

EDUCATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

LETTER FROM THE ESAI PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues

It is that time of year again – time to renew your membership and prepare for the annual conference!

Membership renewal 2009

We wish to remind people about the need to renew membership ahead of the **1st of May 2009** in order that you will be eligible to receive your copies of *Irish Educational Studies* for this calendar year. The rates for attendance at the conference are also significantly lower for ESAI members (whether individual or associate). If you have mislaid your membership form you can access an electronic copy on <http://www.esai.ie>.

We encourage colleagues to promote ESAI membership among doctoral researchers. Given that there are over 250 people undertaking doctorates in education on the island of Ireland, the ESAI Executive views this group as crucial for the future vitality of the association. In order to promote active participation by doctoral researchers, ESAI is supporting a joint QUB and UCD initiative (funded by the Standing Conference on Teacher Education North and South, SCoTENS) in organising a conference, in May 2009, for doctoral students in education on the island of Ireland.

34th annual ESAI conference 2009

The theme of the 2009 conference is *Professional education: research, practice and learning*. Taking a broad view of professional learning in education (for teachers, leaders, lecturers, researchers etc) the 2009 conference will address the challenges, conditions, processes and contexts of professional education. As such, the theme seeks to examine the dynamics, scope and conditions of professional learning, taking into account the challenges of increasing diversity, social

change and sustainable development in an era of life-long learning. Please send proposal submissions, on or before Friday 9th January 2009, to Dr. Majella McSharry, Academic Coordinator, ESAI Annual Conference: majella.mcsharry@dcu.ie (see p. 5 for further conference details).

The evaluations of last year's Annual Conference in Galway indicated that the majority of those in attendance were again very satisfied with a hotel venue. As a result we have opted for a similar venue next year. We are holding the 2009 conference in Kilkenny in Hotel Kilkenny. Hotel information is currently being posted on the ESAI website. We would encourage all those intending to stay in Hotel Kilkenny to book their accommodation at their earliest convenience. We will also post information on the website detailing alternative local Bed and Breakfast accommodation.

This is my first Newsletter as President of ESAI. I would like to take this opportunity to pay particular tribute to my colleagues on the Executive with whom I work to promote educational studies (see p.5 for the ESAI Executive). Since a voluntary association such as ESAI depends on the active participation of all its' members, we invite those interested in becoming involved to communicate with one of the members of the ESAI Executive. I look forward to working with you over the next two years.

Dr. Paul Conway, ESAI President
pconway@education.ucc.ie

IRISH EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

With the appointment of a new editorial board last March, the journal has been undergoing a period of review and development. The core editorial team consists of the General Editor (Dr Dympna Devine), and three Co-editors (Dr Paul Conway, Dr Emer Smyth and Dr Aisling Leavy) while Dr Maeve O'Brien has joined in the capacity of Reviews editor. This latter marks a new development in the journal, and will include not only the compilation of book reviews but also reviews on policy developments/initiatives of interest to the research community, policy makers and practitioners working in education. Some changes have also been made to the editorial and associate editorial board. A strategic plan has been developed for the journal that includes the publication of a number of special issues related to: Education and the Law; Race, Migration and Education; and Higher Education. Calls for papers, which will go through the usual peer review process, will be issued over the coming months through the ESAI website, and Informa world (RoutledgeTaylor and Francis). It is intended that these issues will provide a balance between research in Ireland and international research in each area, providing a solid basis for critical debate and reflection between researchers in the field.

Reviewers wanted:

We are constantly up-dating the reviewers list for the journal. This is important work that contributes to the academic standing of the journal and the development of a system of peer support for researchers in the field. If you would like to have your name included on our list of reviewers, please email the journal administrator Declan Fahie (Declan.fahie@ucd.ie) for a

reviewer form. Sincere thanks to all those who have helped with the review process to date.

