



ISS21 news



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Welcome from ISS21 Director



I am delighted to welcome you to the fifth edition of the ISS21 newsletter. Despite the continuing challenges wrought by COVID-19, 2021 was another busy year for the Institute, with the hosting of multiple events, development of new research projects and grant success. Through our multiple publications, ISS21 members and researchers continue to make an impact on both academic and public debates about key issues affecting contemporary society, from migration and mobility to how we should think about care and sustainability in and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. This impact, and our engagement with multiple partners and

organisations, is also evident in the Institute's recent grant success in the Irish Research Council's New Foundations programme. ISS21 will host 9 new interdisciplinary research projects working with community partners in areas including ageing, welfare reform and early childhood education, to name but a few.

2021 saw the further development of the Institute's research in the area of care relations and practices, and a growing concern to explore the role of the social sciences and social professions in the arena of environmental sustainability and climate change activism. We also continued to play a vital role in driving forward UCC's role in the UNIC (European University of Post-Industrial Cities) initiative, by leading out on work exploring how we can respond to issues of superdiversity in our higher education spaces. I very much look forward to continuing the development of this important work in 2022, and as always, want to sincerely thank our members and researchers who have contributed so much to the Institute over the past year.

Dr. Claire Edwards, ISS21 Director

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/iss21/>

ISS21 Events

Including seminars with Irish and international speakers.



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ISS21 Events 2021

Moving Towards a Barnahus Model, 22 February

On 22 February the ISS21 Children and Young People Research Cluster hosted a well-attended seminar on the Barnahus model of service provision to children in sexual abuse cases, with presentations from Aoife O'Malley, Manager of Barnahus OneHouse Galway, and Fiona Geraghty, Principal Social Worker at the Family Centre in Cork.



Moving Towards a Barnahus Model

Deploying a Gender Lens: Snapshots from Current Research, 23 February

This seminar showcased the work of two members of the ISS21 Genders, Sexualities & Families Research Cluster, Charlotte Waltz, PhD candidate, and Dr Robert Bolton, Post-Doctoral Researcher on the Horizon 2020 PositivMasc Project. Drawing on their respective projects, both researchers highlighted the significance of applying a gender lens in research.

Migration Narratives: A Critical Exploration, 25 February

As part of UCC's Refugee Week 2021, the ISS21 Migration and Integration Research Cluster and the University of Sanctuary Working Group co-hosted a webinar on migration narratives, with speaker Kilian Kleinschmidt (CEO of the Innovation and Planning Agency). In the course of the seminar, Kilian shared his experience of working with refugees in a wide range of countries, emergencies and refugee camps as United Nations official, Aid Worker and Diplomat.



Kilian Kleinschmidt and Dr Claire Dorrity, UCC

Subjective Beliefs and Economic Preferences During the COVID-19 Pandemic, 24 March

In this seminar, hosted by the ISS21 SHAPE cluster, Professor Don Ross presented the initial findings of a major experimental research study which is being carried out in the US and South Africa to explore people's beliefs and economic preferences during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Joy and the Pain, 21 April

Dr Vanessa Lacey (Transgender Equality Network Ireland) shared insights from her research on the experiences of adult trans women, and the families of adult trans women, concerning grief and loss. The seminar was co-hosted by the ISS21 Genders, Sexualities and Families Research Cluster and the UCC LGBT+ Staff Network.

Children's Daily Lives During the COVID-19 Pandemic, 21 Oct.

In this seminar, hosted by the Children and Young People Research Cluster, visiting scholar Iris Würbel (Freie Universität, Berlin) reported on a qualitative participative study on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the lives of 7-to-9-year-old children living in Brandenburg Germany.



Ethnic Discrimination in the Irish Housing Market: Evidence from two Field Experiments, 4 November

In November the ISS21 Migration and Integration Research Cluster hosted a seminar at which Dr. Egle Gusciute (Department of Sociology and Criminology, UCC) presented the findings from two field experiments on ethnic discrimination in the Irish rental housing market.



