

ISS21 news



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Welcome from ISS21 Director



I am delighted to welcome you to the third edition of the ISS21 newsletter. 2019 was another busy year for the Institute, with our research clusters hosting multiple events, new projects getting up and running, and new research staff joining the Institute. We extend a warm welcome to Dr. Reana Maier, who joined the Horizon2020 IMMERSE project team (exploring the integration of migrant children in schools); Dr. Robert Bolton, who is working on the EU GENDER NET-Plus project PositivMasc (exploring young people's attitudes to masculinity in challenging violence against women); and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Dr.

Mastoureh Fathi, whose project Youth-Home explores migrant men's understandings of home and urban spaces.

We were also delighted to host two Visiting Scholars in 2019, Dr. Aisling Gallagher and Dr. Russell Prince, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, Massey University, New Zealand.

A key event in the Institute's 2019 calendar was the launch of the *ISS21 Strategic Plan 2019-2024*. The Plan sets out the Institute's vision to be a leading centre in Ireland for imaginative, interdisciplinary and impactful social science research. Launched by the President on 4 November, it identifies four key 'preoccupations' which will unify and guide our work over the next 5 years. We look forward to progressing the ambitions set down in the Plan, and solidifying ISS21's position as an enabling, energizing and connecting space for social science research and researchers within the University.

Dr. Claire Edwards, Director ISS21.

ISS21 Events

2019 has been another busy year for events, including seminars with invited speakers, cluster seminar series, and a masterclass.

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ISS21 Research Projects

Find out more about our research.

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MSCA Fellow & Visiting Scholars

In 2019 ISS21 welcomed MSCA Fellow, Dr Mastoureh Fathi, and two Visiting Scholars.

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ISS21 Strategic Plan Launch

The *ISS21 Strategic Plan (2019-2024)* was launched by UCC President, Professor Patrick O'Shea in November.

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

Selected ISS21 Events, 2019

DISABILITY, MENTAL HEALTH & THE ETHICS OF VULNERABILITY

On 21st February the ISS21 Disability and Mental Health Cluster hosted a half-day seminar which explored the concept of vulnerability in the context of mental health and disability-related research. Speakers at the event included: Dr Konstantina Poursanidou (Survivor Researcher Network, UK); Nicola



Dr Konstantina Poursanidou, Survivor Researcher Network, UK.

Maxwell and Dr Claire Edwards (School of Applied Social Studies, UCC); Dr Katherine Furman (Department of Philosophy, UCC) and Prof Mary Donnelly (School of Law, UCC).

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF PATIENT PAYMENT IN THE IRISH HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

This half-day workshop, co-hosted by the ISS21 SHAPE cluster and the College of Business & Law, examined the origins and implications of different funding mechanisms for healthcare.

Participants from Ireland, the UK and Spain presented eight papers on a range of topics including the history of universal health care; the costs of healthcare in contemporary Europe; paying for health in Ireland (historical and economic perspectives); and access to healthcare, private health insurance and inequity.



Presenters at the Patient Payment in the Irish Healthcare System workshop, 28 March.

CHALLENGES IN CURRENT AGEING RESEARCH

The ISS21 Ageing Research Cluster hosted a half-day workshop on 10 April to discuss current themes in ageing research in Ireland and showcase work being carried out in UCC. Keynote speeches were delivered by Seán Moynihan (CEO, ALONE) and Cathal McCrory (The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing, TILDA), followed by a series of short presentations from researchers and PhD students.



Seán Moynihan (CEO, ALONE) addresses the Challenges in Current Ageing Research seminar.

EVIDENCE AMALGAMATION WORKSHOP

On 10 May, the SHAPE research cluster hosted a workshop on evidence amalgamation, with Irish and international presenters, including Louise Caffrey (TCD), Hannah Jongsma (University College London), Ben Baumberg Geiger (University of Kent) and Jacob Stegenga (University of Cambridge).

CONTESTED SPACES OF BELONGING: ASYLUM, DIRECT PROVISION AND BEYOND

In September, the Migration and Integration research cluster hosted a symposium which explored current questions relating to asylum and contested spaces of belonging. Dr Jonathan Darling (Durham University) delivered the keynote speech on the privatisation of dispersal accommodation and reception services for asylum seekers in the UK. Papers were presented by Cecilia Amabo (City of Sanctuary), Rosie Howlett-Southgate (Department of Geography, UCC), Dr. Claire Dorrity (School of Applied Social Studies, UCC) and Dr. Dominic Hewson.



