

# Governing Authority Biographies

Ms Joan Aherne



Joan Aherne has spent most of her working life in education with qualifications in Science, Maths and Special Education Needs. Based in Thomond Community College, a second level D.E.I.S school, located on the north side of Limerick City. She is a member of ISTA Irish Science Teacher's Association, ILSA Irish Learning Support Teachers Association, NABMSE National Association of Boards of Management in Special Education and TUI Teachers Union of Ireland. She was nominated to the Board of City of Limerick VEC in May 2009 and served on that Board until 2014. She was elected to the Board of LCETB, Limerick and Clare Education Training Board in July 2014 and continues to serve on this Board, where she held the position of Deputy Chair 2014/15 and Chair 2015/16. As a nominee of LCETB she serves on the BOM of Castletroy

College, Colaiste Na Trinoide Doon and Mungret Community College. She is currently the LCETB representative on the ETBI Reserve Forum.

Aside from the above which is considered the formal aspects of education she was a member of St. Paul's Youth Club and worked on the committee for five years. She is a founding member of UGCL, Unity Gospel Choir Limerick. Last but not least she is a lifelong avid Limerick Hurling supporter! Her vision of education is that we should all be striving for equal opportunities and accessibility no matter what barriers need to be overcome. It may be a cliché but education is the pathway out of social disadvantage.

# **Professor Seán Arkins**



Professor Seán Arkins is Acting Dean of the Faculty of Science + Engineering, former Head of the Department of Life Sciences and Chair of Equine Science at the University of Limerick. A native of Clare, Seán graduated from UCD with a degree in veterinary medicine and holds MSc and PhD degrees from the University of Illinois.

Seán served on the faculty at Illinois State University and joined the University of Limerick in 1998.

His areas of research interest are in the immunology of domestic animals and in equine learning and behaviour.

# **Ms Grainne Barron**



Grainne Barron is CEO and Founder of Viddyad and is responsible for commercial product development internationally. She is a recognised expert in video advertising technology and has been featured on WSJ, Bloomberg TV, TechCrunch, USA Today and other leading news outlets.

Grainne, who is on the Crunchbase User Advisory Board in San Francisco, has been listed as one of the most influential business leaders in technology in Ireland, won the

PWC Most Innovative Startup award, Richard Branson's Extreme Tech Challenge Advertising Category at CES 2017 as well as WEB SUMMIT Spark of Genius award for Best European Technology Innovator.

She is a founding member of Startup Ireland, a mentor with The Founder Institute, a member of IBEC's CEO Forum and part of Techpreneurs Founding Team. Grainne was a Judge at Web Summit which Viddyad previously won. Grainne was awarded the L'Oreal Women in Digital Award 2016 in NYC. The Huffington Post Business also published an article about Grainne as a Trailblazing Woman.

Grainne also recently received The International MBA Entrepreneur of the Year Award in London for her achievements in the Innovation and Technology Sector.

# Ms Michelle Breen



Michelle Breen is a professional librarian, currently working on a range of projects in the Glucksman Library at UL. Michelle is an active member of the Library Association of Ireland, delivering CPD opportunities for library staff in Ireland through initiatives like the recent Rudaí23 MOOC and other training activities.

Michelle represents the University on national committees and has presented widely and published in international peer-reviewed journals and conferences on information management and assessment topics. A European Studies graduate from UL with a postgraduate librarianship

qualification from UCD, Michelle worked within the R&D division at Analog Devices before joining UL in 2006.

Michelle has a range of public and private sector work experience, having completed an internship at the Linguistics Institute of Ireland in Dublin and worked part time at DELL while studying at UL.

#### **Mr Liam Carroll**



Liam J Carroll BL is from East Limerick and received his secondary education at St John the Baptist Community School, Hospital, Limerick. He initially obtained an LLB Degree in Law before going on to study for his Masters in Law at the University of Limerick. Liam is a qualified Barrister, having been admitted to the Degree of Barristerat-Law at the Honorable Society of King's Inns. He has also been called to the Bar of Ireland and is a member of the Law Library of Ireland.

Liam has worked in criminal, civil and family law in both Limerick and Dublin and has worked with the Legal Services Department of the HSE.

