

Notes on Contributors

Heino Schonfeld is Director of the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education.

Sle de Valera is Minister for State at the Department of Education and Science.

Keynote Speakers

Dr Richard Clifford is Senior Scientist at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina and co-director of both the National Center for Early Development and Learning and the National Prekindergarten Center in the US.

Tricia David is Emeritus Professor at Canterbury Christ Church University College, England and has worked on research and consultancy projects with many organisations including the OECD and the British Council.

Dr Mathius Urban is from the Institute of Pedagogy at the Martin Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg, Germany. He has been involved in the development of quality programmes for many years and since 1999, has worked with the National Quality Initiative.

Presenters

Dr. Caroline Barret-Pugh, Associate Professor Mary Rohl and Jessica Elderfield lecture at the Faculty of Community Services, Education and Social Sciences School of Education at Edith Cowan University, Perth, Western Australia.

Nina Bolgan is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Education, Oslo University College, Norway.

Carmel Brennan is Assistant Director of IPPA, The Early Childhood Organisation, Dublin and a doctoral student in the Dublin Institute of Technology.

Fiona Crawford is a Managing Inspector for Preschool at the Education and Training Inspectorate, Department of Education, Northern Ireland.

Mary Daly and **Emma Jane Nulty** are Project Co-ordinators and **Kerri Smith** is Project Leader with the Cottage Childcare project in Barnardos Eastern Region Coastal in South Dublin.

Philomena Donnelly is a Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at St. Patrick's College of Education, Dublin, Ireland.

Ruth Doran is a founding Director at the St. Jude Preschool, Florida, and is a doctoral candidate at the Florida Atlantic University, USA.

Dr. Francis Douglas is a Lecturer in Early Childhood at University College Cork, Ireland.

Maresa Duignan is a Development Officer at the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education, Dublin, Ireland.

Elizabeth Dunphy is a Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at St. Patrick's College of Education, Dublin, Ireland.

Jacqueline Fallon is a Development Officer at the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education, Dublin, Ireland.

Mary Gallagher has a particular interest in areas of childhood creativity and her paper is based on her Master's thesis (M.Sc) from Trinity College Dublin, completed in 2003.

Rachel Glennane, Trish Morrison, Jean Oswell and Aoife Timothy work at the Central Remedial Clinic, Ireland.

Claudia Gluschkof is the Head of Music and Movement Studies in the Early Childhood Department of Levinsky College of Education, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

Angela Griffin, Anne Fay and Deirbhile Nic Craith are members of the Irish National Teachers Organisation, Ireland.

Michelle Hart is a Quality Officer with Border Counties Childcare Network, Ireland.

Dr. Nóirín Hayes is Head of School at the Department of Social Sciences and Director of the Centre for Social and Educational Research in the Dublin Institute of Technology. She is also a member of the Board of Management of the CECDE.

Ashling Hooper is National Advisor at the National Children's Nurseries Association, Dublin, Ireland.

Karen Marie Eid Kaarby is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Education, Oslo University College, Norway.

Associate Professor Kari Lamer and Assistant Professor Sidsel Hauge are lecturers at Oslo University College, Norway.

Dr. Mary Lewis and Dr. Peter Archer are researchers at the Educational Research Centre, St. Patrick's College, Ireland.

Annette McDonnell is a Project Coordinator at the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education, Dublin.

Imelda Madigan is a Consultant with High/Scope Ireland.

Ivar Männamaa works for NGO, Hea Algu, Estonia, a member of the International Step by Step Association.

Mary Meaney is Head of Policy and Public Affairs (Acting), National Disability Authority, Dublin, Ireland.

Pauline Moreau is head of the Childcare Directorate in the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Dublin, Ireland.

Colette Murray and Jan Peeters are both members of Diversity in Early Childhood Care and Education (DECET) Europe. Colette works with the Early Childhood Programme in Pavee Point Travellers Centre in Dublin, Ireland and Jan works at the Resource and Training Centre for Child Care (VBJK) at the University of Ghent, Belgium.

Stephanie Olmore is the Teacher Certification Project Manager for the International Step by Step Association. **Lenka Franova and Václav Šneberger** are Directors of Step by Step in the Czech Republic and **Tatjana Vonta** is the Head of the Developmental Research Centre for Pedagogical Initiatives in Slovenia.

Mary O'Kane is a doctoral student at the Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland.

Ciara O'Toole is a Speech and Language Therapist working in the Preschool section at the Cope Foundation, Ireland.

Noelle Spring is a Development Officer with the Katharine Howard Foundation, Ireland. **Dr. Mary Daly** is the Co-ordinator of the Community Playgroup Initiative, Ireland. **Dr. Jean Whyte** is a Senior Research Fellow and **Dr. Tina Byrne** is a Research Fellow at the Children's Research Centre, Trinity College, Ireland.

Denise Taylor is Chief Executive Officer of the National Childcare Accreditation Council, Australia.

Kathy Thornburg is a Director of the Center for Family Policy and Research, University Of Missouri. **Dr. Peggy Pearl** is a Professor of Child and Family Development, Southwest Missouri State University, USA.

Maria Walls is a Director of Research and Membership Services with the National Federation Of Voluntary Bodies, Ireland. **Mary O'Connor** is the Manager of Clinical Services at St. Michael's House, Dublin, Ireland.

Thomas Walsh is a Development Officer at the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education, Dublin, Ireland.

Dr. Pam Winter is based at the Department of Education and Children's Services in South Australia. **Gerry Mulhearn** is an Early Years Curriculum Superintendent at the Department of Education and Children's Services, Australia.

Brian Yeats is a School Improvement Adviser with Belfast Education and Library Board, Northern Ireland.