Papers welcome:

We invite colleagues to submit papers based on their research and welcome submissions from colleagues researching across the broad field of education. We also welcome submissions from those who are at the early phase in their research careers, including doctoral students. Please note that all papers should be under 8,000 words and should be written with an international as well as national audience in mind. All papers should be submitted in the first instance by email to Declan.fahie@ucd.ie

Dr Dympna Devine, General Editor
dympna.devine@ucd.ie

IRISH EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on:
'Race' Migration and Education in a globalised context

Guest Editors: Kalwant Bhopal University of Southampton and Gill Crozier, Roehampton University

General Editor: Dympna Devine, University College Dublin

In terms of the troubling nature of national boundaries and national populations, globalisation has had a profound effect on Europe and other Western countries. Whilst countries such as Britain and the Netherlands have been multicultural and multiethnic societies for many years, others such as Ireland have experienced significant recent migration. However, for all of these countries irrespective of their histories, migration as a result of war, famine and poverty; together with the opening up of Europe, has resulted in the changing demographics of nations. The issue of migration has thus moved towards centre-stage in international discourses on globalisation, with migrants themselves

simultaneously positioned as key contributors to economic development, and a potential threat to social stability and harmony.

Education is central to processes of production and (re) production in society and should be at the core of any discussion about immigration and the development of multicultural and socially just societies. It is all the more urgent in light of the recognised risk of poverty and exclusion among immigrant groups. How successfully immigrant communities negotiate the education system depends however not only on the cultural, social and economic resources they bring to the education encounter but also on the willingness of powerful stakeholders in education to respond to their diverse needs. In an increasingly competitive and market driven education system, concepts related to 'recognition', 'culture' and 'belonging' are themselves open to scrutiny and debate, underpinned by constructs of national identity which position certain groups as 'other', in need of (re) formation in line with national norms. As active agents, migrant and minority ethnic groups respond to these challenges in different ways, often seeking to balance the desire for social mobility and integration with demands for cultural recognition and self-determination.

Irish society has shifted from being one characterised by intensive periods of emigration, to one of intense immigration. This 'unexpected immigration' during a period of rapid economic development has given rise to renewed challenges to constructs of national identities, as well as those of citizenship. Coinciding with changes in the education system arising from processes of modernisation and intense educational reform, old certainties are replaced by insecurities and challenges as to how best to work with increasing ethnic diversity in classrooms and schools. As a country with its own history of ethnic conflict, scholars across Ireland have much to learn from how other countries respond to immigration as well as to contribute to understandings of how responses to immigration may be culturally/nationally/ and locally specific. *Irish Educational Studies* is hosting a special issue on the area of 'Race', Migration and Education. Papers that explore issues related to migration, 'race', ethnicity and education, stimulating debate that is of

relevance to the Irish and International research community are welcome. Papers may include but are not limited to the following topics:

- 'new' immigrant communities and the education system
- 'established' 'minority ethnic communities and education
- processes of identity formation that are mediated by migrant/ethnic status, as well as intersections of gender, class and religion
- challenges of teaching and learning, including language learning
- parents, teachers and students' perspectives
- racisms and mechanisms of inclusion/exclusion at local and national levels
- effective practices in schools
- Teacher Education
Higher Education and Further Education

Notes for Prospective Authors:

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Papers should be no longer than 7,000 words including references. All papers will be refereed through a peer review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submitted papers are available on <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/ries>. Papers should be submitted in the first instance to Declan Fahie, journal administrator at Declan.fahie@ucd.ie. Please indicate the title of the Special Issue in your submission.

Important Dates:

Manuscripts due: **March 31st 2009**

Final manuscript due: **September 2009**

Publication of accepted papers: **Spring 2010**

For any further information or queries please contact the editors:

Kalwant Bhopal k.bhopal@soton.ac.uk

Gill Crozier crozier@roehampton.ac.uk

Dympna Devine ympna.devine@ucd.ie

ESAI MEMBERSHIP NEWS DECEMBER 2008

As has now become our custom, ESAI membership for 2008 closed officially on May 1st as the last date to secure receipt of a year's of Irish Educational Studies (IES). The fixing of this date is dictated by the production schedule and demands of Routledge. As they print to demand they do not hold back-copies and later subscriptions cannot benefit from the receipt of the journal, hence the decision to close yearly membership so early.