Dr. Egle Gusciute

Researching and Responding to Homelessness, 16 November

On 16 November the ISS21 Poverties, Social Justice & Inequalities Cluster hosted a seminar on the causes and consequences of homelessness and how it might be addressed at a policy level, with guest speaker Peter McVerry (founder of the Peter McVerry Trust). UCC researchers – Joe Finnerty, Dr Margaret Buckley and Dr Mark Cullinane – reported the findings of recent research on homelessness in Ireland, including the experiences of homeless people during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Joe Finnerty

Events 2021: Environment & Sustainability

Over the last year, interest in the intersection between the social sciences and environmental issues has grown, culminating in several well-attended webinars with national and international speakers. Environmental issues have become an increasing focus of the Research for Civil Society and Social Action (REACT) cluster, which hosted two seminars in 2021, with further events planned for 2022.

Sustainability and the Environment: Developing New Disciplinary Norms in the Social Professions, 10 March

On 10 March the ISS21 REACT Cluster hosted a webinar on environmental education and practice in the social professions. The webinar featured contributions from academics and practitioners from Ireland and the UK, including Benny Goodman (Plymouth University), Maeve Foreman (Trinity College, Dublin), Will O'Halloran (SECAD Wild Work) and Sarah Kearney (Edel House). This was the second in a series of webinars (2020-2021) that seeks to share knowledge and ideas on the connections between climate change and the social professions, and to build the awareness and capacity of educators in the social professions to develop environmental education practices.



Will O'Halloran (SECAD Wild Work)

Cork Healthy Cities Action Plan, 21 April

In this seminar, hosted by the ISS21 SHAPE cluster, Denise Cahill (Healthy Cities Co-coordinator) described initiatives that are underway in Cork city to increase the number of green spaces and open up different spaces (including streets and the river) for recreation, play and exercise. The discussion on healthy cities was located in the wider context of health inequalities and the social determinants of health.



Cork Healthy Cities

Climate Actions Across Generations, 30 April



Dr Tracey Skillington

This event, hosted by the ISS21 Ageing Research Cluster, explored climate activism and attitudes to environmental issues across different generations with presentations from Dr Tracey Skillington (Dept. Sociology & Criminology, UCC) and Terri Morrissey (Chair and Director of *This Is...*). This was followed by a discussion with Frank Dorr and Eileen Lynch from the environmental group Elders for Earth, led by Asha Woodhouse (President of the UCC Students' Union and Environmental Studies student).

The University in the Era of Climate Change and the Responsibility of the Civic University, 13 October



Professor Keri Facer

As part of UCC Community Week 2021, the ISS21 REACT Cluster hosted a keynote presentation with Professor Keri Facer (University of Bristol) and discussant Professor John O'Halloran (President, UCC). In the context of the climate change emergency, Prof. Facer explored the role of universities in helping to create ecologically sustainable and socially just futures. She looked in particular at what the challenge of climate change means for the research agenda, for educational offerings, and for the day-to-day operations and civic responsibilities of the university.



Events 2021: Care Research

ISS21 continues to develop and respond to demands for different types of knowledge in response to emergent societal challenges and change. Over the past few years there has been an increasing amount of interdisciplinary research undertaken on care and care relations, an area which has gained further impetus in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Institute currently hosts two projects on care (CareVisions and YOUNGCARERS) while a third project (CARERENGAGE) came to an end in Oct. 2021. In collaboration with the CareVisions and CARERENGAGE projects, and with the PPI Ignite Network @ UCC, ISS21 co-hosted five seminars on different aspects of care during 2021, details of which are outlined below.



ISS21 CARE21 Research Cluster

Evaluating the National Carers Strategy: Future Directions, 23 March

In the second of a series of events held as part of the CARERENGAGE project (2020-2021), ISS21 and Care Alliance Ireland hosted a workshop at which Dr. Maria Pierce presented research on family carers', service providers' and policy makers' views on the National Carers Strategy. This was followed by a panel discussion with expert stakeholders Susan Scally (Dept. of Health), Emily Holzhausen (Carers UK) and Clare Duffy (Family Carers Ireland).

