

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021 – 2022



# MIE History, Vision and Mission

## History

Marino Institute of Education has a proud heritage as a provider of higher education for more than one hundred years. Established in 1905 as a centre of Christian Brothers' Education, Research and Teaching, the college became a recognised provider of teacher education in 1929. With the introduction of the Bachelor of Education in 1976, MIE became an Associated College of Trinity. This relationship has blossomed over the years, and in 2011, Trinity College Dublin joined with the European Province of the Christian Brothers to become the co-trustees of Marino Institute of Education.

## Mission

Inspired by the Christian vision, Marino Institute of Education is a teaching, learning and research community committed to promoting inclusion, quality and excellence in education for the public good. The dignity and potential of each person and the pursuit of a just society and a sustainable planet are central to our life, work and service.

## Vision

To be a distinctive voice in enabling a just, sustainable and transformative education for all.

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# Foreword

## From the Chair of the Governing Body

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic transformed many aspects of life, and the field of education is no exception. While some of the effects of COVID-19 have been short-lived, others have had a more enduring impact. The academic year 2021/22 was a period when Marino Institute of Education embedded some of the curricular, pedagogical and management changes that were catalysed by COVID-19, and which are worth preserving.

During the year MIE has enhanced its excellence in research and education, extended its reach through its dynamic and inclusive programmes and built its influence through its engagement and public service.

While the year brought much optimism the challenges of COVID-19 persisted and I commend the staff, students and the wider community at MIE for their resilience, their innovation and their continued commitment to providing the inclusive and nurturing environment of which MIE is rightly proud.

The research, education and engagement programmes including TOBAR, DICE and the Migrant Teacher Project highlight the Institute's excellence, while initiatives such as the Wellness Programme display the innovative spirit of staff and students.

The publication of the Marino Institute of Education's Strategic Plan (2021-2026) has been

one of the highlights of the year. Launched by Minister Simon Harris and Trinity's Provost Linda Doyle, the Strategic Plan was the culmination of detailed context analysis and extensive stakeholder engagement. It sets out an ambitious programme of development and charts a distinctive path for MIE for the next five years. It crystallises the Institute's values and structures them in a framework that will enable MIE to continue to grow and to enrich the educational sector in Ireland and beyond as this decade progresses.



On behalf of my fellow members of MIE's Governing Body, I thank President Professor Teresa O'Doherty for her exceptional leadership and her peerless commitment to MIE. I thank the Leadership Team for their impressive stewardship of the Institute and the administrative, management and teaching staff for their hard work and dedication to the Institute and to the wider community. And of course, I thank the students for their courage, spirit and willingness to embrace the new ways of education as we all move forward.

### **Professor Linda Hogan**

*Professor of Ecumenics,  
School of Religion, Trinity College Dublin,  
Chair of the MIE Governing Body*

# Welcome

## From the President



As the President of MIE, I look back with immense pride and gratitude for all that we have achieved in our Institute in what has been a most challenging academic year. As we grappled with the second year of COVID-19, our return to campus has been full of caution but also delight. However, navigating the ever-changing nature of life over the last year has been stressful for everyone. When we thought we could move ahead with face-to-face activities, we were frequently stalled or had to revert to on-line media only.

The changing nature of the year, the commitment to keeping everyone safe at work and study, and fear for our families and ourselves around catching COVID-19, added to everyone's workload. The need to support schools and early childhood settings by enabling our senior students to work as substitutes during the months of January and February, significantly impacted on our placements and the academic calendar for all students and staff. The pivotal contribution of our students to keeping schools and early childhood settings open during this period has been acknowledged by Minister Foley and the various agencies across the state.

The involvement of students as key front-line workers during the pandemic and their generous and professional engagement with settings throughout the Spring has been warmly welcomed. The resulting revision to the academic calendar for these and other cohorts, in particular B. Ed /B.Oid 1 students, was significant and certainly reverberated throughout all departments within the Institute. So, while 2020/2021 threw up unprecedented challenges, so too did 2021/2022. The pace and rate of challenge and change has been relentless.

Some initiatives involving MIE have seemed to me particularly well suited to help address and meet the challenges of these times. The Migrant

Teacher Project, which provides such important resources and support for teachers moving to Ireland and becoming part of our education workforce, has gone from strength to strength in recent years, and in 2022 has been well poised to help teachers moving from Ukraine to Ireland to find their feet here and, crucially, to help the Irish education sector understand their needs. I commend them on their work.



It was a particularly difficult year for our students, who engaged well despite the challenges, and it was clear that the needs of our one-year IFP and first-year students across the board were greater than ever before. It was fortunate that we had invested in extending the student supports at MIE in recent years with the addition of an Access Officer, Student Engagement Officer, a Chaplain, and the provision of in-house counselling supported by two counsellors. Meanwhile the Wellness Committee and all the student clubs and societies provided essential anchors for our students. We were delighted that MIE had the highest level of student engagement with the **StudentSurvey.ie** across the higher education landscape. Our results are consistently high and student satisfaction with the Institute is very gratifying.

We have seen many other inclusive and expansive initiatives at MIE continue to thrive during the year, including our access to higher education project TOBAR, our student research forum and conference STER, our commitment to development education within the DICE project and the International Foundation Programme (IFP) which continued despite the COVID-19-related travel restrictions and the geopolitical events of February 2022. We opened up our campus to local residents and

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neighbours, so that they could enjoy the beautiful landscape during periods when they were restricted from travelling outside their immediate environment. Some of the community-focused standouts from the year included our leadership of the Dublin City of Learning project, our involvement with local schools in the provision of summer le Chéile programmes for children, our students' involvement with traditional lunchtime music sessions, and the commitment to get moving with the Walktober project.

We hosted the Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) conference on-line in March 2022 and were delighted to host the Association of Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE) conference face-to-face in May, welcoming some 100 international delegates to MIE. Both conferences were a great success and showcased the academic and organisational capacity of the Institute.

Looking back at 2021/2022, I wish to thank each member of staff for their unstinting commitment and generosity of spirit. Throughout the year, our staff continued to ensure that students were as fully engaged as possible in their academic work, and supported them to participate in all the cultural and sporting activities that make up the fabric of student life at university.

I thank everyone for their kindness and for their dedication to one another and to MIE.

**Professor Teresa O'Doherty**

*President, MIE*



# Snapshots from a year at MIE

**August  
2021**

MIE campus re-opened.

**September  
2021**

MIE began a new partnership with the six schools in the St. Michael's House Group.

**October  
2021**

Dublin presented with City of Learning Award.

**November  
2021**

Launch of MIE Strategic Plan.

**December  
2021**

Entrance Scholarships Awards Evening.

**January  
2022**

In-person graduations in Trinity.

**February  
2022**

Intercultural fortnight and fair.

**March  
2022**

9-5 Musical.

**April  
2022**

Wellness week.

**May  
2022**

ATEE conference.

**June  
2022**

Creative Arts Summer School.

**July  
2022**

Summer School programmes.

# Governance

The Instrument of Governance (2016) provides for the appointment of a Governing Body to discharge the authority of the Trustees within the Institute. The Governing Body's responsibilities include putting in place a system to oversee the education, training, research, and related activities of the Institute, and ensuring its quality.

The primary function of the Governing Body is to set the strategic direction and govern and control the affairs of the Institute in accordance with the

intentions of the Trustees, as expressed in the Guiding Principles. The Governing Body met six times during the academic year 2021/2022.

- 7 October 2021
- 25 November 2021
- 3 February 2022
- 24 March 2022
- 19 May 2022
- 23 June 2022

## MIE Governing Body 2020/2021

<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed Member 2013 - Appointed Chair by the Trustees 2017.</p>	<p><b>Prof. Linda Hogan,</b> Professor of Ecumenics, School of Religion, TCD.</p>	
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Re-appointed July 2022.</p>	<p><b>Ms. Maria Kiernan,</b> Architect in private practice. Fellow of the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland and Accredited Mediator.</p>	
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Representative of the European Province Leadership Team. Appointed Sept 2019.  Appointed 1 Dec 2021</p>	<p><b>Br. Declan Power,</b> Community Leader, Christian Brothers.  Replaced by <b>Dr. Larry Jordan</b> Preparatory School Principal, Christian Brothers College Cork.</p>	<p>Stepped down July 2021.</p>
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Re-appointed July 2022.</p>	<p><b>Ms. Bride Rosney,</b> Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Mary Robinson Foundation. Former Director of Communications, RTE (2001-2009); Special Advisor to President Mary Robinson.</p>	
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Re-appointed July 2022.</p>	<p><b>Ms. Anne McElduff,</b> Former Assistant Secretary General and Head of Legal and Industrial Relations. INTO, Barrister and former Teacher.</p>	
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed 1 May 2018. Re-appointed Sept 2019. Re-appointed July 2022</p>	<p><b>Prof. Lorna Carson,</b> Head of the School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences and Associate Professor in Applied Linguistics, TCD.</p>	





