

# SUSTAINABILITY & MODERN SOCIETY CONTRIBUTORS' SHORT BIOGRAPHIES

University College Cork Centre for Adult Continuing Education Seminar Series

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**Edmond Byrne** (BE, MSc, PhD, MA, CEng, MIEI, MICHEM) is a lecturer in **Process & Chemical Engineering** and coordinator of a number of programmes in chemical and pharmaceutical engineering at UCC. As well as holding a number of degrees in engineering and science, he also has an MA in Teaching & Learning in Higher Education. His research interests include sustainability, engineering education and the link between the two. He chaired the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium for Engineering Education (ISEE2010) '*Educating Engineers for a Changing World - Leading transformation from an unsustainable global society*' held at UCC in July 2010 ([www.ucc.ie/isee2010](http://www.ucc.ie/isee2010)).

**Gerard Mullally** (BA, MA, PhD) is a lecturer in the School of **Sociology and Philosophy** specialising in environmental sociology, sustainable development and the sociology of community. He is a former Director of Cork Environmental Forum and a researcher on several pan-European projects on sustainable transport, tourism, energy, regional and local sustainable development and on the governance of sustainable development. Gerard was the Principal Investigator on the 'Sustainable Participation' (SUSPART) project funded by the EPA's STRIVE programme. He is also on the advisory committee of several peer reviewed journals including: *Innovation: the European Journal of Social Science Research*, the *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning*, *Eco-politics Online*, and is on editorial board of the *Irish Journal of Sociology*.

**John Fitzpatrick** (BE, MS, MA, PhD, CEng) is a senior lecturer in **Process & Chemical Engineering** in UCC. He lectures widely to undergraduate, postgraduate, adult education and distance learning students. His research

interests include sustainability & environmental protection, particle technology and the scholarship of teaching & learning.

**Debbie Chapman** is a lecturer in **Environmental Science** specialising in water resources monitoring, assessment and management. Prior to joining UCC she was Deputy Director of the UNEP Global Environmental Monitoring System's Monitoring and Assessment Research Centre in London and an advisor to the World Health Organization on issues related to monitoring and management of water resources in relation to human health. Her current research is focussed on management of lakes, reservoirs and coastal lagoons, and the impacts of human activities on drinking water supplies.

**Graham Parkes**, born and raised in Glasgow, taught Asian and comparative philosophy for thirty years at the University of Hawaii before taking up his present position at Professor and Head of the Department of **Philosophy** at University College Cork, in Ireland, where he is also the founding director of the Irish Institute for Japanese Studies. Among his publications are: *Heidegger and Asian Thought* (ed., 1987), *Nietzsche and Asian Thought* (ed., 1991), *Composing the Soul: Reaches of Nietzsche's Psychology* (1994), and translations (with commentaries) of Detleif Lauff's *Secret Doctrines of the Tibetan Books of the Dead* (1974), Nishitani Keiji's *The Self-Overcoming of Nihilism* (1990), Reinhard May's *Heidegger's Hidden Sources: East-Asian Influences on His Work* (1996), François Berthier's *Reading Zen in the Rocks: The Japanese Dry Landscape Garden* (2000), and Friedrich Nietzsche's *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* (2005). He is currently writing a book about how philosophy can help improve things, with the working title *Getting Better*.

**Denise Gabuzda** is an astrophysicist whose research focuses on the radio emission of active galaxies, an area in which she has published more than 250 papers. She has been in the UCC **Physics** Department since 2002, and has been a member of the Cork Quaker Meeting since 2007. She is interested in sustainability from both scientific and spiritual viewpoints. As a member of the EcoQuakers Ireland Committee, she has recently travelled to more than 20 Quaker meetings all over the island of Ireland to discuss the spiritual aspects of sustainability and care for the environment.

**Cathy Fitzgerald** is a rural-based experimental filmmaker / visual artist with a background in research biology. Born in New Zealand she has lived in Ireland for 16 years. She is presently a **Visual Culture** PhD Scholar at the **National College of Art & Design** (NCAD/[www.gradcam.ie](http://www.gradcam.ie)), Dublin, Ireland. She is looking at experimental film (practice and theory) and ecology in this age of biospheric crisis. Her research work can be seen at [www.ecoartfilm.com](http://www.ecoartfilm.com)

**William Brady** (BA M.Phil MRUP MIPI) is a lecturer in UCC's Programme in **Planning and Sustainable Development**. William previously worked in private practice as a Planning Consultant, contributing to a range of planning and development projects across Ireland and the UK. William's research interests relate broadly to the patterns, forms and processes of social, physical and economic development of urban and metropolitan areas, the spatial and physical manifestations of the urban development process and the challenges associated with the use of the land-use planning system as a way of delivering and operationalising sustainable development.

**Bénédicte Sage-Fuller** is a lecturer in the UCC **Law** Department. She has gained experience in issues of sustainability in maritime transport, thanks to her participation to pan-European research projects in shipping. She has worked with various European coast guard agencies, marine research institutes, and now with the UNCTAD Train for Trade programme on Port Management. Her research has been on legal principles for environmental protection, and is

now deepening to the ethical justifications for marine environmental law.

**John Barry** is Reader in the School of **Politics, International Studies and Philosophy** and Associate Director of the Institute for a Sustainable World at **Queens University Belfast**. He has written extensively about normative aspects of the politics and ethics of sustainability, citizenship and sustainability; the political economy of sustainability and the politics of renewable energy. While based within social science, he approaches issues around un/sustainability such as climate change from an explicitly interdisciplinary perspective. He is also a Green Party councillor, a founding member of Holywood Transition Town and co-founder of two think tanks, Green House and the Centre for Progressive Economics.

His publications include, *Rethinking Green Politics: Nature, Virtue, Progress* (Sage, 1999) [Winner of the PSA's WJM Mackenzie Prize for best book published in political science 1999]; *Environment and Social Theory*, 2nd edition (Routledge, 2007), with John Proops, *Citizenship, Sustainability and Environmental Research*, (Edward Elgar, 2000); and has co-edited (with Marcel Wissenburg), *Sustaining Liberal Democracy: Ecological Challenges and Opportunities*, (Palgrave, 2001); (with Gene Frankland) *The International Encyclopedia of Environmental Politics*, (Routledge, 2001); (with Robyn Eckersley), *The State and the Global Ecological Crisis* (MIT Press, 2005).

He is also co-editor of the journal *Environmental Politics*.

**Séamus Ó Tuama** (BSocSc, GDJ, PhD) is a senior lecturer in political science at the Department of **Government** in UCC and is currently the Director of UCC's Centre for Adult Continuing Education. He has a background in both political science and sociology with specialisation in democracy especially in relation to science and technology, citizenship, human rights, political thought and risk. He is joint-convenor of the Theory Circle at UCC, a transdisciplinary group concerned with the development of critical social and political theory and how this interacts with risk, responsibility and science and technology.