He has also worked in the Research & Policy Division of the

DPP. Liam became the County Secretary for Limerick Sinn Féin in 2016. Liam is also heavily involved in legal-based domestic violence support work and he volunteers with a number of domestic violence and abuse services.

# **Dr Garret FitzGerald**



Dr Garret FitzGerald MD, FRS is the McNeil Professor in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he chairs the Department of Systems Pharmacology and Translational Therapeutics and directs the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics. Dr FitzGerald's research has been characterised by an integrative approach to elucidating the mechanisms of drug action, drawing on work in cells, model organisms and humans. His work contributed fundamentally to the development of low-dose aspirin for cardioprotection.

FitzGerald's group was the first to predict and then mechanistically explain the cardiovascular hazard from NSAIDs. He has also discovered many products of lipid peroxidation and established their utility as indices of oxidant stress in vivo. His laboratory was the first to discover a molecular clock in the cardiovascular system and has studied the importance of peripheral clocks in the regulation of cardiovascular and metabolic function. Dr FitzGerald has received the Boyle, Coakley, Harvey and St Patrick's Day medals, the Lucian, Scheele and Hunter Awards, the Presidential Award for the Irish Abroad and the Cameron, Taylor, Herz, Lefoulon-Delalande, and Schottenstein Prizes. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, an honorary member of the Royal Irish Academy and a Fellow of the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences and of the Royal Society.

# **Dr David Fleming**



Dr David Fleming is a senior lecturer in history and Head of the Department of History at the University of Limerick. He graduated with a degree in History, Politics and Social Studies from the University, before completing his Masters and Doctoral studies at the University of Oxford. He is a historian of eighteenth-century Ireland and has published widely on numerous topics. He is the author of the University's official history in 2012.

Dr Fleming serves on a number of committees of scholarly associations, including the Irish Committee for Historical Sciences, the Eighteenth-Century Ireland Society and the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement. He is a former chairman of the Irish Georgian Foundation and a former trustee of the Hunt Museums' Trust.

#### **Mr Kevin Fleming**



Kevin Fleming is part of the AXA Partners – Credit & Lifestyle Business Executive Committee, who are responsible for the development and execution of the AXA Partners - CLP Insurance and re-insurance strategy. Kevin is also responsible for overseeing the entry in markets and business development activities globally, which includes both Life and Non-Life insurance.

Kevin has filled many senior management roles covering different governance positions across finance, sales, product development and operations and is a core member of the Portfolio Risk Committee. Kevin is a Board Director of several AXA entities across multiple

jurisdictions including Ireland, China and Hong Kong.

Kevin has worked in the insurance industry for over 15 years having joined AXA Group as part of the acquisition of Genworth Financials Lifestyle Protection business in late 2015. Prior to joining Genworth, Kevin worked in multiple international financial roles for a global player in the travel and aviation industry. He started his career with PricewaterhouseCoopers where he spent over 5 years providing consulting and advisory advice to clients across Ireland. Kevin is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA).

# **Cllr Francis Foley**



Mayor Francis Foley is a native of Abbeyfeale in the west of the county of Limerick. He has been a community activist for most of his life, advocating for residents and businesses in the County Limerick town.

His professional background in retail has meant his finger has always been on the pulse of what local people needed. This experience lead him into the area of local politics and he joined the Fianna Fáil party.

Mayor Foley first ran for a seat on Limerick County Council (local government) in 2004 and was elected at the first time of asking. He has been re-elected in all subsequent local elections to Limerick County Council and latterly Limerick City and County

Council. Elections take place every five years.

The position of Mayor of Limerick is one of the oldest in the country. Indeed Limerick received its charter ten years before that of London, England. Mayor Foley is the latest person to be honoured with the title of Mayor. The lineage dates back to 1197 when Adam Sarvant was inaugurated as the first ever Mayor. Mayor Foley sits on the board of University of Limerick Governing Authority, member of the Limerick Market Trustees, and member of the Board of St John's Hospital, Limerick. He also sits on the Community, Leisure & Culture Strategic Policy Committee and Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee of Limerick City and County Council.

Mayor Foley is married to Helen and they have two sons Kevin and Jason.