<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed Sept 2019.</p>	<p><b>Prof. Declan O’Sullivan,</b> Lectures at TCD’s School of Computer Science and Statistics.</p>	<p>Stepped down July 2021.</p>
<p><b>Elected MIE Staff Representative (academic) 2017-2019</b> Re-elected June 2019.</p>	<p><b>Dr. Seán Delaney,</b> VP for Academic Affairs/Registrar, MIE.</p>	<p>Completed Term, June 2022.</p>
<p><b>Elected MIE Staff Representative (academic)</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Re-elected June 2022.</p>	<p><b>Dr. Rory McDaid,</b> Director of Research.</p>	
<p><b>Elected MIE Staff Representative (professional services)</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Re-elected June 2022.</p>	<p><b>Mr. Martin Lynch,</b> IT Manager and staff representative.</p>	
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Re-appointed July 2022.</p>	<p><b>Mr. Michael Ryan,</b> Former head of McCann Fitzgerald’s Tax Group, a past council member of the Irish Taxation Institute and currently chair of the editorial board of the Irish Tax Review.</p>	
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed 2017-2019. Re-appointed July 2019.</p>	<p><b>Ms. Karen Herbert,</b> AIB, Head of Group Conduct, Strategy and Governance.</p>	<p>Completed Term, June 2022.</p>
<p><b>MIE Student Union Representative</b> Annual appointment June 2021.</p>	<p><b>Ms. Ellen O’Connell,</b> Elected SU President, MIE.</p>	
<p><b>Ex Officio: Representative of Trinity College.</b> Appointed Sept 2019. Appointed Nov 2021.</p>	<p><b>Prof. Jürgen Barkoff,</b> Vice Provost – Chief Academic Officer, Academic Secretariat. Replaced by <b>Prof. Orla Sheils</b> in Nov 2021.</p>	<p>Term ended June 2021.</p>
<p><b>Nominated by the Trustees</b> Appointed February 2020.</p>	<p><b>Dr. Michael Hallissy,</b> Founding Partner, H2 Learning.</p>	
<p><b>In attendance</b></p>	<p><b>Prof. Teresa O’Doherty,</b> President MIE.</p>	
<p><b>In attendance</b></p>	<p><b>Mr. Cian Mackey,</b> Chief Financial Officer.</p>	

# Dr. Seán Delaney

Registrar and VP for Academic Affairs



**2021/2022 was another busy year for the Registrar's Office. Campus life at MIE resumed in force, albeit with the need to ensure everyone's safety in the pandemic and with a readiness to modify modes of working as required.**

Our office saw some new and returning faces in this period: In October 2021 we were delighted to welcome back Shauna Cassidy as Assistant Registrar. Helen Johnston joined the team in January 2022, replacing Laura Finnegan who left us in October 2021. In May, we welcomed Xīn Hào Chén to Marino, where he takes up the role of assistant programmer/records officer to work on Maestro alongside Piotr Korta.



## Admissions

At the end of October 2021, the number of students registered in MIE was 1,313, an increase of just 3% on the previous year. MIE took a stand at the Higher Options event in September 2021, which was organised virtually for the second year in a row. An in-person Open Day was held in November 2021 and more than 400 people attended. At the time, because the number of cases of COVID-19 in the country was rising, the day was planned to include protocols to minimise the spread of the virus. The in-person Open Day was complemented by a virtual Open Day for undergraduate courses in January and three virtual open evenings for postgraduate courses in March.

Face-to-face interviews were held for places on the Professional Master of Education (PME) course in May. This competition was coordinated by the Admissions Officer, Helen Johnston.

Work on Maestro version 5 was ongoing throughout 2021/22. Among the new features that were introduced by Piotr Korta and Xīn Hào Chén are a streamlined application procedure for non-CAO courses to make the process more user-friendly and the ability for students to download their transcripts from their personal page. These electronic transcripts are more environmentally friendly and more accessible to students; a QR code can be used by others to authenticate them.



## Examinations and Graduations

In 2021-22, MIE held online examinations in December, invigilated by MIE staff members. Training sessions for staff and students were provided by the Registrar's Office. By April/May thankfully it was possible to return to face-to-face examinations. However, for repeat exams a hybrid model of face-to-face and online assessments was held. All of this, including the student timetables, appeals and communications with the external examiners, was coordinated by Examinations Officer, Mai Ralph.

Face-to-face graduations took place in Trinity on 27 November 2021. This was the first group of MIE students to graduate in person since 2019. In-person graduations were held in Trinity on 19 January 2022 for graduates from 2020 who did not graduate virtually. Because it was not possible to schedule graduation celebrations in Marino to mark these events, a joint graduation event was held in MIE on 11 June, at which Professor Teresa O'Doherty addressed the students. This event was organised by Helen Johnston.



## Communities of Learning

The Le Chéile initiative was held again in 2022. This is where student teachers in MIE volunteer a week of their time to teach children, mostly from DEIS schools in the Dublin area. This provides additional tuition for the children and additional teaching experience for the young teachers so everyone is learning, "le chéile." The entire event is run by MIE staff members, Ciara Reilly, Lorna Roche, Colleen Horn and Seán Delaney, in cooperation with Conferencing and Facilities and other colleagues.

## Quality and Academic Integrity

The Quality Committee met monthly throughout 2021/22 and developed resources for disseminating policies to staff. A highlight of the year was a virtual review of the Further Education programme, which took place on 1 and 2 March. A huge amount of work went into preparing for this review, led from the Quality side by Julie O'Donnell and from the Programme side by Andrea Uí Chianáin.

Meanwhile, Shauna Cassidy and Melanie Eggleston have been added to Marino's representatives on the National Academic Integrity Network in addition to Dr. Seán Delaney, who has been a member since shortly after its inception. Furthermore, in May four members of MIE staff attended a master class on academic integrity, where Kane Murdoch from the University of New South Wales was the keynote speaker. Finally, a committee has been set up in MIE to work on academic integrity. The members are Genevieve Larkin, Melanie Eggleston, Shauna Cassidy, Mai Ralph and Dr. Seán Delaney. It is hoped to recruit at least one student member to join the committee.

## LEADERSHIP REPORTS

# Dr. Gene Mehigan

Vice President for Education & Strategic Development



**If there was a word to sum up the academic year 2021/22 for MIE it was flexibility. As the landscape of the Covid-19 pandemic and its restrictions evolved during the academic year, we sought to harness the advantages of online and blended teaching and learning, while at the same time enabling in-person teaching and social activities to resume back on campus.**

The enthusiasm and professionalism with which students and staff alike took on the challenges and opportunities of 2021/22 augur well for implementing the new Strategic Plan, which we launched in November 2021, and which will see MIE continue to thrive and grow in the coming years.

### Education, Quality and Support

The academic year saw many new developments in education, teaching and learning at MIE, as outlined in this broader report. To mention just a few here, in the first Semester 2021-22 MIE offered a selection of online webinars for teachers, presented by MIE staff, in collaboration with Tralee Education Centre and in conjunction with Navan and Clare Education Centres. Webinars covered a range of topics, including practical professional development in areas such as Gaeilge, Literacy, Mathematics, Special Education, SESE, Bilingualism, Music, Drama, and Early Childhood Education.

Attendance at the webinars was consistently high, which was no doubt due to the exceptional standard of content and delivery by MIE lecturers.

The quality of MIE's education was underlined further when the University Council in Trinity approved MIE's proposal for a Masters in Education Studies (Primary Mathematics Education). The proposal was reviewed internally in Trinity by the School of Education and was reviewed externally by Professor Julie Alderton from the University of Cambridge.

In March 2022, as part of the Quality Review process, an external and independent review of the Professional Diploma in Education (Further Education) entailed a comprehensive review of the academic standards of the programme. This included an assessment of the strategic direction of the programme in the context of MIE strategy and internal and external development and a review of the effectiveness of the programme's governance, management and administration structures.

The first months of 2022 saw the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. MIE is working to support teachers from Ukraine through the Migrant Teacher Project. In this context a series of webinars introducing and discussing key areas of the education system in Ukraine was jointly organised by Dr. Rory McDaid in conjunction with University of Vienna, University of Basel and University Koblenz-Landau.





## Strategic and Campus Development

The MIE Strategic Plan for 2021–2026 was launched in November 2021, and the implementation of the plan over the academic year 2021/22 progressed well. Over the five years of the plan, there are 10 goals, which have 305 sub goals to complete.

The MIE Campus Master Plan will be aligned to the Strategic Plans of MIE. It will cover the near to medium-term development of the campus, and it will address a number of deficits whilst at the same time recognising the growth in programmes and student numbers. The plan will take into

account the longer-term development of the campus and will assess the facilities required to sustain MIE (adequate library resources etc.). MIE engaged in a tendering process to select an architectural firm to commence plans to develop this Campus Master Plan.

In the academic year 2021/22, we continued to progress plans for a proposed new entrance from Griffith Avenue up through the Griffith Woods development. The new approach road will provide an opportunity to view our beautiful St Mary's building from a previously unseen aspect. Planning was also secured for a new security hub at the gateway to the Institute.