Family Carer Experiences of Inclusion and Exclusion, 22 September

On 22 September, Care Alliance Ireland and ISS21 hosted the third and final CARERENGAGE event, which explored family carers' varied experiences of both inclusion and exclusion in research on caring. In this session Helena McQuaid (family carer & chair of the Dementia Carers Campaign Network) and Fiona Masterson (member of Family Carers Ireland PPI Panel) talked about their involvement in the research process.

What Have We Learned about Long-term Care in the Pandemic? 11 May

In this timely seminar Professor Mary Daly (University of Oxford) reflected on what the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed about long-term care. She considered the priorities and assumptions that were embedded in policy responses, both those about the giving and receiving of care. The seminar was hosted by the CareVisions project in collaboration with ISS21.

Care Provision: A Feminist Economist's Perspective, 15 November

In November, CareVisions and ISS21 hosted a seminar which explored the economic dynamics of care provision and the gendered nature of care, with presenter Professor Nancy Folbre (University of Massachusetts) and discussant Professor Mary Murphy (Maynooth University).



Professor Nancy Folbre

Centering and Embedding Family Carers in the Co-Production of Carer Research, Supports & Policy, 3 December

The PPI Ignite Network @ UCC and ISS21 hosted a seminar which explored how family carers are integrated and involved in the co-production of carer research, policy and supports. Representatives from Family Carers Ireland (FCI) described the lessons learnt from establishing a PPI panel of family carers, while family carers and partner organisations reflected on their experience of participating in two carer research projects (CARERENGAGE & INTERFACE), focusing in particular on their sense of inclusion.



Nikki Dunne (FCI), Emmy Racine (PPI Ignite); Liam O'Sullivan (Care Alliance Ireland) Carol Kelleher (CARERENGAGE)



ISS21 Projects

In Dec. 2021, nine ISS21-affiliated projects were awarded funding under the Irish Research Council's New Foundations Programme (see opposite). The successful projects address significant intersectional social issues in the fields of ageing, health and well-being, care-giving, Deaf studies, early childhood education, welfare reform, and social justice.

The ESRC/IRC-funded *Reconstituting the Irish Family Network (RIFNET)* project got underway in October 2021. Led by researchers in UCC and the University of Hertfordshire, the project aims to reimagine and reassess the meaning of 'family' in an Irish context.

2021 also saw the completion of several projects, including the long-running Socio-economic Impact of Cork City Northwest Regeneration Programme, the multi-partner Horizon 2020 RRING project, and three IRC New Foundation projects: AAPRI, CARERENGAGE and MusConYP. Details of on-going and completed projects are available on the ISS21 website:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/iss21/researchprojects/>

Our funders



ISS21-affiliated Projects

PositivMasc: Masculinities and violence against women among young people: identifying discourses and developing strategies for change (2019-2022). Dr. Claire Edwards (PI). **Funder:** Horizon 2020. Project co-hosted with Applied Social Studies (ASS) and the School of Law.

IMMERSE: Integration mapping of refugee and migrant children in schools and other experiential environments in Europe (2018-22). Dr. Shirley Martin (PI). **Funder:** Horizon 2020. Jointly hosted with ASS.

GendeResearchIreland: Exploring gender equality in Irish higher education (2018-22). Dr. Monica O'Mullane (Research Fellow). **Funder:** Horizon 2020 MSCA Individual Fellowship Programme.

P4PLAY: People, place, policy and practice for play (2020-2024). Professor Jeanne Jackson and Dr. Helen Lynch (Project Coordinators). **Funder:** Horizon 2020 MSCA Innovative Training Networks (ITN) Programme. Jointly hosted with the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

CareVisions: Envisioning a care-centred society within and beyond Covid-19(2020-2023) Co-PIs: Dr. Claire Edwards, Dr. Carol Kelleher and Dr. Jacqui O'Riordan. **Funder:** Carolan Research Trust.

EMBRACE: Exploring mobility: borders refugees & challenging exclusion (2020-2022). Dr. Claire Dorrity (PI). **Funder:** IRC. Jointly hosted with ASS.