As of the close of registration this year the Association has 136 individual members, 76 Associate members, 6 institutional members and 5 corporate members. As a point of comparison, in 2007 we had 141 individual members 53 Associate members, 6 institutional members and one corporate member. So while we have unfortunately lost 5 individual members during the year we have gained 23 Associate members and, importantly some further corporate members. The increase in Associate membership is a reflection of the success of the campaign to attract more doctoral students to the Association which we undertook last year. This year we hope to embark on a corporate membership drive contacting education

centres, VECs, unions and other educational groups.

Membership rates for 2009 have been set at €35 for Associates, €80 for individual members and €300 for institutions. As an individual subscription to IES is €65 this year, you will hopefully agree that these rates are very reasonable.

The email contact for all matters relating to membership is esaimembership@gmail.com. I have had a couple of indicators that mail might not be getting through so, if possible, could you copy your mail to seerya@tcd.ie for the next while so that I can check on the receipt of messages. Finally, sincere thanks to all our members who continue to support the Association, its work and publications!

Aidan Seery, Membership Secretary

esaimembership@gmail.com / seerya@tcd.ie

REDEVELOPMENT OF THE ESAI WEBSITE

ESAI members attending our 2007 annual conference in Galway may remember completing a survey to help us plan for the redevelopment of our website. Thank you to everyone who contributed ideas, comments and feedback.

Since the conference, work has been underway to assess suitable systems which will make the site more dynamic, allow for easier and quicker updating, and exploit some of the newer communication tools on the web. We are in the latter stages of planning the new site, and 'construction' will begin very shortly. In the meantime, please continue to visit the site for news of events, our own conference, the call for papers, and details of how to join the ESAI.

Claire McAvinia, Webmaster

www.esai.ie

INAUGURAL DOCTORAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE IN EDUCATION

The School of Education, Queen's University Belfast, and the School of Education, University College Dublin are to jointly host the first all Ireland conference for Doctoral students in Education, with the theme: *'Doing your doctoral studies in Education: Questions, Challenges and Opportunities'*. The conference, which will take place on Friday and Saturday May 8th and 9th 2009 (venue School of Education, Roebuck Castle, UCD) aims to provide a forum for doctoral students from all over Ireland to come together in a supportive environment to present and discuss their research and extend their understanding of advanced research in education.

It is also hoped the conference will encourage the formation of professional links among educators and researchers in education who are at the earlier phases of their research careers.

Generously supported by SCoTENS and the ESAI, at least one bursary (to cover travel and cost of accommodation for one night) is to be provided to each School/College of Education across Ireland that applies to participate in the conference.

A conference email address has been set up doctoralconf09@googlemail.com for the submission of papers. The formal call for papers will be issued mid November, with abstracts due January 16th 2009. For any additional queries please contact the conference organisers at the email address above and for information about the bursaries either D y m p n a D e v i n e (dympna.devine@ucd.ie) or Jannette Elwood (j.elwood@qub.ac.uk).

ESAI 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE HOTEL KILKENNY (2-4 APRIL 2009)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION: RESEARCH, PRACTICE AND LEARNING

Taking a broad view of professional learning in education (for teachers, leaders, lecturers, researchers) this year's ESAI Annual Conference addresses the challenges, conditions, processes and contexts of professional education. As such, the theme seeks to address the dynamics, scope and conditions of professional learning taking into account the challenges of increasing diversity, social change and sustainable development in an era of life-long learning.

In keeping with ESAI's mission of fostering research within and across education sectors, this year's theme focuses on how professional education presents for all sectors of education (pre-school, primary, secondary, tertiary, adult and further education etc). Among the issues that might be addressed are the following:

- ◆ Given that education systems are increasingly seen as playing a crucial role in promoting life-long learning, how does this impact on professional education?
- ◆ In what ways is professional education policy both shaping and being shaped by the policy appeal of deregulation, accountability, managerialism and learning outcomes?
- ◆ As some curricular areas emerge as the focus of policy-making (e.g. science, mathematics and technology; languages), what is the impact of such a focus on professional identity and the practices of leading, teaching and learning?
- ◆ What is the relationship between professional education and the knowledge society?
- ◆ The influence of trans-national agencies/trends on professional education
- ◆ The role and impact of professional learning communities (face-to-face, online and blended)
- ◆ Defining professional education - what does it mean in different educational contexts?/What does it mean for different education professionals?