**Dr. Garret Campbell, Dr. Rory McDaid, Dr. Gene Mehigan along with Maria Fitzgerald (Acting Deputy Director of the Teaching Council) met with Ambassador Larysa Gerasko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Ireland, on 12 April 2022, to explore how the MTP could support Ukrainian teachers as they begin their teaching careers in Ireland.**

## LEADERSHIP REPORTS

# Cian Mackey

Chief Financial Officer and  
VP Professional Services



**Although the effects of COVID-19 were still seen at the start of the academic year 2021/2022, it was great to see student and campus life returning to a more normalised state. It was still a period of change, reverting from remote to hybrid and also back to full campus life, and the team in Professional Services have been tremendous in meeting these challenges.**

Our student accommodation income streams returned to almost pre-COVID-19 levels, our conferencing income is building again with a positive outlook for 2022/2023. Our International Foundation Programme with Trinity also performed well, with good student numbers despite having just come through a pandemic.

The Professional Services team has been very busy throughout 2021/2022 implementing a number of key initiatives under our five-year strategic plan, which are highlighted throughout the Annual report.

Some other highlights during the year were initiated to improve MIE's corporate risk register along with the associated processes and procedures. MIE received planning permission also for a new security hub, which it plans to build off our new entrance from Griffith Avenue. Works are planned to commence early in 2023. Also, following a competitive tendering process an architectural firm has been selected to prepare a Campus Master Plan. This plan will aide and facilitate MIE's desire to expand its current footprint of buildings in order to meet our student needs.

## Finance Office

MIE's Finance Office, led by Deirdre Mulholland, experienced another busy year in relation to the payment of grants, bursaries and scholarships to MIE students. In total, 860 grant awards were made directly to MIE students, and this comprised of 13 Erasmus Mobility Grants, 613 Gaeltacht Grants, 184 Student Assistance Fund payments, 29 "1916" Bursaries, 34 B. Oid Bursaries and 21 MIE Scholarships.

The Finance Office also administered another successful round of the Teacher Refund Scheme on behalf of the Teacher Education Section in in the Department of Education. The total number of applications received this year was 1047, of which 938 were successful and received funding.

Of special note is the work by Justyna Mullin in the Finance Office on the expanded Post-Primary Language Ireland (PPLI) grants – in excess of 1300 sampler grants and 500 Library grants in the past 12 months, on top of the normal day-to-day work with PPLI.

During the year, the team was joined by Veronica Madden a Project Accountant, who will be involved in a number of projects and initiatives to assist MIE with meeting its strategic goals over the coming years.

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## HR

The academic year 2021/2022 saw the introduction of an additional improvement in benefits for our employees with immediate access should an employee wish to join our pension plans – previously a waiting period of six months applied. The MIE Buddy System was introduced as part of our on-boarding and orientation process for new employees. The new employee is assigned a 'buddy' from the existing staff to help them settle in and become part of the MIE community.



We welcomed 16 new colleagues to attend a four-day induction programme in late August. A working-from-home pilot for professional services employees was launched for an initial six-month period. Having taken into account feedback from staff and department heads, this pilot continues to offer employees the choice to work one day or two half days a week from home.

A Senior Lecturer Promotions Procedure was launched and following a selection process two Senior Lecturers were appointed, effective September 1st 2021 and September 1st 2022. The roles of VP for Education & Strategic Development, Dean of Education Curriculum & Childhood and Dean of Education Policy, Practice and Society were appointed, effective August 2022. Training and development of our staff continues to be a priority in MIE. In the academic year 2021/22, two staff were supported in and completed Master's programmes, three employees were supported to undertake their PhDs and two employees were completed their PhDs and were awarded their doctorates. Róisín Sullivan is Director of HR.

## Library

The academic year 2021-2022 was an eventful one for MIE Library. Footfall began to bounce back, with more than 22,000 entries to the Library between September 2021 and September 2022, despite some courses remaining online for much of the academic year.



The Library carried out a user-experience study and has made several changes this year. They include a new open-plan office and reception desk - which accommodates two staff-members and a processing room for cataloguing and readying physical items for the shelf - and a quiet reading nook under the stairs. The library website was also redesigned to improve the user experience based on feedback from a web usability study.



### New Library Reception Desk.

The library collaborated with the Student Counselling Service, Research Office and academic staff to bring in new collections to support student wellbeing and academic success. Collections of themed children's literature and picture books are displayed throughout the year.

New Interlibrary loan and Digital extracts services were launched to improve access to teaching and research materials for both staff and students. In order to deliver digital extracts, the library joined the Digital Content Store, giving access to a repository of HEI crowdsourced book chapters and journal articles to facilitate pedagogic need.

The Library team consists of Trish Patton, Anne Poenot, Claire Murphy, and Donna Whelan and is led by Genevieve Larkin.

## Education Office

The Education Office has continued to evolve with the changing needs of the Institute. In some ways, this year has been more challenging than the time spent in full lockdown as we adapted to hybrid working. A great deal of flexibility has been necessary and the Education Office has remained open to welcome staff and students throughout the day and maintaining a presence across the Institute, assisting in events such as the Reading Recovery and Story Time programmes, open days and graduations.

The team also continued to provide administrative support across all department to events throughout the year including intercultural fortnight, student induction programmes, a scholarship awards event, a Black Studies webinar, a roundtable event and, perhaps most notably, the ATEE Conference which was held on campus and welcomed delegates from all across the world.

With students and conferencing clients back on campus and 'normal' life returning, our team was there to support and assist during this transition including our front of house team in reception who are often a first point of contact. In particular, our international students were gratefully assisted by our IFP administrator.

The Education Office managed the Governing Body election process for staff representatives.

Finally, a special focus has been placed on GDPR this year and efforts will continue to ensure that our practices are streamlined and that the data protection of our stakeholders remains a priority.

The Education Office team consists of Mairéad Corcoran, Dawn Gleeson, Bernie Masterson, Maureen McDonagh, Jocelyn McRory, Mandioneka Munyikwa, Bríd Ní Chualáin, Deirdre Ní Mhurchú and Máire Áine Nic Dhonnchadha and is led by Felicity Scriver.

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## IT and eLearning

The IT & eLearning Department, led by Alison Egan, continued to provide support for all staff and students, whether remote or in person, onsite, offsite or 'hyflex' during the academic year. The IT & eLearning Helpdesk received 3,964 support queries from staff, students, and other users of the various MIE technology services, an increase of 13% on the previous academic year.

The move back to full in-person (F2F) delivery during Term 2 meant that regular audio visual in classroom support requests increased as staff got used to being back in the workplace again. Lecturers were also supported to deliver their classes in a hyflex manner, allowing in room and remote access for participants, where either a staff member or a student could not attend in person for health reasons.

Final migration to HEAnet broadband services occurred on Tuesday 3 August 2021, just in time for the new academic year. The increased broadband capacity ensured staff and students can avail of good connectivity, and HEAnet also provides a 'fail safe' microwave link so if the wired connection fails we have 24/7 'up time' reliable broadband connection to MIE buildings.

The IT and eLearning Department has also implemented training in Office 365 for staff, as well as training website editors and overseeing cybersecurity and 'phishing' awareness and training at MIE.

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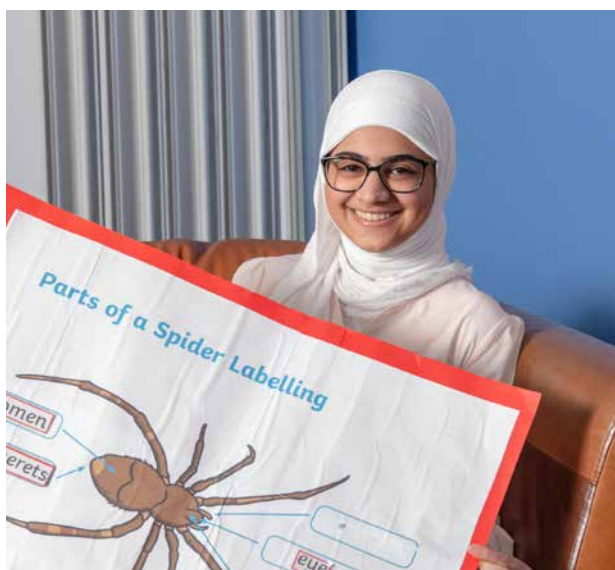
## ELearning Tools, Training and Placement Pivot

Online learning continued throughout the 2021/2022 academic year, and the TELMiE about IT initiative ensured lecturing staff could deliver their lectures, synchronously, asynchronously, and remotely for the full academic year. MS Teams meetings were integrated into Moodle, allowing all staff and students to 'meet' each other virtually inside their course module, and MIE is assured of the security of connection, as the meeting is hosted on platforms we manage and control.

Other new tools were rolled out, including the Panopto student video submission tool, video to Panopto to Zoom integration, Vevox 'feedback' tool integration, MS Teams meetings integration, Boards integration and Advanced Turn It In assignment submission integration. Rollout and training on all these tools was managed by the wider eLearning team, and support videos were created for all new integrations by Shane Regan.

Virtual IT induction went live for all new staff and students on 29 August 2022, and provides an asynchronous, just in time, self-paced learning tool for all those new to the MIE IT systems.

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## Conferencing and Facilities

The year 2021/22 was still dominated early on by COVID-19. Ciarán Fogarty, as Head of Conferencing & Facilities, continued in his role as COVID-19 Compliance Officer, along with Ian Blount, H&S Coordinator. As the Institute returned to some face-to-face classes, it was of paramount importance that MIE was a safe place to work, learn and study. It all ran smoothly with strict but manageable protocols in place and as the year went on, life became more normal.

