

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Terry Barrett is a Lecturer in Educational Development at the Centre for Teaching and Learning, University College Dublin. She has fourteen years experience of working as an education developer in a range of disciplines. She is joint coordinator of the Enquiry and Problem-based learning Project (Strategic Innovation Fund, Ireland) led by University College Dublin. Her doctorate thesis focused on what we can learn about problem-based learning from listening to how PBL students talked about PBL in tutorials. She has presented keynote PBL papers at conferences in Ireland, England and Finland. She has published in the areas of academic development, problem-based learning and peer observation of teaching. She is particularly interested in enhancing staff and student creativity through problem-based learning, collaborative academic writing, innovations in curriculum design and the use of visuals and poetry in facilitating learning.

Diane Cashman is an Educational Technologist in the UCD Centre for Teaching and Learning and is the coordinator of the NDLR Veterinary & Bio-Environmental Sciences Community of Practice (CoP). Diane graduated from Cork Institute Technology with an Honours Degree in Multimedia. Recently she completed a Graduate Certificate in University Teaching and Learning in 2007 and is presently completing a MSc in eLearning in DIT. Diane has several years experience developing and designing eLearning materials in both the private sector and in Higher Education. Her previous role in Kingston University London as an Educational Developer involved designing and implementing innovative Blended Learning modules.

Helen Fallon is Deputy Librarian at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. She has designed and developed a wide-range of information literacy initiatives, including an accredited undergraduate information literacy module, as part of the NUI Maynooth BA in Local and Community Studies. As project manager of a Higher Education Authority Strategic Initiatives-funded report on postgraduate skills development, she developed a keen interest in this area and is now part of a team delivering an accredited generic skills module in Communication to postgraduates in Science & Engineering at NUI Maynooth. As part of the Academic and National Library Training Co-operative (ANLTC), she developed a writing for academic publication programme for staff in Irish university libraries.

Brendan Hall is a Postgraduate Researcher at the Centre for Active Learning at the University of Gloucestershire. An Earth Science graduate from the University of Glasgow he is currently working on his PhD thesis investigating the teaching and learning of troublesome concepts, with a particular interest in climate change.

Orla Hanratty is currently employed in the Teaching and Learning Centre in NUI Maynooth and is responsible for a variety of projects including the Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education. As an academic developer she also designed and developed programmes for new and experienced teaching staff including a variety of supports for postgraduate tutors and demonstrators in department-specific workshops and cross-faculty programmes. Other current interests include reflective practice and civic engagement in Higher Education. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Education.

Conor Heagney is a senior lecturer at the Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology. He is also the programme co-ordinator of the Bachelor of Business in Enterprise. Conor has fifteen years teaching experience at third level in accountancy, finance and taxation. Prior to entering academia, he worked as a tax adviser for sixteen years in Sligo, Dublin, Hong Kong and Los Angeles with Gilroy, Gannon & Co, Ernst & Young and KPMG. Conor was a member of the Board of Business Studies of the National Council for Educational Awards (NCEA – now HETAC) from 1997 to 2001. He served as an extern examiner to a number of Institutes of Technology, was a member of the Professional Exams Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and was a member of the HETAC Business Standards Expert Group (learning outcomes for business degrees). Conor is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and an Associate of the Irish Taxation Institute. He was awarded a Masters of Commerce (UCD) in 1999. His research interest is in the area of teaching and learning of undergraduate entrepreneurship students.

Bettie Higgs is a senior lecturer at University College Cork (UCC) and has a PhD in Geology. Since 2002, she has coordinated activities supporting teaching and learning at the University. She co-founded Ionad Baire, the Teaching and Learning Centre, in 2006. She is now employed half-time in the Teaching and Learning Centre, Ionad Baire, as Academic Coordinator, and half-time in the Geology Department. She is an associate lecturer for The Open University, and a 2005 Carnegie Scholar of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. She completed an M.A. in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in 2007, and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in the UK.

David Jennings BA, MSc, LIPPA, is a Lecturer in Educational Development at the Centre for Teaching and Learning, University College Dublin. He brings a wealth of experience to his current role, originating as a researcher in the Irish Archaeological Wetland survey where the effective use of technology formed an integral part of the project. Then as the Educational Technology Officer for UCD he promoted the use of technology in teaching and learning across the University. His research and teaching interests include: the use of educational technology in everyday practice, communication proficiency and active learning, the impact of reusable learning resources, collaborative techniques in teaching online and the role of e-moderating in student support. He is currently working upon his PhD, *An Epistemological Exploration of the Taxonomy of E-Learning Models: Theoretical Foundations and the Implications for Future Practice*. He is a member of the Elearning Europa Portal, an Initiative of the EU Directorate General for Education and Culture. He maintains a membership of the Irish Professional Photographers Association and is also an active member of both EDIN and ILTA.