Building transnational research synergies: participatory governance for inclusive societies (2020-2022). Dr. Catherine Forde (PI). **Funder:** IRC. Jointly hosted with ASS.

Inclusive volunteering: exploring migrant participation in volunteerism in Ireland (2020-2022). Dr. Shirley Martin (PI). **Funder:** IRC. Jointly hosted with ASS.

RIFNET: Reconstituting the Irish family (2021-2022). Dr. Maeve O'Riordan (PI). **Funder:** IRC/ESRC. Hosted with the School of History and ASS.

Access, participation, achievement & progression in FET (2019-2021) Professor Fred Powell (PI). **Funder:** SOLAS. Jointly hosted with ASS.

9 New IRC Awards (Dec 2021-Sept 2022)

AgeACTED: Ageism challenged through ethnodrama. Dr Eleanor Bantry White (PI) Hosted with ASS & Department of Theatre.

Babbling babies: Experiences of an early communication and literacy programme for infants Dr Ciara O'Toole (PI) Hosted with Speech and Hearing Sciences & Nursing and Midwifery.

Clean Slate: Understanding the lived experiences of persons with criminal convictions Dr Katharina Swirak (PI) Hosted with Sociology & Criminology.

CO-AGE: Exploring the potential for the development of care co-operatives to support older people to age well at home Dr Carol Power (PI) Hosted with the Centre for Co-operative Studies.

In transit? Documenting the lived experiences of welfare, working and caring for one parent families claiming Jobseeker's Transitional Payment Dr Fiona Dukelow (PI) Hosted with ASS.

ISL-HEALTH: Ensuring access provision to public health services for the Irish Deaf community (2021-2022). Dr Gill Harold (PI) Hosted with ASS.

Socio-Cycle: Exploring the socio-cultural significance of cycling in an Irish regional city Dr Eileen Hogan (PI) Hosted with ASS.

TEENT1D: Teenagers transitioning to the self-management of type 1 diabetes (T1D): Exploring day-to-day experiences & developing social supports. Dr Eluska Fernandez (PI) Hosted with ASS.

YOUNGCARERS: Sharing the caring: Young carers access to and experience of carer supports in Ireland Dr Carol Kelleher (PI) Hosted with Management and Marketing.

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/iss21/>

Research Outputs and Impact

ISS21 researchers continue to make an impact by producing new knowledge through academic publications, research reports, conferences and print and broadcast media.

Selected Outputs from ISS21-affiliated Projects

Bolton, R., Edwards, C., Leane, M., Ó Súilleabháin, F. and Fennell, C. (2021) "'They're you know, their audience": How women are (ab)used to cement the heterosexual bonds between men', *Irish Journal of Sociology*. DOI: 10.1177/07916035211034355

Cullinane, M., O'Sullivan, S. and O'Connell, C. (2022) 'Sustainable urban regeneration in Ireland: A case study', in R. Perrault (ed). *Urban Regeneration: Methods, Implementation and Management*. New York: Nova Science

Edwards, C. (2021) 'Un/safety as placemaking: disabled people's socio-spatial negotiation of fear of violent crime (FOVC)', in: C. Courage *et al.* (eds). *The Routledge Handbook of Placemaking*. London: Routledge

Edwards, C. and Bolton, R. (2021) 'The role of young masculinities in men's violence against women', *RTE Brainstorm*, 16 March 2021

Fathi, M. and Ní Laoire, C. (2021) 'Urban home: young male migrants constructing home in the city', *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2021.1965471>

Fathi, M. (2021) 'Home-in-Migration: Some critical reflections on temporal, spatial and sensorial perspectives', *Ethnicities*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F14687968211007462>

Fathi, M. (2021) "'My life is on hold": Examining home, belonging and temporality among migrant men in Ireland', *Journal of Gender, Place and Culture*. DOI: 10.1080/0966369X.2021.1916445 IF: 1.554

Fernández, E., Kitching, K. & Horgan, D. (2021) 'Young girls' experiences of "good" food imperatives in a working class school community: rethinking food desire?', *Cambridge Journal of Education*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/0305764X.2021.1877618>