With the improvement of the COVID-19 situation in early 2022, clients began to return to the Conference Centre. Efforts made to keep in touch with clients over the pandemic made that return easier for all involved. Revenues were still far behind where they would have been pre-pandemic but insignificant either. Many clients remained operating not with small numbers or in a hybrid fashion but it was nice to see as much face-to-face sessions and seminars or the likes of Yoga Therapy Ireland, the Acupuncture Foundation and Ulster University.

By April/May 2022 we were in a better place and hosted a large international conference for the Association of Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE) in May 2022 and a Congregational Chapter for the Christian Brothers at Easter 2022. The IT team - and particular, Martin Lynch, Patrick Geary & Andy Carroll are to be commended for ensuring that all technologies and equipment worked without a hitch.

For the hybrid Migrant Teacher Project Graduation in February 2022, Martin Lynch, Patrick Geary and Andy Carroll set up our newly purchased audio-visual conference equipment over the course of two days in the Gym. This new equipment will support future conference events scheduled in MIE, and also allows the Gym to be used as a larger capacity venue, with remote streaming capabilities.

June saw a return of the State Exams Commission for the Leaving Certificate and led on to a return of the language school, Emerald Cultural Institute (ECI) for the usual summer school for international teenagers.

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## Financial Update

Total income for the year, as per the draft financial statements, is €16,684,695 - (PBSA is up €2M on the prior year) and student numbers were 1,313, which is an increase of 3% on the previous year.

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Total income (€000s)	€14,459	€13,866	€13,554	€16,685
Student Numbers	1,065	1,129	1,278	1,313
Growth in Student Numbers	25%	6%	13%	3%

## Primary Energy Consumption

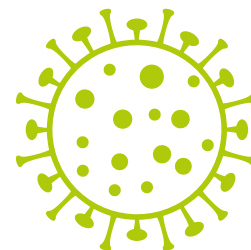
Year ending 31 Dec	Gas Consumption (kWh)	Gas Consumption (kWh) Per Student	Electricity Consumption (kWh)	Electricity Consumption (kWh) Per Student	CO2 emissions (Tonnes)	CO2 emissions (Tonnes) Per Student
Base year 2014	1,955,460	2,566	779,623	1,023	650	0.85
2015	1,316,864	1,577	650,722	779	499	0.59
2016	1,413,215	1,692	643,534	770	496	0.59
2017	1,561,179	1,838	604,208	711	484	0.57
2018	1,748,938	1,642	575,972	540	489	0.46
2019	1,816,864	1,590	584,733	512	483	0.42
2020	1,472,301	1,142	468,434	363	380	0.30
2021	1,298,886	989	390,647	298	330	0.25

The CO2 emissions per student in MIE has continued to fall quite significantly since the large-scale energy efficiency project carried out in 2014/2015 with Veolia Ireland. This investment included a grant aid contribution from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

Some efficiencies per student were achieved due to the increase in student numbers attending MIE. The COVID-19 pandemic also reduced our

use of energy for during the year 2021/22 as MIE continued with reduced footfall on campus during the year. We calculate CO2 emissions by using the Business in the Community (BITC) carbon reporting methodology for gas and electricity. As more renewables are being generated in Ireland, the electricity on the transmission system is becoming cleaner year on year, so the carbon-emissions factor is reducing, which is a contributor to this reduction in CO2 emissions.

# MIE's COVID-19 Response



**As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our day-to-day lives in education, MIE continues to monitor, pre-empt and respond to changes to safeguard the health of our staff, students and wider community.**

## **COVID-19 and the Safe Return to Campus**

At MIE we entered the academic year 2021/2022 with the global COVID-19 pandemic very much still to the fore of our minds. The COVID-19 Committee, chaired by our Registrar Dr Seán Delaney, comprising our COVID-19 compliance officers, representatives from many sectors of the community, and staff and student representatives, continued to meet on a fortnightly basis in this academic year. The COVID-19 Committee agreed that all classes of fewer than 65 students would be held face-to-face, while larger classes would be held online.

MIE re-opened in mid-August 2021 with the week-long induction of new staff. This week-long process, organised by Róisín Sullivan, Director of HR, formally welcomed all new staff, including those who had joined during the year. A full staff meeting and lunch was held on August 26th. Our final year students returned to campus on August 30th, and a targeted orientation process was held for our second-year cohorts that week. Facilitated by Shane O'Sullivan from Inspiring Excellence, these workshops focused on student resilience and wellbeing.

When campus re-opened, masks were mandatory indoors for both students and staff. Lecturers could

remove their masks if they wished, if they were two metres or more away from students during classes. Ventilation was monitored and ventilation units to test and purify the air, were acquired for teaching spaces. Two rooms were set aside as COVID-19 isolation rooms in case a student or member of staff was symptomatic.

It is a testament to all involved that MIE was quickly able to respond to changing circumstances, including an outbreak of COVID-19 among our B.Ed. cohort, which prompted a move to teaching exclusively on-line for six days in order to create a 'circuit break' and reduce the spread of the virus.

MIE staff and students were eligible to attend the Trinity 'pop-up' vaccination centre on 27 and 29 September. This was a very welcome opportunity for our community to be offered a vaccination if required.

MIE kept up to date with official guidance through Prof Eugene Wall, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, who attended regular DFHERIS COVID-19 meetings as a representative of the smaller non-aligned colleges. This enabled us to keep abreast of emerging guidelines, advice on the arrival of international students, and in general the recommended approaches to managing the safe return to campus.

DFHERIS gifted MIE with face masks for each member of staff and students, and the Department of Education made an additional grant of funding to the Institute to support COVID-19 measures on campus.

The time and resources to ensure a safer campus were well spent: staff and students alike were delighted to be back in face-to-face classes, and the campus was exceptionally vibrant at the start of term.

## Second-Semester approach to COVID-19

As we moved into 2022, we were mindful of the need to be on our guard as the global COVID-19 pandemic continued. However, as the public health restrictions relaxed in Ireland, MIE continued to follow the official path and face-to-face classes resumed fully in early February, with the exception of part-time and weekend courses. This relaxation was earlier than expected, and required some room changes in the timetable.

An all-staff coffee morning in early February marked the relaxation of the public health restrictions, but we also appreciated that some staff and students remained cautious about returning to campus, and we kept some measures in place. Where previously staff and students were asked to take antigen tests every day they were interacting with people on campus, this changed to a request for an antigen test once per relevant week. Antigen test kits were available free of charge for all students and staff.

Meanwhile, all were still required to wear masks when indoors (except when eating or drinking) and HEPA filters were installed in many classrooms.

Staff underwent a phased return to campus, in line with public health guidelines, and some staff availed of The Working from Home Pilot Scheme, where they could apply to work from home one day or two half days per week.

Student activities flourished, including our GAA teams getting out on the pitches and competing in various leagues and our dramatic society back in the swing of rehearsing.

Despite the relaxation of restrictions, COVID-19 meant that the academic year 2021/2022 was challenging in many respects. The uncertainty that surrounded the scheduling of events, conferences, and the constant reframing of School Placement to accommodate the required flexibility to allow students to work as substitutes in schools complicated the schedule for all staff and students. Nonetheless, the absolute professionalism of staff, and the energy and commitment of all, meant that we retained connection, commitment and continuity with our students.

Throughout the pandemic to date, our COVID-19 Compliance Officers Ciarán Fogarty and Ian Blount and our COVID-19 Committee chaired by Dr Seán Delaney have given consistently excellent advice and support to all. We are indebted to them for their leadership throughout the last two years.

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## Education in a time of COVID-19

Dr Aimie Brennan participated in a mini-documentary on teaching and learning in higher education during COVID-19. The documentary was created by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning as part of the 'Next Steps' project, launched by Minister Harris on 10 November at the RDS, Dublin.





# MIE's Response to the War in Ukraine



**The MIE community condemns the brutal invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and in solidarity with the Ukrainian people we have been flying their national flag on campus.**

MIE joins the Irish Government and wider society in its concern with the situation in Ukraine, and in particular with the violation of international law and the unnecessary and tragic human suffering and loss of life. We must remember that many Russian people do not support the actions of the Russian Federation and are also deeply affected by the invasion and events arising from it.

The Institute has been offering support to our Ukrainian and Russian students impacted by the crisis, and will continue to do so for as long as it is required.

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## **Bridging support for teachers from Ukraine**

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine unfolded in spring and summer of 2022, MIE sought to respond with support for the Ukraine education system.

MIE staff involved with the Migrant Teacher Project Dr. Garret Campbell, Dr. Gene Mehigan, Dr. Rory McDaid attended a meeting hosted by HE Larysa Gerasko, Ukrainian Ambassador to Ireland. The meeting was aimed at giving an understanding of both the education system of Ukraine and teacher registration there.

Following a funding call, the Migrant Teacher Project submitted a proposal to establish a tailored Bridging Programme for Ukrainian teachers who may come to Ireland.