Presenters at the Contested Spaces of Belonging seminar

INSTITUTIONALISING GENDER EQUALITY

On 15 November, Dr. Monica O'Mullane's EC-funded project *GendeResearchIreland*, hosted a seminar at ISS21 with Professor Uduak Archibong (University of Bradford) on institutionalising gender equality in higher education. Dr O'Mullane also shared some initial reflections from her research on Athena SWAN.



MSCA Fellow Dr. Monica O'Mullane and Professor Uduak Archibong

Research Clusters

2019 has been another busy year for the ISS21 research clusters. Cluster members organised a number of events with invited speakers from Ireland and internationally (see p.2). In addition, the Migration and Integration and the SHAPE clusters each ran a comprehensive seminar series, titles from which are listed opposite.

During April 2019, the Children and Young People (CYP) and Research for Civil Society & Social Action (REACT) clusters held showcase events at which cluster members from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds delivered short presentations on their current or completed research, followed by lively Q&A sessions.



Participants at the CYP Showcase

Research Cluster Seminars 2019

'The scales and justice: the ethics of public health anti-obesity policies', Margaret Steele (Department of Philosophy) 13 February.

'Memory, mobility and material culture: thinking migration through objects', Dr. Chiara Giuliani (Department of Italian) and Dr. Kate Hodgson (Department of French) 26 March.

'The sociology of psychomedical torture', Dr Myles Balfe (Department of Sociology & Criminology) 27 March.

'Children's literature seminar', Mairéad Mooney (School of English), Áilín Quinlan (School of English and Applied Social Studies) and Dr. Margaret Scanlon (ISS21) 13 May.

'Educational inequality and health inequality: a European analysis', Dr Brendan McElroy and Dr Edel Walsh (Department of Economics) 8 May.

'Exclusion from healthcare in Spain: unethical and ineffective', Professor Txetxu Ausin (Spanish National Research Council) 29 May.

'Discourses on nutrition: what do 11-year-old girls think of food?', Dr Eluska Fernandez (Applied Social Studies) 19 June.

'Home, art and memory: refugee women's narratives of displacement in Turkey', Dr Mastoureh Fathi (ISS21) 15 October.

'On trusting neighbours more than experts: an Ebola case study', Dr Katherine Furman (Department of Philosophy) 23 October.

Showcasing Innovative Methodologies in the Social Sciences

In recognition of ISS21's commitment to support innovative methodological approaches, a number of events were held in 2019 to share ideas and develop networks in the creative methodologies' arena. On the 24-25 October, the ISS21 Children and Young People (CYP) Research Cluster, in conjunction with the Children's Research Network, hosted a **masterclass on creative research methodologies** with children and young people. Hosted as part of a graduate Masterclass module aimed at staff, researchers and postgraduate students, the class explored cross-disciplinary methodological and ethical issues which frame diverse forms of research on children and young people's lives. It also provided an opportunity for participants to explore and experiment with creative research methods, as a way of understanding broader societal challenges related to children and young people, including in/equality, environmental sustainability, and societal mobilities. The keynote speech was delivered by Professor Kay Tisdall (University of Edinburgh), a leading expert on childhood studies.

The use of creative methodologies in research with children was also explored in an earlier seminar hosted by the CYP cluster on the theme of **'Community, Urban Futures and Faith Belonging in Children's Art'**. In this talk Professor Hickey-Moody (RMIT University, Australia) described the use of arts workshops to generate and document religious children's perspectives on their worlds.

On 1 October 2019 Dr Catharina von Koskull (University of Vaasa, Finland) presented a seminar on the use of **ethnodrama** in researching and representing the experiences of older people living in care home settings. The collaborative process of translating the findings into an ethnodrama was explored, along with videos of the results performed by professional actors. This event was hosted by the ISS21 Caring Working Group and the Department of Management and Marketing.

ISS21 Research Projects

ISS21 currently hosts/co-hosts nine research projects, funded through national and international sources. The projects cover a diverse range of issues including responsible research and innovation; the integration of refugee and migrant children in schools; home making practices amongst young male migrants; and the challenges facing rural and urban volunteering.