# **Ms Maeve Gilmore**



Maeve Gilmore is originally from Galway but has made Limerick her home for the last four years where she studied a BA in Psychology and Sociology in the University of Limerick.

Maeve enjoys devoting her work to helping and collaborating with others in terms of being an advocate regarding youth mental health, as well as voicing the concerns of young people across Ireland. Maeve has been a member of Jigsaw Galway's Youth Advisory Panel for the last six years which is an early intervention youth mental health service that also conducts research and information for community

workshops and boards. She also sits on a number of Jigsaw's national committees such as the Jigsaw Research Council, Youth Reference Group and the National Interview board. Maeve is also a member of the SpunOut Action Panel where she helps create and improve informational campaigns for young people across Ireland. Within these organisations, Maeve collaborated in many consultations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic with the HSE to input how COVID-19 has impacted young people's mental health and how to transform their services. During her time as a student in UL, Maeve has been a member of Welfare Officer's Welfare Team for three out of her four years to help with campaigns on campus which inspired her to run for election as Deputy Welfare Officer this year.

# Ms Mary Harney



Mary Harney held a number of different Ministerial positions in the Irish Government for 18 years, including Environmental Protection, Industry, Trade, Research & Innovation and Health. She was Deputy Prime Minister for 10 years.

Mary retired from politics in 2011 and now acts as a consultant and is involved in several charitable organisations. She is an independent director of several companies, including Biocon Ltd. (India), Leaseplan Insurance (Dutch, but based in Dublin) and Diona

Technology (Ireland), and is chair of the Pharmed Group (Ireland) and of Videodoc (UK/Ireland).

Until her appointment as Chancellor of the University of Limerick she was Chair of Amber (Advanced Materials and Bio-engineering Research Centre) in Trinity College Dublin. She also chairs a European-wide initiative on Sustainable Healthcare and is a board member of the Irish Hospice Foundation and of the European Board of Vital Voices.

#### Ms Rose Hynes



Rose Hynes is Chairman of Origin Enterprises plc which is listed on the Irish and London Stock Exchanges. She is also Chairman of Shannon Group plc and is the Senior Independent Director of Total Produce plc and One Fifty One plc. Rose is a non-executive director of the UL Foundation Board and is also a Non-Executive Director of a number of aviation entities.

Rose was a member of the senior management team in GPA in Shannon for many years. A University College Dublin law graduate and lawyer, she is an Associate of the Irish Institute of Taxation and of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Rose

is also a former Chairman of Bord Gais/Ervia and former non-executive director of Bank of Ireland, Fyffes plc, Mincon and Aer Lingus.

#### **Professor Shane Kilcommins**



Shane Kilcommins is a full professor in Law at the University of Limerick. Prior to commencing the role of Provost and Deputy President, he worked as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and Head of the School of Law. His areas of expertise are criminal law, evidence law, criminal procedure, penology and legal philosophy. He is a Fulbright scholar, has been appointed an expert with the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and

Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. He has worked as part of a team of inspectors for the Inspector of Prisons. Has chaired the consultative forum on the Victims' Charter, as part of its relaunch by the Minister for Justice and Equality and acted as an expert adviser to Transparency International Ireland. In 2020, he was appointed to An Garda Síochána's Expert Review Group on Recruit Education and Entry Pathways and Learning and Development, to provide strategic advice and make recommendations on the delivery of learning and development interventions in the organisation.

Professor Kilcommins has supervised 18 Ph.D. students and 2 postdoctoral students to completion. He is an examiner for the Law Society of Ireland, and sits on the board of the Victims' Rights Alliance. He has authored or edited 9 books with publishers such as Manchester University Press, Willan, Clarus Press and Routledge. He has also published reports and numerous articles in leading journals such as the International Journal of Law and Psychiatry, International Journal of Evidence and Proof, International Review of Victimology, The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice, European Journal of Criminology, and Criminology and Criminal Justice. In addition, he has contributed 25 chapters to edited books, and presented over 75 conference papers.