## **Chaplaincy initiatives for Ukraine and peace**

In May, to continue supporting our Ukrainian students and the wider community, the Chaplaincy placed a beautiful Icon of Our Lady of the Ukraine in the reception area. Small ribbons in the colours of the Ukraine flag were placed in Reception and a donation box for the Red Cross was left for people to make a donation for the ribbons. A bench and tree outside Reception were marked as spaces where people could 'tie a yellow or blue ribbon in a show of solidarity, and cards with a prayer for Ukraine were printed on behalf of MIE chaplaincy to encourage people to pray for peace.

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## **Webinar series on education in Ukraine**

Dr. Rory McDaid jointly organised a series of webinars introducing and discussing key areas of the education system in Ukraine. The first of these was held on 11 May and was presented by Dr. Natilya Horuk, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine. The series was jointly organised with the University of Vienna, the University of Basel and the University Koblenz-Landau.

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## **Literacy Symposium for Ukraine**

As part of a fundraising webinar for the Ukraine Crisis Appeal, Dr. Clara Fiorentini collaborated with Dr. Jennifer O'Sullivan, Dr. Treasa Bowe and Dee O'Toole on a symposium at the end of March that was attended by more than 270 teachers and raised a total of €5,251.94.

# Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026



## Strategic Plan Sets out Our Future Path

The launch of the Strategic Plan 2021-2026: Education Transforming Lives on 10 November was an important milestone in the life of Marino Institute of Education.

Not only was this the first large scale, face-to-face business event we held since the start of COVID-19, it was also a wonderful display of community, of coming together and a celebration of months of hard work.

Minister Simon Harris was extremely complimentary about the breadth and range of activities that MIE is engaged in, and it was gratifying to welcome him and all our guests.

The Strategic Plan is a vital publication that will navigate our path in the years to come and signpost us through the good times ahead and difficult times such as the ones we have encountered recently.

This Plan was produced during a time of tremendous challenge but each and every member of our community rose to the occasion admirably in one form or another. I am proud of the wide range of people involved and engaged in designing this visionary plan, in bringing it to being, and I thank the Strategic Plan Staff Committee 2021-2026.

This is a plan of and for everyone at MIE and the community of which we are a part, and by working together on it, we will reap benefits for education in Ireland and globally.



# Teaching & Learning

Innovations at MIE



## Always moving forward

In the academic year 2021/2022, MIE staff continued to support and enrich educators around Ireland by hosting Continuing Professional Development classes and webinars. They included sessions on outdoor learning, play, the dialogic classroom and enhancing practice and knowledge.



## MIE Staff Awarded Digital Badges

Breed Murphy, Feargal Ó Laighin, Richeal Ní Thiarnaigh, and Eileen Keane Niland all received the Digital Badge for Universal Design in Teaching and Learning having completed the online course facilitated by AHEAD and UCD Access and Lifelong Learning in partnership with the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.

Dr. Clíodhna Martin and Dr. Aimie Brennan were awarded a Digital Badge for Authentic Student Engagement in Decision Making on 20 January. The Digital Badge was awarded for completion of the first joint programme of the National Student Engagement Programme (NSTEP) and the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.

## New Early-Career Researcher Mentorship initiative in Sociology

A new mentorship initiative for early-career researchers in sociology, the first of its kind, began in March 2022 and MIE is part of it. Dr. Lisa Moran, (Waterford IT), Dr. John O'Brien (UCC), Dr. Anna Bussu (Edge Hill University, UK), Dr. Aimie Brennan (MIE) and Dr Bernadine Brady (NUI Galway) have been collaborating since 2021 on the development of this new mentoring scheme for early-career researchers in the field of sociology. It was launched by the Sociological Association of Ireland and kicked off on 7 March the with training on 'Supporting early-career researchers in Sociology' with Dr. Anna Bussu. A team of professional sociologists in Ireland have completed mentoring training under the initiative, and will be matched with early-career researchers, for whom they can be independent, critical friends to discuss CPD, career trajectories and job opportunities.

## SAGE Videos on Research skills

Dr. Aimie Brennan took part in an Open Access project produced by SAGE. Called 'Research Ethics and Integrity', it is a new suite of resources created within the SAGE Research Methods platform 'Methodspace'. Dr. Brennan contributed to video publications on 'Validity & Reliability Protocols in Education Research' and 'Ethics Guidelines for Education Research'. The videos, filmed in November 2021, will be used primarily in university-level teaching and will be available to all students and early career researchers who need to broaden their knowledge and skills so that they can carry out ethical research.

## MIE online Master's in Education Studies makes history

A new, fully online Master's course in primary mathematics education at MIE has made history by becoming the first fully online course to be accredited by Trinity College Dublin. It went through a rigorous internal and external review and was steered through the accreditation process during the academic year 2021/2022, and attracted much interest from prospective students when it was publicly announced. Congratulations to the Registrar and Vice-President (Academic Affairs), Dr Seán Delaney, who leads the Master's, and to Breed Murphy, Sorcha Browne, Dr. Maja Haals Brosnan, Dr. Bridget Flanagan, Dr. Rory McDaid, Dr Andrea Uí Chianáin and Miriam Colum who designed modules for the innovative course. The eLearning team at MIE, led on this project by Shane Regan, created an online template for each module on the new Masters, and the mode was based on sound instructional design theory and principles, including universal design for learning.

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## International Foundation Programme

The International Foundation Programme (IFP) is going from strength to strength, with the current cohort of 103 students being the largest to date and an increase of 24% from last year, with 25 nationalities represented – Bangladesh, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Iran, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey and the Ukraine. In November 2021, Prof Emma Stokes, Declan Coogan, Jacinta Ryan, and Clíodhna Martin visited MIE as part of the IFP Steering Committee and the next three-year contract was signed for the provision of the Programme.

## Virtual International Winter School

The second Virtual International Winter School was hosted online by Dr. Julie Uí Choistealbha and Dr. Aimie Brennan in November 2021. The winter School was supported by funding from the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning and was promoted as part of the National Programme for VIT&L week. All students and staff involved in education were invited to attend workshops exploring the themes of Professional Identity, Research Informed Practice, Collaboration and Reflective Practice. Guest speakers and attendees joined from schools, universities and organisations across Ireland, Finland, UK, USA, and Ecuador. Dr. Garret Campbell (Global Schoolroom), Dr. Wing-kai To (Bridgewater State University, USA), Dr. Jennifer Shearman (University of Canterbury, UK), and Andrew Sherman (Colegio Menor in San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador) facilitated sessions and participated in a Roundtable on professional practice.

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## Summer Courses 2022

In the first week of July 2022, Marino Institute of Education provided a wide range of exciting and practical summer courses. One blended course and six face-to-face courses were presented in MIE from July 4th to 8th, with three online courses running throughout July. A total of 922 teachers received EPV certificates for successful completion of these courses.

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## Inclusive Education partnership between MIE and St. Michael's House Group

In September 2021, MIE began a new partnership with the six schools in the St Michael's House Group. The reciprocal partnership involves input from staff from the schools on all aspects of inclusive special education and training from MIE's Miriam Colum for the staff in the schools. The initiative kicked off on September 15 when the principal of St. Michael's House, Skerries, spoke about inclusion, Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and teacher leadership to our BED 4 cohort.



# Student and Sporting Life



## A Sporty Bunch

We are always delighted to see our students involved in sporting activities – the teamwork, discipline, camaraderie and physical activity involved are important elements that enrich student development and wellbeing. Plus, let's not forget the fun!

Our GAA Officer, Denis Forde, has been exceptionally busy this academic year, with multiple challenge games in football (male and female), hurling and camogie each week throughout the first term of 2021.

We had 190 students representing the Institute across the various codes, and a further 120 students who are social players, attending training. This year we placed significant emphasis on our first-year cohorts, and some 133 students from our undergraduate and PMWI intake of 344 were involved in the GAA activities. We thank Denis and the many coaches involved, many of whom are current students or alumni.

In hurling, MIE was delighted with the much-awaited win in the Fergal Maher Championship. The team and supporters travelled to Carlow IT to play the semi-final against GMIT Letterfrack on February 19th and proceeded to the final against St Mary's University College, Belfast on February 20th. It was a wet and windy day, not the best conditions for a hurling match, but MIE prevailed and the final score was Marino 2 – 16 and St. Mary's 2 – 6. Heartiest congratulations to the team under the leadership of captain Matthew Comerford, and the management team, Maitias Mac Donnchadha, Martin Gillespie, Cian O'Brien and Fiach Ó Béarra.

Then MIE made it to the final of the Ladies 'Football Donagh Cup against DCU on 8 March. Sadly, it was not our day and we congratulate DCU on their

victory. Well done to MIE captain Eimhin Quinn, Jonathan Rock team manager and all the team. We wish them every success in the future. Marino Abú!

Massive congratulations to the newly established Basketball Team who got through to the final of their first competitive League match. Unfortunately, they were beaten by GMIT in their final on 16 March, but the team were gallant in their defeat. Congratulations to all the team but especially to Nia Ní Chinnéide, who is both the manager and a player on the team and to Dr Suzy Macken who is an advocate for the team.

Congratulations also to Aoife Doyle (B. Ed 2), who lined out in the Irish Rugby Team against Japan on 20 November.



