

**Policy Forum for Ireland keynote seminar:
Next steps for research and innovation policy and funding in Ireland**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 30th January 2024

Taking place online



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas
- 9.05 **Assessing the current R&I landscape in Ireland - key priorities moving forward**
Professor Ellen Hazelkorn, Joint Managing Partner, BH Associates, Dublin; and Professor Emeritus, Technological University Dublin
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 Break
- 9.35 **Perspectives on the R&I Bill - funding priorities, providing clarity in definitions of research terms, parity of esteem and improving diversity, and positioning R&I as a key driver for regional economic and social development**
Professor Fergal O'Brien, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research & Innovation; and Professor of Bioengineering & Regenerative Medicine, RCSI
Senior representative, university
Senior representative, business
Senior representative, diversity
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas
- 10.30 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas
- 10.45 **Priorities for the research workforce - addressing brain drain concerns and improving researcher retention, tackling employment insecurity, and providing clear career pathways and professional development in R&I**
Professor Jimmy Hill, Vice President, Academic Affairs and Research, National College of Ireland
Frank Jones, General Secretary, IFUT
Professor Pat O'Connor, Professor Emeritus, Sociology and Social Policy, University of Limerick; and Visiting Full Professor, Geary Institute, UCD
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.25 **Developing R&I capacity within the Technological Universities**
Dr Joseph Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, THEA
- 11.35 **Fostering innovation through networks and clustering - building a robust and joined-up R&I ecosystem, achieving value through national and international cooperation, and supporting knowledge sharing to improve outcomes**
Sean Higgins, Managing Director, Future Proof Insights & Future Proof Media
Clodagh Barry, Director and Founder, The Cluster Centre
Dr Majella Giblin, Senior Lecturer and Associate Head of External Engagement and Alumni Relations, J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics, University of Galway
David Fernández Terreros, Head of Clusters Development, SPRI - Basque Business Development Agency
- 11.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 Break
- 12.30 **Positioning Ireland as a leader in research and innovation - key priorities for the sector going forward**
Dr Lisa Keating, Director of Research and Innovation, Irish Universities Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Ireland closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas
Tiernan Phipps, Lead Researcher, Policy Forum for Ireland