(The template for conference submissions is available on p.7 of the newsletter) Conference proposals must be received by close of business on **Friday 9th January 2009**.

ESAI EXECUTIVE

2008-2009

Dr. Delma Byrne, ESRI (Hon Treasurer)

Dr. Paul Conway, UCC (President)

Mella Cusack, Trócaire/CDVEC Curriculum Development Unit (Newsletter Editor)

Dr. Tom Daly, Special Education Support Service (SESS)

Dr. Dympna Devine, UCD (General Editor, *Irish Educational Studies*)

Ted Forde, Coláiste Dhulaigh

Bernie Kiely, Junior Certificate Schools Programme, CDVEC Curriculum Development Unit

Paula Kinnarney, NUI, Maynooth (Hon Secretary)

Dr. Rose Malone, NUI, Maynooth

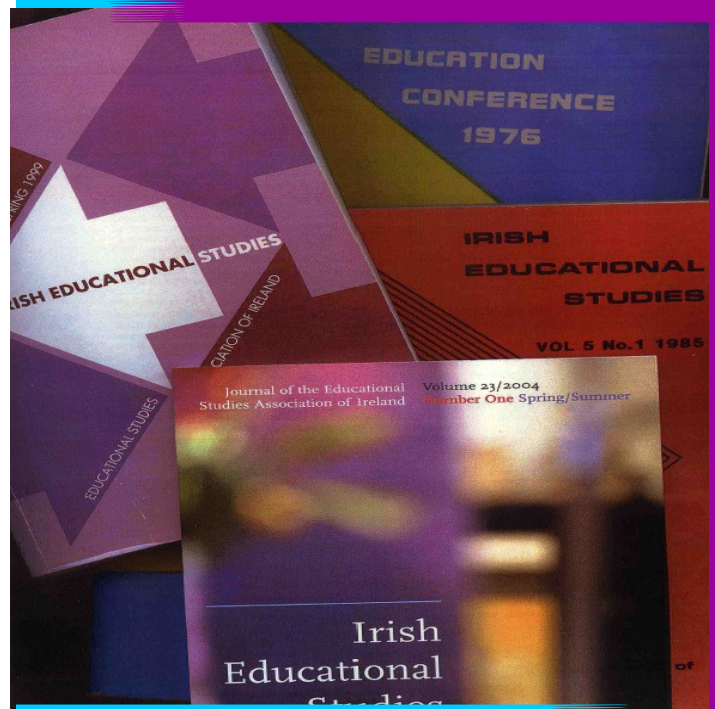
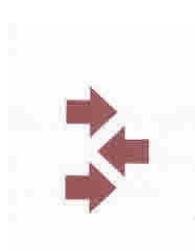
Claire McAvinia, NUI, Maynooth (Webmaster)

Dr. Majella McSharry, DCU (Academic Coordinator, Annual Conference)

Dr. Alison Montgomery, UU

Dr. Joe O'Hara, DCU (Vice President)

Dr. Aidan Seery, TCD (Membership Secretary)



**SUBMISSION FORM FOR PRESENTERS FOR
2009 ESAI ANNUAL CONFERENCE
KILKENNY, 2-4 April 2009**

Name(s):	
Institution/Organisation:	
School (if applicable):	
Address for correspondence:	
Contact telephone number:	
Email address:	
Biographical details: <i>(3 sentences maximum)</i>	
Type of presentation:	
Title of paper:	
Technical requirements:	

Abstract 1: (300 word abstract for consideration by reviewers for inclusion in the conference)

Abstract 2: (100 word abstract for inclusion in the Conference Book of Abstracts)

Signed:	
Date:	

Please post the completed form to: Dr. Majella McSharry
School of Education Studies
Dublin City University
Glasnevin
Dublin 9

Alternatively you can email the completed form to: majella.mcsharry@dcu.ie

Completed forms must be received no later than Friday, 9th January 2009

Periodically the Educational Studies Association of Ireland may seek to use the contact information provided to inform you of upcoming events or to keep you in touch with important issues facing the Association. The information you provide will never be passed on to a third party for any purpose without your specific agreement.

If you **DO NOT** wish us to use your contact information in this manner please tick the following box