## Let's Talk Kitchen Science

A group of 12 IFP students participated in the 'Let's Talk Science Fair' at the Rediscover Centre, Ballymun during Science Week, where they set up a number of 'kitchen science' inquiries and spent the day interacting with the public. They enjoyed the experience and there was very positive feedback. Our thanks to Sandra Austin and Derek Murphy for their mentoring and support of BEd4 and IFP students in collaborative, peer-learning workshops on science inquiry and communication.

## Student Recognition



Congratulations to Jane Friel, B. Ed4 who was presented with a Bravery Award in November. Jane, a qualified lifeguard, saved a father and his three daughters as they were in danger of drowning in the sea off Donegal in July.



MIE also congratulates PME1 student Fionnuala Donlan, who was presented with the Sean Ó Riada medal for the harp by the President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins, at Áras an Uachtaráin in October.

## Awards' Ceremony for Culture, Community and Sports

Special trophies were awarded to several students to mark their achievements and contributions in the areas of community, culture and sports during the year in MIE. The President, Professor O'Doherty, presented the awards at a special ceremony on 30 May 2022 when the students and members of their families were present. The event was coordinated by Cillian McCabe and Shauna Cassidy in the Registrar's Office.

## MIE and the National Student Engagement Programme (NSTEP)

MIE's new Strategic Plan sets out an ambitious commitment to student partnership across the life of the college. In October 2021, MIE became an Institutional member of the NSTEP programme, a partnership between the HEA, QQI and USI. As an Institutional Member, MIE has access to a range of supports and programmes including training for Class Reps, access to training and resources for staff and access to national events and webinars in partnership with USI and StudentSurvey. Three MIE staff members undertook the NSTEP-facilitated open course called 'Steps to Partnership' in 2021, and an initial meeting was held in November 2021 between NSTEP, MIE SU and MIE to begin work on student engagement.

The first event held in March was an Institutional Analysis Workshop 'Supporting staff and students across the sector to foster a culture of partnership'. The workshop was organised by Ellen O'Connell (SU President) and Dr. Aimie Brennan and was facilitated by Oisín Hassan (Programme Manager of the National Student Engagement Programme). Staff and students across all departments and programmes in MIE were invited to attend. The aim of the workshop was to provide participants with a collaborative space to reflect on student engagement practices in the institution, helping them to identify actions for enhancement and partnership activities. The outputs from the workshop are informing the work of the new student-partnership working group.

## In-Person Graduations

We were delighted to attend the conferring of the 2020 graduates on 19 January 2022. These graduands who would have normally graduated in December 2020 finally got an opportunity to celebrate their academic achievements at two commencement ceremonies. The joy of our alumni being able to come together to celebrate the award of their degrees was infectious. We thank the Registrar's Office in Trinity College Dublin for organising these ceremonies.

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## Students Working '9 to 5'

Dr. Elaine Clotworthy facilitated the student-led musical '9 to 5' (a title familiar to Dolly Parton fans), which took place from 6-8 March in the Liberty Hall theatre and was attended by more 800 people. We also salute all the students who designed, choreographed, and presented this wonderful critique of gender inequality in the workplace as experienced in the 1970-1980s. Congratulations to Katie Donoghue, Conor Mulligan, Elaine Clotworthy and the entire cast and crew. The performance was extremely professional throughout and illustrative of the amazing talent of our students. *Comhghairdeas ó chroí le gach éinne a bhí páirteach ann.*

## Student survey says YES to MIE

In 2022 MIE had the highest response rate in the country to the survey at 49.3%, compared to an average response rate of 27.8%. This amounted to 303 students in MIE taking the time to respond (136 first years, 88 final years and 79 postgraduate students). Data collection for the survey was led by Assistant Registrar, Shauna Cassidy. A detailed analysis of the data was conducted by MIE's research officer, Dr. Luciana Lolich.

One of the standouts from the survey was that almost 9 in 10 (89.4%) of students said that if they could start over again they "probably yes" or "definitely yes" would go to MIE.

Most indicators show an increase on last year, with this being particularly evident in Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction and Quality of Interactions. Student-faculty interaction was much improved on 2021, with students reporting working with academic staff on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups etc.) and discussing course topics, ideas or concepts with academic staff outside of scheduled class, tutorials, labs or studios.





# Sustainability

## Composting on Campus

Composting is becoming part of life on the MIE campus. In September 2021, consultant Craig Benton from Composting Ireland visited MIE to discuss the potential for MIE to become a model site for the new Composting for Schools programme launched by the four Dublin Local Authorities. Dr Sandra Austin and Ciarán Fogarty met with Craig to tour the campus and discuss our current landscape management and our future potential for zero landscape waste. Following the visit, Dublin City Council agreed to fund the establishment of leaf mould cages and a wormery on campus.

## Smarter Travel to, from and around MIE

During the academic year 2021/2022, MIE has taken active steps to supporting smarter travel for staff and students.

With the support of MIE leadership and the National Transport Authority, MIE signed up to the National Transport Authority's Smarter Travel Campus charter. The Smarter Travel Campus Programme provides support to third-level campuses to promote and encourage sustainable and active travel choices among students, staff and visitors. Special thanks are due to Dr Sandra Austin, who has been at the forefront of organising the initiative.

To get people moving, MIE took part in the The Walktober Steps Challenge, and MIE steppers collectively walked 1,058 miles (1,608km) – the distance from Dublin to Vienna. Overall, 44 staff members in eight teams took part in the challenge and received a Certificate from the

STC programme and some chocolates from MIE. More than 1,000 teams from all across the country took part in the challenge, and four of our teams finished within the top 500, which is a huge achievement for our first time participating.

And it's not just about walking – to help cyclists remain visible through the darker months, November's 'Light Up Your Life' campaign saw 100 sets of front and rear bike lights distributed to MIE staff and students courtesy of the Smarter Travel Campus programme. Other activities to date under the programme have included an audit of the campus and travel surveys of students and staff.

## Growing at the Bots

In September, B. Ed 4 students on the Space to Grow elective visited the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, led by Dr Sandra Austin, where Jean and Ciara from the NBG Education Team gave them a guided tour of the children's learning garden and the Sculpture in Context exhibition.







## Bringing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to Education

In September, Dr. Sandra Austin submitted a response to the public consultation on the SDG National Implementation Plan from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. In November, Dr. Austin attended the launch of University College Cork's Sustainable Development Goals Toolkit. The aim of the toolkit is to help educators and higher education institutions to futureproof curricula by embedding sustainability into their teaching practice or further integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their curriculum. The SDG digital toolkit project provides concise actionable resources to achieve this result while providing insights into the underpinning theories.

## Green Campus @ MIE

The Green Campus Committee is a collaborative staff/student committee to implement the Green Campus programme at MIE and to co-ordinate action for sustainability across the MIE campus community. The Committee held frequent meetings throughout the academic year. The members: are Ellen O'Connell (SU President), Catriona Duddy (SU Environmental Officer), Emma Hobson, Niamh Baskett, Petra Doherty, Claudia Kavanagh, Amy Kavanagh, Dr. Barbara O'Toole, Ciarán Fogarty and Dr. Sandra Austin. The fruits of their labour included a Green Campus Scoping Document, which was submitted to An Taisce in December 2021.

## Growth at the Community Garden

A great bunch of garden volunteers (staff and students) have grown a wide variety of crops through the year at the community Garden – peas, courgettes, spuds, kale and a couple of exotic items like edamame and scorzonera. Space to Grow students also built a Herb Wheel and an Insect Hotel for the garden during the year.

## Planting Seeds of Hope

In March, a joint initiative of the Green Campus committee and the community gardeners saw a pop-up seed-sowing session outside the community garden. Everyone was invited to drop by our propagation table to help us to sow seeds from all over the world for our MIE garden – tomatoes and peppers from South America, West Indian Gherkins, Takinogawa from Japan, beets from Europe, Irish potatoes and lots more. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Alison Gilliland, and our MIE President came along to help out. The charity 'Trees on the Land' have also provided two apple trees for the garden.



# Diversity and Inclusion

**The academic year 2021/2022 saw a wealth of events and activities to celebrate diversity and encourage inclusion at MIE. The engine of many of these initiatives was the staff/student Diversity Committee, which was established in October 2021.**

Events included workshops on children's books and games, Arabic/English Language Exchange meetings and Continuing Professional Development on diversity with the intercultural trainer Reverend Livingstone Thompson, as well as the Intercultural Fortnight in February 2022.



## **MIE Intercultural Fortnight and Fair**

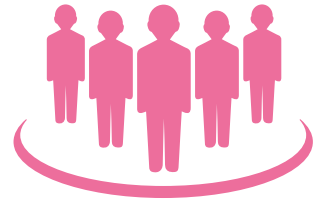


**Kimberley Brown (front), Paola Reyes McCrory (left), Erika Pena (back) and Irene Macchi (right) perform various traditional dances from different regions of Peru at the Marino Institute of Education's Intercultural Fair.**

**Photograph: Laura Hutton/The Irish Times.**

In February, we bid a warm welcome, hwai-ying, ahlan bikke, vilkommen, velkommen, bienvenidas, selamat datang, hoş gyeldin agus céad míle fáilte to a number of special guests from more than ten embassies, intercultural ambassadors and the Roma community representatives from Dublin Learning City as well as colleagues from Trinity College Dublin for MIE's Intercultural Fair. The Fair, which was spearheaded by Dr Barbara O'Toole, Alan Bedford and the MIE Diversity Committee, was the culmination of a fortnight of intercultural events.