Fernández, E., Kitching, K. and Horgan, D. (2022) 'School Food Policy in Ireland: What Can We Learn from What 11-year-olds Think of Food?' in Dorte, R., Torres, I. and Powell, D. (eds) *School Food, Equity and Social Justice: Critical Reflections and Perspectives*. London: Routledge

Harold, G. (2021) *Providing Access for Deaf Irish Sign Language Users: Guidance for Public Bodies*. Accessible [here](#)

Horgan, D., Martin, S., O'Riordan, J., Maier, R. (2021) 'Supporting languages: The socio-educational integration of migrant and refugee children and young people', *Children & Society*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/chso.12525>

Kitching, K., Fernandez, E. and Horgan, D. (2021) 'Sweets are 'my best friend': belonging, bargains and body-shaming in working class girls' food and health relationships', *Children's Geographies*. DOI: 10.1080/14733285.2021.1937522

McCarthy, O. and Amato, A. (2021) 'Why retrofitting homes will be difficult for low income households', *RTE Brainstorm*, 8 November 2021

O'Connor, M. and Harold, G. (2021) 'A milestone for access for Deaf Irish Sign Language users', *The Ahead Journal: A Review of Inclusive Education & Employment Practices*, Issue 12

O'Mullane, M. (2021) 'Developing a theoretical framework for exploring the institutional responses to the Athena SWAN Charter in higher education institutions (HEIs) - A feminist institutionalist perspective', *Irish Journal of Sociology*, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0791603521995372>

Pierce, M., Hughes, Z., O' Sullivan, L. & Kelleher, C. (2021) *A Review of the National Carers' Strategy (2012): How relevant are the actions in 2021 and for the future?* Dublin: Care Alliance Ireland and ISS21, UCC

ISS21 welcomes new staff member

In October 2021 we were delighted to welcome Dr Susan Calnan as Research Support Officer on the UNIC Superdiversity project (details below). Susan completed her PhD (2019) at the School of Public Health in UCC, where she also currently works (p/t) as a post-doctoral researcher in health-related research.



UNIC European University

In 2020 ISS21 played a leading role in UCC's successful bid to the EC Erasmus+ programme to establish The European University of Post Industrial Cities (**UNIC**) initiative. UNIC is an alliance of eight universities which sets out to develop innovative and sustainable means of university collaboration that will boost student and staff mobility while fostering social inclusion and 'superdiversity' in higher education.

During 2021, peer review assessments of the diversity and inclusion practices at each partner university were carried out in order to share experiences and develop best practice in responding to the needs of diverse populations. Every university was visited by a delegation from one other UNIC partner university to discuss and assess its practices aimed at inclusion. ISS21, in conjunction with the EDI Unit, coordinated UCC's assessment of the University of Deusto and the University of Liège's assessment of practices at UCC.

In 2022 ISS21 will coordinate a series of online seminars with leading academics in the field of superdiversity as part of the UNIC Superdiversity Academy.



About ISS21

ISS21 seeks to develop, sustain and enhance excellent, impactful research on the social, economic and cultural issues shaping Ireland in the twenty first century. Researchers at ISS21 interrogate key societal challenges, dynamics, and interrelationships, by promoting collaborative, interdisciplinary research unified around the following thematic areas:

- Ageing
- CARE21
- Children and Young People
- Disability and Mental Health
- Genders, Sexualities and Families
- Gender and the Academy
- Migration and Integration
- Poverties, Social Justice and Inequalities
- Research for Civil Society & Social Action (REACT)
- Society, Health and Political Economy (SHAPE)

ISS21 seeks to build interdisciplinary social science research capacity and demonstrate the significance of the social sciences within and beyond the university. Engaged research is a cornerstone of the Institute's work, with significant relationships forged with community and voluntary sector organisations, local and central government policymakers and other public sector bodies. As a member of the Irish Social Sciences Platform (ISSP), the Institute contributes to national debates on the direction and impact of the social sciences in Ireland.

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Joining ISS21

New members are always welcome. Contact Margaret Scanlon (m.scanlon@ucc.ie) for further details and a membership form.