A new multi-partner Horizon 2020 project on masculinities and violence against women (PositivMasc) commenced in March 2019. Funded through the GENDER-NET Plus programme, the project sets out to explore and position the discourses that young people use in their understanding of masculinities and violence against women (VAW) and develop strategies and resources to support and promote anti-VAW masculinities.

Our funders



ISS21 Current Projects

PositivMasc: Masculinities and violence against women among young people: identifying discourses and developing strategies for change (2019-2022). Dr. Claire Edwards (PI). **Funder:** H2020: GENDER-NET Plus ERA-NET Cofund. Co-hosted with Applied Social Studies and the School of Law.

Responsible research and innovation networked globally (RRING) (2018-21). **Funder:** Horizon 2020. Project hosted by MaREI with contribution by ISS21.

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 Applied Social Studies.

GendeResearchIreland (2018-22). Dr. Monica O'Mullane. **Funder:** Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship programme.

Youth-Home: Migrant male homemaking in Ireland (2019-2021). Dr. Mastoureh Fathi. **Funder:** Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship programme.

Developing a Deaf awareness and accessibility auditing template (2018-19). Dr. Gill Harold (PI). **Funder:** Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies.

Strengthening rural and urban volunteering (2019-2020). Dr. Margaret Scanlon and Prof. Fred Powell (PIs). **Funder:** Munster Volunteer Centres. Co-hosted with Applied Social Studies.

Socio-economic impact of Cork City Northwest Regeneration Programme, Phase 2 (2017-20). Dr. Cathal O'Connell & Dr. Siobhán O'Sullivan (PIs). **Funder:** Cork City Council. Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies.

Caring for family members with dementia: an exploration of how family caregivers' shifting experiences of family and home shape family consumption (2018-19). Dr. Carol Kelleher (PI). **Funder:** Association of Consumer Research. Jointly hosted with the Department of Management and Marketing.

Music consumption and young people's negotiation of space in direct provision: An A/r/tographic inquiry (MusConYP) (2019-2020). Dr. Eileen Hogan (PI). **Funder:** Irish Research Council (IRC). Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies & the Glucksman Gallery.

Recently Completed

Evaluation of mobile Garda youth diversion project (Aug-December 2019). Pat Leahy (PI). **Funder:** Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services. Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies.

Disability & the creation of safe(r) space (2017-19). Dr. Claire Edwards (PI). **Funder:** IRC. Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies.

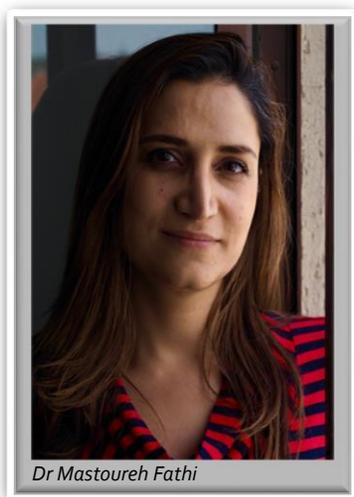
Evidence-based research for policy and society: a critical evaluation of the implications of participatory governance for civic engagement and the state (2017-19). Dr. Catherine Forde (PI). **Funder:** IRC. Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies.

Living well with the dead in contemporary Ireland (2018-19). Dr. Orla O'Donovan (PI). **Funder:** Wellcome Trust. Jointly hosted with Applied Social Studies, the Department of Drama and Theatre Studies & the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

ISS21 hosts MSCA Fellow & Visiting Academics

In June 2019 we were delighted to welcome **Dr Mastoureh (Masi) Fathi**, who joined ISS21 as a Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA) Fellow.

Dr Fathi's research project, Youth-Home, explores home-making practices in domestic and urban spaces among young male migrants living in Cork. Using an innovative methodology, which includes walking interviews in Cork city and photography of domestic spaces and urban locations, the project aims to provide a novel comparative analysis of the less explored notion of 'home' and domesticity among migrant men. Participants in Youth-Home will produce an app about Cork city, from migrants' perspectives, and will exhibit their photographs at exhibitions in Cork and London. Located within the ISS21



Dr Mastoureh Fathi

Migration and Integration cluster, this project is supervised by Dr Caitríona Ní Laoire.