#### **Ms Trish Long**



Trish Long is a native of Limerick (hails from St Mary's Park) and attended Ard Scoil Mhuire. She is Vice President & General Manager of Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures (WDSMP) in Ireland and since 1994 has held a variety of roles within The Walt Disney Company. Her present role combines core responsibility for WDSMP in Ireland, overseeing all aspects of distribution and marketing in the country for the entire theatrical slate including Walt Disney Animation Studios; Disney live action; Pixar; Marvel and Lucas Films. Trish is part of the Disney International and European teams, while also working with other Disney lines of business to expand, launch and grow the Walt Disney Company's business. She is also an Advanced Practitioner of the Disney Strategic Foresight International team.

Prior to joining Disney in 1994, Trish Long was the first Marketing Director of the Irish Film Centre. Before moving to Dublin in 1992 she held the position of Marketing & Publicity Director at the Belltable Arts Centre in Limerick. She began her career as a newsreader, presenter and producer in Big L pirate radio station in Limerick in the 1980s. She later trained as a counsellor and ran the Limerick Rape Crisis Centre in its first four years. She has a long history of involvement in women's issues at a national and local level. Trish Long has a Masters in Cultural and Communication Studies from

Dublin City University. Her audio essays have been broadcast on RTE's *Sunday Miscellany* and she has been published in its recent anthology of Irish writing. Past and present board memberships include: Irish Film and Television Awards (IFTA); the Irish Industry Trust and INFACT; Irish Film Institute (IFI); Plassey Campus Centre and she is also a board member of Troy Film Studios based in Limerick.

# **Professor Edmond Magner**



Edmond Magner is Professor of Electrochemistry in the Department of Chemical Sciences and a member of the Bernal Institute. He studied at University College Cork (B.Sc.) and the University of Rochester (M.S., Ph.D.) and subsequently did postdoctoral work at Imperial College and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He worked at MediSense, Inc and Abbott Laboratories in Bedford, Massachusets as a member of teams that developed electrochemical biosensors for glucose and hydroxybutyrate (combined sales of over \$100 M per annum). In 1997, he was appointed as a lecturer at UL and served as Director of the Materials and Surface Science Institute (2003–2010) and as

Dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering (2014–2019).

He has supervised the research work of 22 Ph.D., 10 M.Sc. and 10 postdoctoral fellows and secured funding of over €25 M from national, EU and industry sources. His research examines the properties of enzymes at surfaces with a focus on using enzymes in biocatalysis, biosensors and biofuel cells. With his research group, he has described the first studies of the thermodynamic processes associated with redox proteins in nonaqueous solvents, described specific ion effects on the catalytic activity of redox enzymes and published a large body of work on the immobilisation of enzymes on high surface area supports.

#### **Professor Kerstin Mey**



Prior to assuming the post of Interim President of University of Limerick, Professor Kerstin Mey was Vice President Academic Affairs & Student Engagement at the University of Limerick.

Over the past 25 years, Kerstin has built a track record of successfully initiating and implementing pioneering academic and research initiatives and cultural projects in higher education. As an experienced leader and senior manager, she led major infrastructure and culture change programmes and set up a range of strategic external partnerships.

After studying for an MA equivalent in Art and German language and literature at Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, and obtaining a PhD in Art Theory and Aesthetics there, Kerstin held academic positions in universities in Germany and the UK. Before she joined the University of Westminster as Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dean of Media, Arts and Design, and Professor of Contemporary Art and Theory in 2013, she was Director for Research and Enterprise at the University for the Creative Arts, UK. From 2009–2013, she led the research strand Art and its Locations in Interface: Centre for Research in Art, Technologies and Design at the University of Ulster and was Director of the Research Institute of Art and Design there.

Kerstin was appointed to the post of Interim President of the University of Limerick in July 2020 to take the post in September 2020.

#### Ms Aibhlín McCrann



As a Director of Communiqué International, Ireland's foremost leadership communications consultancy, Aibhlín McCrann specialises in stakeholder engagement and facilitation in the state, semi-state, and community and voluntary sectors. Her work also includes coaching senior leaders to succeed at executive interview and facilitating the communication elements of change management and organisational restructuring. Aibhlín is editor of a collection of essays celebrating the regeneration of Ballymun, 'Memories, Milestones and New Horizons', Blackstaff Press (2008) and was author of the first Irish environmental self-

help book, Green, White and Green, Poolbeg Press (1989).

