throughout the day using our Twitter handle @irishusalumni #IUSACon2022

www.irishusalumni.com/conference



Dr. Orna Young

Orna is a co-founder and director of FactCheckNI, responsible for developing and executing the organisation's overall strategy, including managing relationships with grant funders and stakeholders. She directs FactCheckNI's fact checking and critical thinking training programmes, and collaborates with secondary and tertiary educational institutions and community based organisations. She represents FactCheckNI at public events, raising the profile of its work and providing leadership in improving civic discourse and citizen participation.



Mr. Rory Montgomery

Rory Montgomery was a senior Irish diplomat from 1983-2019. He served as Political Director at the Department of Foreign Affairs (2005-09), Permanent Representative to the European Union (2009-13), and Ambassador to France (2013-14). As Second Secretary General at the Departments of the Taoiseach (2014-16) and of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2016-19) he had lead responsibility for EU issues, including Brexit. Earlier in his career he was part of the Irish team which negotiated the Good Friday Agreement.



Prof. Brian MacCraith

Prof. Brian MacCraith was President of Dublin City University (DCU) from July 2010 to July 2020, during which time DCU underwent major transformation and grew significantly in terms of scale, footprint, and reputation. In September 2020, Brian was appointed as chair of the Board of the Gaelic Players Association (GPA). In November 2020, he was appointed by the Government to chair the High-Level Task Force on COVID-19 Vaccination.



Ms. Brenda Power

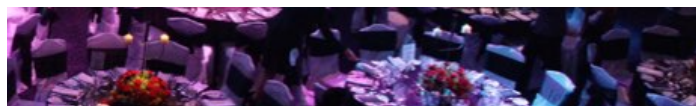
Brenda Power is a broadcaster and journalist. She has worked in both television and radio, presented her own shows on RTE Radio 1 and Newstalk Radio, as well as presenting CrimeCall on RTE 1 TV and working as a presenter/reporter on Would You Believe. Her book, The Noughties – From Glitz to Gloom, was a popular success.



Ambassador. Claire Cronin

Ambassador Cronin served as a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and was the first woman to serve as House Majority Leader. During her service as a legislator, Ms. Cronin was also Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, where she was the architect of significant pieces of legislation, including major criminal justice and police reform.

Distinguished and Emerging Leader Alumni Awards



Ms. Noeline Blackwell

Chief Executive of Dublin Rape Crisis Centre from 2016 - aiming to prevent and heal the trauma of rape and sexual abuse. Before this role, Noeline was Director General of the Free Legal Aid Centre an organisation dedicated to achieving equal access to justice for all. Noeline is a Board member of Front Line Defenders and the Immigrant Council of Ireland



Mr. Lye Ogunsanya

Lye is an experienced advocate for building the change needed in the area of Direct Provision and has extensive experience in the setting up of philanthropic change driven programs in the MEA and at home in Ireland. Lye is the current CEO of Didean social enterprise housing programme. Prior to Dídean, he was Portfolio Manager EMEA at The One Foundation where he led change driven innovation programs in Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Colombia and the Mediterranean.



Ms. Kate Acheson

Kate works as a Business Operations Analyst with the American company 'CrossCountry Consulting' – headquartered in Washington D.C. Kate was nominated by the U.S. Embassy as the Irish delegate on the IVLP; 'Women in Politics and Social Sectors', in October 2014. Kate is a Life and Team Coach, and a workshop creator and facilitator. Kate is a former President of the IUSA serving from 2020 until 2022.



Mr. Chris MM Gordon

Chris is the current President of the Irish US Alumni Association. Chris is CEO of the Irish Social Enterprise Network, Managing Partner of Collaboration Ireland and Adjunct Teaching Fellow at Trinity Business School. He is the recipient of the Boston College U.S. State Department Exchange programme.