Claire McAvinia is Learning Technologist in the Quality Promotion Office at National University of Ireland (NUI) Maynooth. Her role is to work in collaboration with staff using new technologies in learning and teaching across the university. Much of the focus of her current work is on developing effective use of the Moodle virtual learning environment at NUI Maynooth. Claire was previously based in the UK, where she worked on a range of projects in universities using new technologies across different subjects and topic areas. At various stages of these projects, she was responsible for needs analysis; the development and publication of web-based materials; training and support for staff; project evaluation; and research into the wider impact of the technologies on teaching practice. She has taught at postgraduate and undergraduate level on courses related to learning technology. Her interests are in educational

technology generally, but particularly in computer-assisted language learning (CALL) and the impact of new technologies on the working practices of people in universities.

Marian McCarthy was seconded full time from her post as lecturer in the Education Department, University College Cork to work in Ionad Bairre, which she co-founded in 2006. Marian has been teaching since 1977, having worked at second level for many years. She is co-ordinator of the Certificate, Diploma and Masters in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Marian's doctoral research is in the area of Teaching for Understanding and of approaches that facilitate the development of a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning within the university. She is particularly interested in the synergies between the work of Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, with its focus on the student-centred approaches of Multiple Intelligences and Teaching for Understanding, and those of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, with its focus on teaching as an integral part of scholarship and research.

Mairead McQuaid is Campus Librarian at the Kilkenny Campus of the National University of Ireland Maynooth. Over the past few years she has also lectured on the BA Local & Community Studies degree course in the area of ICT for Research and Learning. Her interests include the role of libraries and information literacy in research and learning and in the use of e-learning in teaching information literacy.

Ivan Moore became Director of the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (promoting learner autonomy) at Sheffield Hallam University, UK in 2007, after five years as an independent educational consultant, and five years as Director of Learning and Teaching at the Universities of Wolverhampton and Portsmouth. He began his career in higher education as a lecturer in Engineering at the University of Ulster before becoming Assistant Director of Educational Development. Ivan has over 50 publications in education and has provided consultancy support to over 75 HE institutions, including the UK Higher Education Academy. His current consultancies include Manchester (Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, CETL), Nottingham Trent (CETL and Fund for the Development of Teaching and Learning, FDTL), Sheffield (FDTL), Loughborough (Engineering Subject Centre and CETL), DCU (reflective portfolios), UCD (student evaluation) and the UK Engineering Council (assessing graduate output standards). Ivan also has extensive experience in change management at a senior institutional level. His particular interests are in developing strategies for learning and teaching, promoting enquiry-based learning, fostering innovation, and student assessment.

Sarah Moore is Dean of Teaching and Learning at the University of Limerick, also fulfilling a teaching and research role within the Kemmy Business School. She is responsible for the continued development of teaching and learning strategies at the University of Limerick. She has published books and articles in the areas of academic practice, student development and learning dynamics.

Ciara O'Farrell is an academic developer at the Centre for Academic Practice and Student Learning (CAPSL) in Trinity College Dublin. She holds a PhD in English from University College Dublin, and her biography of Abbey Theatre playwright Louis D'Alton was published by Four

Courts Press in 2004. She recently edited *Teaching Portfolio Practice in Ireland: A Handbook* (2007), and her current research, publication and practice interests in academic development embrace all aspects of academic writing including writing retreats, writing groups, the links between writing and research, and the links between writing and identity. She is also interested in the role of networks and cross-institutional collaboration.

Geraldine O'Neill is a Senior Lecturer in Educational Development in the Centre for Teaching and Learning, School of Education and Lifelong Learning at University College Dublin (UCD). She is Director of the Graduate Diploma in University Teaching and Learning programme. Her work and research interests are in the areas of student assessment, problem-based learning and student evaluation. Having worked in the past in the School of Occupational Therapy at Trinity College Dublin and more recently in her educational role at UCD, she has a particular interest in the area of the professional development of the student group.

Marion Palmer is Head of the Department of Learning Sciences at IADT. She is chair of the Institute's Teaching and Learning Committee and responsible for the Institute's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy. Prior to becoming Head of Department Marion was a lecturer at IADT teaching physics, science and working in science education. Marion has worked as a teacher of Physics, Science, Maths, Technology and Computers in schools in Dublin and London for many years. She has a Physics degree and a Masters in Education. Marion is a member of Women in Technology and Science (WITS) and a former chair of the Irish Science Teachers' Association (ISTA). Marion is a member of the Council of the Higher Education and training Awards Council (HETAC) and is completing a doctorate in education at Queen's University Belfast on teaching in Institutes of Technology.

Jacqueline Potter is the Academic Development Manager in the Centre for Academic Practice and Student Learning (CAPSL) at Trinity College Dublin. She studied and trained as an ecologist and lectured in this field in the UK for ten years. She became increasingly interested and involved in student learning and was engaged in a variety of institutional change and development roles. She has also initiated and contributed to discipline-specific research and practice projects relating to undergraduate student publication, research-based and work-based learning and curriculum. She is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, UK and an Associate Fellow of the Staff and Educational Development Association. She retains an active interest in the interactions between research, teaching and student learning within disciplines.