In keeping with our theme Investigating Our Stories, visitors were encouraged to visit a range of stalls with cultural displays to talk to the staff and student volunteers representing their own culture and heritage. We had stalls from Mexico, Ireland, China, Chile, Malaysia and Italy to name but a



few. Energetic dancing (whatever the weather) was provided by the hardy and energetic Latino Amerika and the moment was captured by a visiting photographer from The Irish Times.

The event showcased more than 24 nationalities and cultures, and members of international embassies attended. We had some engaging and thought-provoking conversations with high-ranking officials and some Ambassadors from these nations, as well as experiencing the joy of seeing students and staff mingle and exchange ideas alongside our very special guests from fourth class, Gracepark Educate Together National School. Accompanied by their teacher, Dave Flynn – they looked so happy to be out of the classroom on an adventure at last!

## Lent and Ramadan



Throughout March 2022, to mark the Lenten season – a series of on-line prayer moments were offered every Wednesday at lunch time. These prayer moments were prepared and led through the 'Schools and Colleges Faith Group', which was formed in collaboration with the Spiritan Trust, the Loreto School Trust, the Dublin Education Secretariat, Le Cheile, and MIE, in order to support our schools and college communities through faith and prayer. MIE led the prayer moment on the 16 March. The series was supported by Fr. Paul Finnerty, Rector of the Irish College in Rome.

Ramadan began on 1 April. Our Muslim students and community were supported through emails, posters and prayers to support their journey throughout this month.



In honour of Pride month, MIE library has curated resources to celebrate and raise awareness toward the importance of inclusive education.

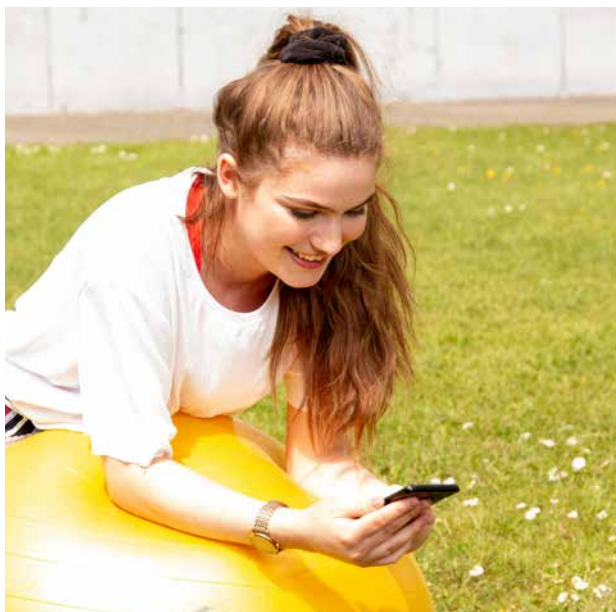
## Raising the Flag with Pride

In June, as Pride Week approached, we raised the Pride Flag at MIE for the first time. It was with delight that we raised this flag, symbolising how MIE values all members of our community. It also represented MIE's continued support for inclusivity for the thousands of LGBTQ+ staff and students in our schools.



# Wellness at MIE

**Our Wellness Committee at MIE, namely Sinéad McCauley Lambe, Breed Murphy, Chaplain Lily Barry and Suzy Macken, had a busy year organising and supporting initiatives across campus and beyond, with music, movement and lectures offering new ways for our community to connect, reflect and improve wellbeing.**



## Musical Mondays



The Courtyard Traditional Music Sessions at lunchtime on Mondays has been one of the many successful wellness ventures embraced by the MIE community. These student-led sessions are a great treat, and evidence of the spirit and talent of our students.

## Run, Walk or Cycle

The September Run Series in 2021 was an outstanding success and a large number of staff and students turned out on Thursday evenings to participate in the runs/jogs/walks. It was also heartening to see so many students engage in Bike Week that month, when activities included a trip on two wheels to Clontarf, a presentation on the 'Cycle to Work Scheme' by Deirdre Mullholland (Finance office) and an Introduction to Bike Maintenance by John Dunn, organised by Dr Sandra Austin. In March, the MIE Move for Mary Meals Fundraising Challenge spearheaded by Feargal Ó Laighin saw MIE staff and students come together to cover a distance of 353km on a mix of exercise equipment and also on a lunchtime walk around the campus to raise funds and awareness for an on-site charity, Mary's Meals. €1,070.43 was raised and an impressive 353km covered.





## Sos agus Suaimhneas



The Chaplaincy Team organised drop-in wellness sessions to promote Sos agus Suaimhneas, to nurture our wellbeing and mental health and give us some strategies to cope with the demands of life. As part of the initiative, Dr. Aiveen Mullally led a workshop on wellness practices, teaching some simple practices such as breath-work, Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) and Cross-Lateral Switching and Head Holds; Susan Farrell offered the chance to experience a sound bath and Sinéad McCauley Lambe facilitated a sensory play session for adults. A 'Reflection Room' on campus was refurbished to offer a beautiful quiet space for students who wish to take time out from their day-to-day activities.

## Counselling Service

For the first time MIE had its own full-time counselling service on campus from the start of 2022. Up until this time, student counselling was provided by means of a service level agreement with the Counselling Service in Trinity College Dublin. The first Director of Student Counselling Services is Dr. Deirdre Flynn and the Counsellor is Lynne Chen.

## Remembrance

Honouring and reflecting on those we have lost is important. In November 2021, the Chaplaincy Team offered services in the College Chapel for those who have died. They created Trees of Remembrance spaces for students and staff to write the names of those they wish to remember, and for all to pause and remember those who have died and those who mourn them.

Dr. Marie Whelton also put together a remembrance list of those from the MIE community who had passed away or who had experienced a recent loss of a loved one and Joe Tynan led a prayer service for the deceased Brothers in the graveyard, in particular those who have contributed to MIE in the past. In January, a vigil for Ashling Murphy was held on campus. A number of students were involved in organising and leading the vigil. The choir and Trad. Soc. provided beautiful music for a very dignified and respectful act of solidarity with Aishling's friends, school community and family.

## Dancing Shoes on for Wellness Week

MIE's Wellness Week in April 2022 included a number of events from Yoga classes, a workshop on nutrition and healthy snacks and a Colour Run to celebrate diversity and equality. The week ended with a 'Dancing with the Stars' session with the professional dancers from RTÉ's award-winning show.

# Projects and Publications

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## TOBAR goes from Strength to Strength

The TOBAR Project, which is funded by the Higher Education Authority under the PATH programme, has a singular focus on working with members of the Irish Traveller Community to access initial teacher education.

From 2018–2021, TOBAR was funded under the Programme for Access to Higher Education Phase 1 (PATH 1). In 2021, Miriam Colum, Rory McDaid and Luciana Lolich from MIE worked with the team at the Trinity College School of Education on a successful submission for TOBAR to be funded under PATH 2.

Led by Miriam Colum (MIE) and managed by a team from MIE and Trinity's School of Education, TOBAR will now include outreach and mentoring programmes, connect with the work of the TAP in TCD, as well as support research and a funded doctoral student, preferably from the Traveller community, to undertake studies in the area of Travellers in Education. MIE will take the lead role in

the continuation of the TOBAR programme and in reporting to the HEA. Total funding of €209,385 has been approved by the Access Policy Unit of the HEA for this project. This funding is shared equally between MIE and Trinity, and will be allocated to the project over a three-year period.

The project has already seen many successes. One of our TOBAR students has graduated as a primary school teacher and works in a Gaelscoil in county Meath; another TOBAR graduate is a post-primary school teacher in Dublin and there are three students currently enrolled in MIE, with two potential students coming on to our B.Ed. programme in September 2022. Here in MIE, we fully recognise how essential it is that there is greater representation of Travellers within the teaching profession and we are committed to the ongoing support of this crucial programme.

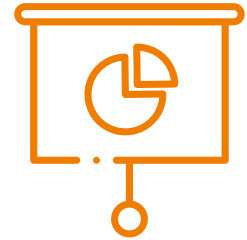
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## SiDit - MIE Hosting Online Content on Inclusion

Inclusion in the classroom is an important step for learning. SiDiT (Supporting Inclusion and Diversity in Teaching) is an Erasmus+ project to provide resources and training opportunities to teachers in Europe, so that they engage in more inclusive teaching as they welcome children with different socio-economic, ethnic, cultural, religious and language backgrounds in their classrooms. For the next five years, MIE will host SiDiT content on our virtual learning environment, playing a central role in this important European project.

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## Educational Knowledge Transfer

Dr. Alison Egan continued to work on the Educational Knowledge Transfer (EKT) Erasmus + project throughout 2021/2022. The project involves 11 institutions in six European countries, and seeks to improve initial teacher education through eLearning principals and tools. Alison hosted a project meeting in MIE (online) on 7th February 2022, which was attended by all project partners to discuss the pilot study rollout. The first in-person meeting of the project since the pandemic was held in University de Minho, Braga, Portugal in July 2022, and all project partners attended to report on the rollout and pilot studies in their teacher education colleges.