Graduating from University College Dublin with BA (Hons) B.MUS degrees, Aibhlín is a fluent Irish speaker with extensive experience as a performer, media spokesperson and freelance writer. She is Chair of the internationally renowned Irish Chamber Orchestra, which is based on the UL campus and is committed to strengthening the existing linkages between the university and the orchestra, while working to advance the arts in general there. She is a passionate advocate for the Irish harp and is founding Chair of Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland, which was established in 2016 with the support of The Arts Council, An Chomhairle Ealaíon to develop and promote the harp in Ireland. She is Festival Director of An Chúirt Chruitireachta, the acclaimed International Festival for Irish Harp and serves on the board of glór Arts Centre, Ennis, Co Clare. She was a member of the Board of the Irish Traditional Music Archive (ITMA) 2002—2006, a member of the Arts Council, 2006-2016 and Deputy Chair of the Arts Council, 2012-2016. She is currently Deputy Chair of the Board of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre.

# Dr Fergal O'Brien



From Tralee, Co. Kerry, Dr. Fergal O'Brien is Assistant Dean, Graduate & Professional Studies at the University of Limerick and Senior Lecturer in Finance at the Kemmy Business School. He is the Course Director for the MSc in Business Analytics.

Dr. O'Brien joined the University of Limerick as a student in 1993 and graduated with a BBS (Accounting & Finance) and an MBS (Finance). He holds a PhD in finance from Lancaster University Management School. He has taught

at the University of Limerick since 1995 and has international teaching experience in a number of countries.

He has been recognised for his teaching by being awarded the Jennifer Burke Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning as part of a University of Limerick team. He is currently working in a number of research areas including the role of tacit knowledge in organisations, human resource development projects, corporate wrongdoing, and university marketing and branding messaging. Dr. O'Brien has been heavily involved in University of Limerick GAA and is a former player and manager of the University of Limerick Sigerson Cup team. In his spare time he coaches underage GAA teams and referees both hurling and football.

# Ms Kim O'Mahony



Kim O'Mahony is a Quality Officer in the Quality Support Unit, University of Limerick. With over 30 years career progression at UL, Kim began working in the field of quality management in 2000 with the implementation of a quality management system in the Information Technology Division, which was accredited to ISO. Kim has a Diploma in Information Technology from Dublin City University and a Master's of Science in Quality Management from the University of Limerick.

The remit of Kim's current role as Quality Officer includes operational management of the unit, compliance and managing the internal quality review process. Kim also manages the University's QMS inter-department audit process for support units. More recently, Kim has chaired

external quality reviews for RCSI in Dublin (2015) and RCSI in Bahrain (2017). In 2016 Kim was recipient of the Excellence in Service Award in recognition of exceptional service to the University.

#### Mr Louis Pemble



My name is Louis Pemble, I'm from Wexford and I am a graduate of the University of Limerick. At undergraduate level I studied the BA Joint Honours, in History and Mathematics. I then returned to UL to study Mathematical Modelling at Masters Level.

I am passionate about representation and striving to ensure UL remains student focused. I am currently serving as President at the Postgraduate Students' Union, having previously served as Vice President Academic and Council Chairperson.

# **Professor Kevin M Ryan**



Professor Kevin M Ryan holds a Personal Chair in Chemical Nanotechnology at the Department of Chemical Sciences in the School of Natural Sciences and is Theme Leader for both Energy and Electronic Materials at the Bernal Institute. He has served as course director for the Pharmaceutical and Industrial Chemistry Degree for the past 6 years. He is a native of Limerick and graduated with a BSc in 1999 and a PhD in 2003 in Chemistry from

University College Cork. He subsequently held Marie Curie Fellowship positions at Merck Chemicals Southampton, UK and at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, prior to joining University of Limerick in 2006 as a Science Foundation Ireland Principal Investigator and Stokes Lecturer.

He has published over 100 academic papers and holds several patents with research interests in semiconductor nanocrystals and nanowires for applications in electronic devices, batteries and solar-cells.

