

Conference

Education for a changing world – Languages for Employability in a post-Brexit Ireland

**Enhancing STEM student employability
through foreign language learning**

venue: UCD, Sutherland School of Law

23rd - 24th May, 2018



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**Organized by the Goethe-Institut Irland and the
Cultural Institutes/Embassies of France, Italy and
Spain**



OPENING 23 May

The opening session will be hosted by the German Ambassador. Due to limited capacity by invitation only.

- 7.30 pm Welcome by H.E. Deike Potzel, German Ambassador to Ireland
- 7.45 – 8.00 Mary Mitchell O'Connor, Minister of State for Higher Education
- 8.00 – 8.45 **Linguanomics – What is the market potential of multilingualism?**
Dr. Gabrielle Hogan-Brun, Senior Research fellow, University of Bristol, Author of “Linguanomics”
- 8.45 - 9.15 Reception

PROGRAMME 24 May

The main conference takes place at UCD, Belfield Campus at the Sutherland School of Law, A&L Goodbody Theatre

- 9.00 am Registration
Tea, Coffee
- 9.30 – 9.45 **Welcome by**
Nathalie-Zoé Fabert, Attachée, Ambassade de France en Irlande
Adolfo Carbón, Adviser, Consejería de Educación, Embajada de España
Andreas Zürn, Head of Language Department, Goethe-Institut Irland
- 9.45 – 10.15 **Ireland's Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026**
Eamonn Moran, Curriculum and Assessment Policy Unit, Department of Education and Skills

10.15 – 11.00

Looking to the Future: Preparing students to be transnational graduates

Professor Michael Kelly, OBE, Board European Language Council

11.00 – 11.30

Tea, Coffee

11.30 – 11.50

Language Skills for Graduate Employment

Dr. Vivienne Patterson, Head of Skills, Engagement and Statistics, HEA

11.50 – 12.50

Winning business support for the promotion of languages in HE

Panel A: Discussion

Chair: Tony Donohoe, Head of Education and Social Policy, IBEC

Julie Sinnamon, CEO, Enterprise Ireland

Raymond Bowe, Manager Skills, Energy, Water, IDA Ireland
Damien Owens, Registrar, Engineers Ireland

Tara McCarthy, CEO, Bord Bia
Iñigo Guerrero, Head of GoProtect!, CNP Santander Insurance

12.50 – 13.45

Lunch

13.45 - 14.45

**Rethinking Language Policy in HE.
Initiatives to diversify and increase
uptake.**

Panel B: Discussion

Chair: Professor Michael Kelly

Lewis Purser, Director Academic
Affairs, IUA

Dr. Pio Fenton, Head of Department of
Marketing and Int. Business, CIT

Dr. Cinta Ramblado, Head of School of
Modern Languages & Applied
Linguistics, UL

Caroline Nash, Former Director,
Leuven Institute for Ireland, Board
Member Alliance Française
Eimear Murphy, Wayfair Ltd

14.45 - 15.45

**Range of Opportunities to broaden
the student FL experience**

Workshop A

Taking advantage of

- Erasmus exchanges and projects
- Work placements abroad
- Developing funded pre-departure language courses
- EU/international funding opportunities for STEM/FL projects
- Cooperation with Cultural Institutes
- European/international recognition of proficiency level (CEFR)

14.45 – 15.45

**Foreign Languages for HE students
on STEM Programmes**

*“Increase the proportion of the higher
education cohort studying a foreign
language, in any capacity, as part of
their course to 20%.”*

*Language Strategy Implementation
Plan p. 6*

Workshop B

- Enabling institution-wide FL provision. Innovative approaches from blended learning to MOOCS and open learning?
- Learning from STEM initiatives?
- New government policy: Encourage collaboration with employers to ensure identified language needs are considered in course development