

The Conference is open to the public and all are welcome. Please confirm your attendance by 24 March, for catering purposes. Tea/coffee and lunch are included in the conference.

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This event has been organised to mark the launch of the undergraduate journal in political science, *Government and Politics Review*. The journal will showcase the research of Government and Politics students in UCC and the first issue for 2010 investigates the theme of Political Reform.

The event has been generously sponsored by the National Academy for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning.



POLITICAL REFORM IN IRELAND

FRIDAY, 26TH MARCH 2010

COUNCIL ROOM, NORTH WING

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK

Conference Programme

10.00 –10.15 Registration
Tea and Coffee

10.15 – 10.30 Conference Opening
Prof Neil Collins - University College Cork

10:30 –12:30: Session One

Reform Please!

Chair: Noel Whelan - *The Irish Times*

Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Dara Murphy
Progressing Regional Governance

Dr Aodh Quinlivan, University College Cork
Options for Reform, Local Government in Ireland

Ciaran Lynch, TD - Labour Party
Central Local Relations

Dr Eoin O'Malley, Dublin City University
'Democracies die behind closed doors': opening up cabinet to greater scrutiny

Fiona Buckley, University College Cork
Women, Quotas and Politics in Ireland

12.30 – 2.30 Launch of *Government and Politics Review Journal* by **Micheál Martin – Minister for Foreign Affairs**

Lunch and Poster Presentations on Political Reform

2:30 – 4:30: Session Two

Nation State, Global Crisis: Ireland in Focus

Chair: Paul O'Brien – *The Irish Examiner*

Dr Mary C. Murphy – University College Cork
Many Ideas, Minor Change: What's Obstructing Parliamentary Reform in Ireland?

David Stanton, TD – Fine Gael
Twenty First Century Dáil Eireann

Dr Theresa Reidy - University College Cork
Seanad Eireann – In Perilous Danger

Prof David Farrell – University College Dublin
If electoral reform is the answer, what is the question?

Prof Gary Murphy – Dublin City University
"Who really makes policy in Ireland? Explaining why interest group power has corroded Irish democracy"

Each session will begin with contributions from invited speakers. This will be followed by an hour long roundtable discussion on the session themes. Contributions are very welcome and encouraged.