

Institutional Review International Panel



Chair

Bert van der Zwaan is emeritus professor of Biogeology at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Trained as a paleontologist, his main research interest involved the impact of climate change on the extinction of marine faunas. Early in his career, he initiated many interdisciplinary research programs and later was director of the Darwin Center for Biogeology. Through this work he became interested in the (regional) impact of universities on innovation. He has been lead-PI and CEO of Climate KIC, one of the first Knowledge and Innovation Communities of the EU, dealing with adaptation to climate change. He became dean of the Faculty of Geosciences in 2006, and was Rector Magnificus (Vice Chancellor) of Utrecht University from 2010-2018. He recently stepped down as president of the European League of Research Universities (LERU). Bert van der Zwaan has held numerous positions inside and outside of the academia, and (co-)authored many research papers, including more recently on Higher Education. He is the author of the book, *“Higher Education in 2040”* (2017).



Coordinating Reviewer

Gemma Long is the Head of Education Quality and Policy at the University of Cambridge. Before this role, she spent 7 years working at the UK Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in a number of roles including Assistant Director for the Concerns scheme, working on International Quality Reviews, and more recently as the Lead Officer for Wales. She is experienced in the design and implementation of higher education audit methods, working with students and peer reviewers. In early 2019, Gemma was appointed to the Accreditation Board of the Education Workforce Council in Wales. She has an MA in Education from the University of Bath, a BSc from Cardiff University, and a published book chapter on the quality assurance of academic libraries.



International Representative

Dr. Pieter Caris is senior policy advisor at the Accreditation Organisation of The Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO). In the past few years, he was the main contact in a project introducing institutional reviews in Flanders. He was involved in the development of the Appreciative Approach and is responsible for the assessment methodologies for universities and university colleges. He is secretary of the Sounding Board of the stakeholders of the higher education community in Flanders and actively contributed to the development of the new Flemish quality assurance system. In 2018, he participated in the ENQA Leadership Development Programme, covering subjects such as global trends in higher education, developments in the EHEA, higher education policy developments and a group work on the scope of quality assurance. Pieter is a member of the Quality Audit Network and specializes in quality assurance at the institutional level, student-centred learning and flexibilisation.



External Representative

Professor Colette Shortt is a Regulatory Director at J&J Consumer focused on upstream innovation. Prior to J&J, she was Science Director at Yakult and held Research Nutrition positions at SmithKline Beecham Consumer Healthcare and the Rowett Research Institute. Colette is active on the Boards of both the Pharmabiotic Research Institute and the International Life Science Institute Europe; Chairs the Food Supplement Committee of the Association of the European Self-Medication Industry, is a member of Cosmetic Europe Microbiome Working Group and the BBSRC Agriculture Food & Security Strategy Advisory Panel. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine and Association for Nutrition. Through-out her career, Colette has been active across sectors in the development of products, related standards and health claims and has participated in Institute Assessment Panels. She is a graduate of the National University of Ireland, Cork with post-graduate qualifications in Nutrition (MSc, PhD), an MBA from the School of Business Management, University of Surrey and is a Visiting Professor to the Ulster of University.



Learner Representative

James Larkin has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Mathematics from Trinity College Dublin and a Masters in Global Health and Development from University College London. He has worked as a research assistant for several organisations including the Irish College of General Practitioners and the Centre for Health Policy & Management in Trinity College Dublin.

James received a Collaborative Doctoral Award in 2018 to pursue a PhD in RCSI and conduct an evaluation of the economic impact of adhering to clinical guidelines for patients with complex multimorbidity. As part of his PhD he is enrolled in the SPHeRE programme.

James has previously acted as student representative in QQI quality assurance processes.



Quality Assurance Expert

Janet Alleyne is currently Head of Quality Enhancement at Ulster University where she has been instrumental in developing and implementing the University's innovative approach to quality monitoring designed to deliver targeted interventions and positively reward excellence and to enhance both the learning experiences of students and the working lives of staff. The impact of this approach in improving performance was recognised when the University was short listed by the Times Higher for the University of the Year Award.

Janet holds a MA in Philosophy from the University of St Andrews and before coming to Ulster worked in London in a variety of roles in government departments and quangos mainly focused on investigation and policy development in relation to social security and health matters.