

“Improving Public Services through Collaboration in Education”

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE EVENT:

[Opening addresses \(Dr Patricia Mulcahy\)](#)

[Work Based Learning, Real Lifelong Learning \(David Denieffe\)](#)

[Building a Collaborative Relationship \(Deirdre Goggin\)](#)

[Collaborative Education in Action](#)

[Recognising Life Experience in Learning \(Darena Finan, Dr Joseph Collins\)](#)

[Collaboration and Capabilities – CPD and Public Service Reform \(Dr Lucy Fallon-Byrne\)](#)

[Action 14: Towards the Recognition of Public Service Core Skills \(Grainne Cullen\)](#)

[GALLERY](#)

[VIDEO](#)

BACKGROUND:

Institute of Technology Carlow held its Biennial Seminar on Collaboration in Higher Education on the 22 March 2019 in conjunction with the Reform and Delivery Office in DPER and the Department of Education and Skills as part of Our Public Services 2020, a whole of Public Service initiative for development and innovation in the Public Service.

This year's theme was on improving public services through collaboration in education. The event featured addresses by David Denieffe (IT Carlow), Deirdre Goggin (Cork IT), Lt Col Rory McCorley (Defence Forces) together with speakers from the Department of Education and Skills (Grainne Cullen), the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (Dr Lucy Fallon Byrne) and the VHI.

Biographies and presentations from the event can be found below:

Seán Ó Foghlú - Secretary General of the Department of Education and Skills

Seán Ó Foghlú has been the Secretary General of Ireland's Department of Education and Skills since 2012. The Department is one of the three largest state Departments in Ireland with a budget of approximately €9 billion. As the most senior civil servant in the Department, Seán leads an organisation that administers and provides strategic direction to Ireland's primary and second level schools, its further and higher education sectors, and a wide range of state agencies that are responsible for curriculum design, school examinations, special education support, the funding and oversight of further and higher education, teacher education, workforce training, research and evaluation. Seán has been leading a major programme of reform in the Department which is set out in the Department's Strategy statement and the Action Plan for Education 2016 to 2019. Seán is also a member of the Civil Service Management Board which leads civil service renewal.

Dr Alan Wall – Assistant Secretary of the Department of Education and Skills

Alan Wall is an Assistant Secretary General at the Department of Education and Skills. A graduate of Maynooth University, Trinity College Dublin and Queen's University Belfast, he joined the Department of Education in 1993 and has served in a number of areas, including the Central Policy Unit, the ICT Policy Unit and the Office of the Secretary General. In 2005 he was appointed Deputy Director of the newly formed Teaching Council where he was part of the management team responsible for establishing that organisation. He returned to the Department of Education and Skills in 2007 to head up the Teacher Education Section and the ICT Policy Unit. He was appointed Director in January 2011 and Assistant Secretary General in November 2014.

[Opening addresses \(Dr Patricia Mulcahy\)](#)

Dr. Patricia Mulcahy

Dr. Patricia Mulcahy is a graduate of the National University of Ireland in Galway where she completed her undergraduate studies in Biochemistry and her PhD in Biocatalysts. In her current role as President of Institute of Technology Carlow, she has overseen the development of Institute of Technology Carlow to its current position as the second largest of the eleven Institutes of Technology in Ireland in 2018/19, with campuses in Carlow, Wexford and Wicklow, and collaborative programme provision with key partners across Ireland. Under its current strategic plan, the Institute is committed to delivering a multi-campus Technological University to serve the needs of the entire community in the South East region by 2020.

[Work Based Learning, Real Lifelong Learning \(David Denieffe\)](#)

David Denieffe

David Denieffe is the Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Registrar at Institute of Technology Carlow. He has been a leading academic for over 20 years, building on his previous military career. Having chaired leading national and international conferences, he also continues to serve on leading professional and industry groupings. He has been to the forefront in promoting collaborations at Institute of Technology Carlow underpinned by a robust quality assurance system which he oversees.

[Building a Collaborative Relationship \(Deirdre Goggin\)](#)

Deirdre Goggin

Deirdre is the Recognition of Prior Learning and Work Based Learning Company Advisor at Cork IT. She is one of the leading voices in RPL in Ireland and is currently completing her PhD in the area of RPL. Her expertise and wisdom is shaping firm foundations for confident RPL practice within higher education for future years.

[Collaborative Education in Action](#)

Lt Col Rory McCorley

Lt. Col. Rory is the Registrar at the Defence Forces which oversees the collaborative programmes with academic partners including Institute of Technology Carlow. Rory is a military officer with over 30 years' service and has considerable overseas experience.

[Recognising Life Experience in Learning \(Darena Finan, Dr Joseph Collins\)](#)

Darena Finan

Darena is Learning and Development specialist at VHI. She was the winner of The Irish Contact Centre Awards in 2017 and VHI have won the Best Training Programme for the training provided by Darena in Kilkenny.

Dr. Joseph Collins

Joe is Head of Faculty of Lifelong Learning at IT Carlow. He has previously worked in higher education in the areas of education, teacher training and social justice with a focus on pedagogy, curriculum development and teaching methodologies. In his current role he is responsible for the provision of high quality flexible higher

education opportunities with IT Carlow being a leading provider of Higher Education Lifelong Learning & Collaborative programmes in the country.

Our Public Service 2020: Continuous and Responsive Professional Development:

[Collaboration and Capabilities – CPD and Public Service Reform \(Dr Lucy Fallon-Byrne\)](#)

Dr. Lucy Fallon Byrne

Dr Lucy Fallon Byrne is the Director of the Reform and Delivery Office in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. Her role is key is leading on the development and delivery of an integrated programme of reform and innovation across the Civil and Public Sectors. Prior to her current role Dr Fallon Byrne worked in the Central Statistics Office, and the Department of Social Protection. She was Director of the NCPP, and Assistant CEO of the NCCA where she oversaw the development of a new Primary School Curriculum for Ireland.

[Action 14: Towards the Recognition of Public Service Core Skills \(Grainne Cullen\)](#)

Grainne Cullen

Grainne is the Principal Officer with responsibility for Public Service Reform in the Department of Education and Skills. Her role involves the integration of strategy and reform and she has responsibly for both the Reform Programme and the Action Plan for Education. Grainne is the co-ordinator of Action 14 under the Our Public Services programme 2020. Prior to working in the DES, Grainne managed the reform programme which amalgamated three state agencies and resulted in the establishment of a new agency, QQI. Prior to that Grainne held both strategic and education policy focused roles as Head of Strategy and Planning in FETAC.