Dr Fathi is the second of our current MSCA Research Fellows, joining Dr Monica O'Mullane who is conducting research on gender equality in Irish higher education.

In September 2019, ISS21 welcomed Visiting Scholars, **Dr. Aisling Gallagher and Dr Russell Prince from Massey University, New Zealand**. Dr. Gallagher is a Senior Lecturer at the School of People, Environment and Planning, with expertise in welfare restructuring and changing patterns of childcare. In the course of her visit, Dr. Gallagher presented a seminar on the marketization of childcare in New Zealand, which was hosted by the ISS21 Children and Young People Cluster.

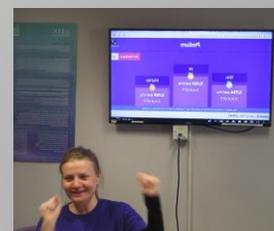
Dr Prince is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography in the School of People, Environment and Planning at Massey University. While in UCC, Dr Prince presented the findings of on-going research on the 'invention' of the New Zealand economy and the geography of statistics.



ISS21 research: outreach and impact

During 2019 ISS21 researchers continued to disseminate their research through national and international conferences, peer-reviewed journal articles and project reports, including the final report of the IRC-funded Safer Space project. *Towards Safe(r) Space: Disability and Everyday Spaces of Un/safety and Hostility in Ireland* was launched at the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission on 6 December 2019. This one-day event brought together speakers from within and beyond the academy, including disability activists, the Gardai, and community organisations working in the area of disability hate crime.

ISS21 was delighted to participate in Cork Discovers again in September 2019. Our theme for this year's event was 'Seeing Society Differently', focusing on how social science research can provide new insights into people's everyday lives and the issues that matter to them. As part of the event, the Institute hosted an exhibition stand in Devere Hall, where members of the public were able to meet with ISS21 researchers and find out about their work. ISS21 projects were showcased at the event through a poster display and project flyers. Activities for younger visitors and families included an arts-based workshop, which focused on exploring what our homes, communities and schools mean to us, and an interactive 'kahoot' quiz on a range of social issues.



ISS21 at Cork Discovers, September 2019

Launch of the ISS21 Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

On 4 November 2019, UCC President, Professor Patrick O'Shea, formally launched the [ISS21 Strategic Plan 2019-2024](#), which sets out a vision for the Institute's role as a leading centre for imaginative, interdisciplinary and impactful social science research.

In his opening address, Professor O'Shea noted the importance of interdisciplinary social science research in helping us to understand key societal challenges, which cannot be addressed by any one discipline alone. He highlighted the Institute's work in promoting interdisciplinary research on a wide range of important and complex issues and questions, including, for example, how we support migrant children to integrate and flourish in European societies, how we address violence against women and how we understand public attitudes to energy consumption.

Other speakers at the launch included Professor Anita Maguire, Vice President for Research and Innovation, Professor Chris Williams, Head of College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences (CACSSS) and Dr. Claire Edwards, Director of ISS21. Professor John McCarthy (Chair of the ISS21 Board) chaired the event.

The presentations were followed by a showcase of ISS21 research, including a poster display of the ISS21 research clusters and projects.

What Preoccupies Us

The ISS21 Strategic Plan sets out a vision for the Institute's role as a leading centre for imaginative, interdisciplinary and impactful social science research concerned with addressing some of the key social issues and challenges facing Irish and global societies today. Following a process of consultation with ISS21 members and other stakeholders, the Strategic Plan sets out four 'preoccupations' that unify the work of the Institute's projects, research clusters and members, and which will guide and shape our priorities over the next five years:

Collective futures: How do we envisage and create just, inclusive and liveable societies?

Contemporary socialities: identity, difference and everyday lives. How can we understand the lived experience of difference and identity in contemporary society?

Policy, participation and citizenship: What does it mean to be a citizen, to participate, and to be affected by, and affect, policy?

Innovative, creative research praxis: How can we develop innovative research methods that are responsive to social life?



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
- Caring
- Children and Young People
- Research for Civil Society & Social Action (REACT)
- Disability and Mental Health
- Educating for the Professions
- Genders, Sexualities and Families
- Migration and Integration
- Poverties, Social Justice and Inequalities
- 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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