#### **Ms Maeve Rutledge**



Maeve Rutledge is originally from County Cork and is now residing in Castletroy, Limerick. Maeve began her studies at UL in September 2018, as a student of Applied Languages majoring in French, Spanish, and Politics. In her final year of March 2022, Maeve was elected as President of UL Student Life which is the student union at The University of Limerick.

Maeve has a strong background in sport and has played camogie, and football, and mentored at her local club over the years. Maeve also was a part of many different clubs

and societies throughout her time at UL including, most recently the UL Snowsports Club.

Maeve has a keen interest in European politics, international relations, and contemporary social issues. Maeve completed her Erasmus Co-Operative Placement in Lyon, France at the ONLYLYON Office de Tourisme.

# Dr Bob Strunz



Bob Strunz graduated with a diploma in Industrial Electronics (Distinction) from UL in 1987. Bob earned his BEng (Hons) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from University of Limerick in 1991 and a Masters Degree in Time Domain Reflectometry in 1993. Bob earned his PhD in "Strategy, Micropolitics and Technology" in Irish Higher Education in 2005 from the University of Hull.

Bob was formerly Technology Advisor to the Vice President Academic and Registrar of UL; Technology Advisor to the University of Limerick; Chief Technical

Architect on the board of the National Digital Learning Repository and served the boards of the Birr Scientific and Heritage Foundation and Birr Educational trust. Bob won both eGovernment and Golden Spider awards for his contributions to eLearning in Ireland.

In 2015 Bob designed and was technical lead for the Deloitte, student records stabilisation and remediation project at the University of Limerick. In 2016 Bob was a visiting Academic at the School of Engineering in Napier University, Edinburgh. In 2017 Bob obtained his Pilots qualification for underwater Remotely Operated Vehicles.

Bob lectures in Electronics and Computer Engineering at the University of Limerick.

Bob teaches Sailing, Scuba Diving and Power-boating and spends his leisure time either on the water or in his workshop making things.

# **Professor Eugene Wall**



Professor Eugene Wall graduated from UCD in 1975 with a degree in psychology. He awarded UCD postgraduate was а scholarship and undertook a research MA in field of developmental the psycholinguistics. He qualified as a primary teacher from Froebel College and taught part-time in several third-level institutions in Dublin prior to moving to Limerick in 1980. In 2001, he qualified from UCD with a PhD in Education.

Eugene taught developmental psychology and educational psychology in Mary Immaculate College (MIC) from 1980 to 1998. For the latter part of that time, he was also Assistant Dean Academic Affairs in the College of Education of the University of Limerick. Following appointment to the role of Registrar/Vice-President Academic Affairs in 1998 he continued to lecture part-time on the BEd programmes and the MEd programme on educational psychology and on educational policy issues.

He served for 21 years on the Council of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and was a member of several of its sub-committees over that time, including the Co-ordinating Committee which was responsible for overseeing the development of the 1999 primary school curriculum. He chaired the Council's Primary Assessment Advisory Group. Eugene is co-author of the MICRA-T and the SIGMA-T, the two most widely used standardised tests in Irish primary schools.

Eugene was the founding Chairperson of the Learning Hub, which works in partnership with local education providers, families and young people to develop and implement practical and solution focused responses to the high levels of educational disadvantage and early school leaving experienced by local communities on the Northside of Limerick City. He was President of the Irish Federation of University Teachers from 1994-1997 during which time IFUT played a key role in shaping the 1997 Universities Act. Following this, he was appointed for a three-year term to the Higher Education Sectoral Committee of Education International.

Eugene was appointed to the post of President of MIC in May 2018.



#### Ms Judith Woodworth

Judith Woodworth has spent over 35 years working at the top level of the Arts and Entertainment industry in London and Dublin. She was Director of The National Concert Hall from 1993-2010, where she established its reputation as one of Europe's leading concert halls.

On retirement she was appointed by the Government as a member of The Arts Council.

Judith was a Governor of The Irish Times from 2002-2012 and is currently a Trustee and Chair of the Alfred Beit Foundation which owns and manages Russborough House. She was appointed Chair of St Patrick's Festival by Government in 2015.

Judith is serving her second term as a member of the Governing Authority of the University of Limerick and serves on the University Concert Hall board. Judith is a History and Political Science graduate of Trinity College Dublin. In 2016 she was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

