

# IWDC Conference Biographies

## Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021



### WELCOME



09h30  
**Dr Marie Connolly**

**Marie** is Head of Equality & Diversity in the University of Limerick and has over 30 years' experience in leading, driving and implementing key change initiatives within the Higher Education and Semi-State sectors in Ireland. Marie is the current chair of the IWDC Committee.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



09h35  
**Professor Michele O'Dwyer**

**Michele** is Director of the Executive MBA at the Kemmy Business School in the University of Limerick. As well as University of Limerick, Michele works in leading Universities in UK, USA and across Europe encouraging students to explore their innovation potential.



09h40  
**Professor Kerstin Mey**

Over 30 years, **Kerstin** has built a track record of successfully initiating and implementing pioneering academic and research initiatives and cultural projects in higher education. In September 2020, Professor Kerstin Mey assumed her role as Interim President at the University of Limerick.

### PANEL DISCUSSION



10h05  
**Professor Liam Glynn GP**

**Liam Glynn** is a rural GP in Ballyvaughan, Co Clare and the Professor of General Practice at the School of Medicine, University of Limerick. He co-founded #COVIDWATCHIRL tracking COVID-19 in Ireland for which he received the University of Limerick's President's Award.



10h15  
**Dr Illona Duffy**

**Illona** is GP Principal in Swan Park Surgery, Monaghan. Illona is a GP trainer in the North east GP Training scheme and has held the role of a CME tutor since 1999 co-ordinating small group peer learning meetings for the GPs in both Monaghan and Cavan.



10h25  
**Ms. Colette Cowan**

**Colette** was appointed Chief Executive Officer of UL Hospitals Group in November 2014. She leads an organisation providing Acute Health Services to some 400,000 people in the Mid-West and with a workforce of approximately 5,000 staff and a budget of €550m.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER



10h55  
**Dr Maggie Semple**

**Maggie** is a successful business woman and entrepreneur; a thought leader; a regular chair at international conferences; and a government advisor. She is CEO of The Experience Corps Ltd, a global consultancy providing strategic advice on ethics, leadership and cultural change.

### PANEL DISCUSSION



11h20  
**Matt Elliott**

**Matt** is Chief People Officer at Bank of Ireland, responsible for transforming the culture of the Bank and developing a company where colleagues thrive. Passionate for inclusion and diversity, he appeared as a leading ally in the 2018 Financial Times lists for gender, ethnicity and LGBT+.



11h30  
**Antoinette Clancy**

**Antoinette** is Global Head of HR Services for Northern Trust. The team support over 21,000 employees across 21 different countries and operate as the first point of contact for employees and managers for all HR related questions, tasks and HR consulting support.



11h40  
**Fiona McCarthy**

**Fiona** as Vice President, Human Resource Shared Services for DELL Technologies, is responsible for the people strategy and agenda for Europe, Middle East and African region as it relates to HR Services and support which involves the support of approx. 26,000 employees across 50+ countries.



11h50  
**Liz Markus**

**Liz** as Director of the global Re-Ignite program at Johnson & Johnson, works to help individuals return their technical careers after a career break by leveraging her strategic abilities to influence, drive change and effectively communicate.



**Barbara MacCarthy**

**Barbara** is a Senior Manufacturing Engineer at Johnson & Johnson where she works as a Project Manager. Barbara is a Johnson & Johnson Re-Ignite Alumni, a Program that provides support structure for individuals to return to the workforce after 2+ years career break.

### SPEAKERS



12h20  
**Ciara McCullough**

**Ciara** is a Social Activist, Mental Health Campaigner & Mindset Coach. As a Motivational Speaker, she shares her story to empower people to discover the power of their mind. Her journey of self-discovery and personal development started at 22, just after her third attempt of suicide.



12h35  
**Katherine Hunka**

**Katherine** began playing the violin at the age of four and is Leader of the Irish Chamber Orchestra since 2002. She performed chamber music at London's South Bank and the Royal Albert hall, was soloist with the City of London Sinfonia and led the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

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