## Migrant Teacher Project Building Bridges



The Migrant Teacher Project aims to increase the participation of Immigrant Internationally Educated Teachers (IETs) in Irish primary and post-primary schools. The cohort for the academic year 2021/2022 on the programme was 160-strong.

In February 2022, 38 teachers from 19 different countries around the world graduated from the third MTP Bridging Programme. These qualified primary or post-primary teachers have made Ireland their home and now want to contribute to the communities in which they live by using their professional qualifications and skills and seeking recognition to teach here.

Their graduation was a fully face-to-face event where more than 150 people - graduates, family friends and invited guests - could chat and mingle, enjoy the event and meet classmates, for many for the first time not on Zoom and we were delighted to host Minister Norma Foley, TD. Minister for Education as our special guest on her first ever visit to Marino. Minister Foley, who made it her business to meet and chat with each one of the graduates and showed a real interest in where they were teaching and their subject specialism. In her speech, she said that:



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*"This project directly supports our Programme for Government, Our Shared Future, by contributing in a very real way to supporting our aspiration for inclusion in and access to education as the foundation for a more just and equal society.*

*In welcoming everyone to participate in education, they deserve to be treated fairly." She went on to note that "Migrant teachers are often in semi-permanent work in childcare, healthcare or even hospitality and it is not feasible for them to drop this predictable work for a few days subbing here and there. A distinction needs to be drawn between a young Irish teacher who may be more than delighted to pick up subbing work and someone with a family and significantly more responsibilities.*

*This is a majorly complicating factor in the entry of migrant teachers into the workforce and my department is looking into how we can deal with this."*

The MTP was given prominence in an article by Peter McGuire in The Irish Times in September 2021 featuring a case study of Josna Joy, a graduate of the 2019/20 Bridging Programme, who is now working full-time as Maths and Business teacher in North Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School. She spoke of the benefits of the Bridging Programme and the supports from the Migrant Teacher Project in helping with both her Teaching Council Registration and her current teaching position. The article also emphasised the important collaboration between the Teaching Council and the MTP at MIE.







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## Proposed Centre for Internationally Educated Teachers

Building on the success of the Migrant Teacher Programme, MIE has put forward a proposal to the Minister for Education to establish a Centre for Internationally Educated Teachers, or CIET. This proposed Centre would help internationally educated teachers to navigate their way through registration with the Teaching Council and through shortfall requirements. In the context of millions of people displaced through conflict and natural disasters, the Centre would offer a central hub and an extensive national network of schools, as well a support for migrant, refugee and other internationally educated teachers to gain knowledge, skills, and employability and enter the Irish teaching workforce.

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## Bible as Gaeilge

In 2022, The National Bible Society of Ireland hope to publish a study-size Irish-Language Bible for use in second and third-level Irish-Medium Religious Education. Dr. Marie Whelton has been co-ordinating the editorial work, which involves a team of 10 Irish-language editors from five different Higher Education Institutions including the members of Coiste Comhairleach na nEaspag um an Liotúirge i nGaeilge. Each editor has responsibility for approximately 150 pages of text.

## LeCoLe Partner Meetings in Person

LeCoLe is an Erasmus+ funded project involving several partner countries to explore how learners can become co-creators of their own learning. The academic year 2021/2022 was a busy one for MIE involvement in the project, with in-person meetings now able to happen as well as online get-togethers.

In October 2021, Dr. Aimie Brennan and Dr. Colleen Horn travelled to Reykjavik representing MIE, where they visited schools and met with students and teachers and they trained at the University of Iceland on script writing and film production. It was MIE's turn to host in February, when 10 colleagues visited from the University of Iceland, the Ministry of Education in Portugal, the European Education Learning Institute (Greece), the Education Development Centre (Latvia) and the National Centre for Education (Latvia). Partners participated in a busy three-day programme that presented them with a variety of Irish projects focusing on co-creation and partnership at primary, post-primary and HE level.

The programme engaged partners such as JCT leadership, NStEP, Botanic Gardens education centre, Presentation Warrenmount and various colleagues and students in MIE. In May, LeCoLe Erasmus+ partners from Portugal, Latvia, Crete, Iceland and Ireland (MIE) gathered in Rethymno, Crete, visiting a music school and an art gallery to see elements of co-creation. There was also a visit to the Experimental School of Rethymno, where learners are becoming co-creators of their own learning within the collaborative learning process.

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## New Team Members at STER

The Student Teacher Education Research Project recruited several new members to the team at MIE, including STER Student Administrator MES ECEI student Éadaoin Close. The project produced an impressive series of outputs for this national initiative, such as podcast episodes, voxpop videos from students in HEIs across the country and the STER 2022 Conference and eJournal. The project also hosted two students in early 2022 on work placement to examine policies underpinning student partnership approaches in Irish Higher Education.

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## SCoTENS–Shared Island Funding Collaborative Projects Involving MIE

SCoTENS, the Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South (SCoTENS) and Shared Island Initiative provided funding for several projects involving MIE in the academic year 2021/2022. They include SHARED (Student Hopes: Achievement, Research, Equity and Diversity), which is exploring how teacher educators North and South can prepare and support student teachers to negotiate and engage with challenges of educational underachievement while on school placement.

Another project, BUDDIES or BUILDing BRiDges, Diminishing Educational DiSadvantage is examining the Role of the Home-School Community Liaison Coordinator (HSCL) in addressing educational disadvantage across the island of Ireland. SCoTENS is also funding REEPP-NS, a project co-led by MIE and SMUC in Belfast,

to determine student teachers' engagement with, and application of, educational research to enhance professional practice in two North and South Teacher Education Institutions.

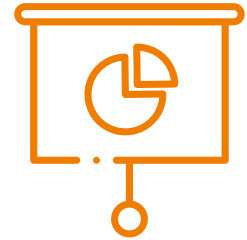
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## ALPACA – a Digital Tool to Identify Early Issues with Reading

ALPACA, a joint project between MIE, The Learnovate Centre, TCD and the School of Education, TCD, secured €300,000 in commercialisation funding from Enterprise Ireland. This award will be used in the development of a digital tool to identify potential issues with reading at a very young age. Dr Jennifer O'Sullivan is the PI for the project and is working alongside Dr Anne Devitt, School of Education, TCD and a team in Learnovate on this innovative project.

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## Publications and Conference Presentations

The community at MIE has contributed widely to academic progress on the national and international stage through the publication of papers, books and reports, and through conference presentations and proceedings. A small selection is included here, to give you a sense of the range of topics covered.

Melanie Ní Dhuinn presented Let's Talk (and tweet) About Sociology of Education—using a podcast method and social media. Raising our Teacher Education voice through conventional and emerging media at the Association of Teacher Educators Europe, Spring Conference, Marino Institute of Education, 25–27 May.

Young, AM., Ní Dhuinn, M., Mitchell, E., Ó Conaill, N. & Uí Choistealbha, J. (2022). Disorienting Dilemmas and Transformative Learning for School Placement Teacher Educators during COVID-19: Challenges and Possibilities. *Journal of Education for Teaching* (Special Edition). Published 30 May 2022 <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02607476.2022.2082274>

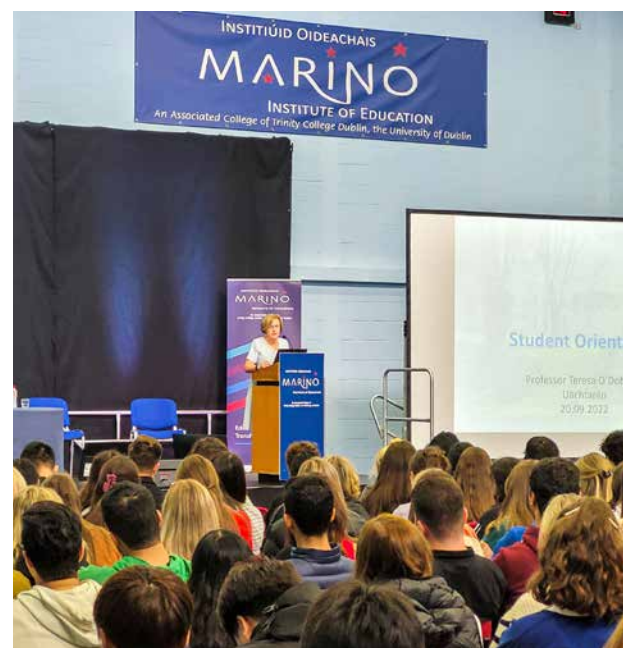
Lolich, L. and Timonen (TCD), V. Technology for care and living: Making sense of care technologies through a critical perspective in, editor(s) C. Ranci and T. Rostgaard, *Research handbook of social care policy*, Cheltenham (UK) & Northampton (MA, US), Edward Elgar, 2021

Mullally, A. (2021). 'Why are Catholic Schools Afraid to be Catholic Schools?': Challenges to Leaders of Catholic Secondary Schools in Ireland. In G. Byrne & S. Whittle, (Eds). *Catholic Education: A Lifelong Journey*. Dublin: Veritas.

Dunne, C. M. (2021). Éabhlóid an ghrinn i ngreannáin na Gaeilge. In R. Markus, É Ní Muircheartaigh, M. Nic Eoin, D. Nic Mhathúna, B. Ó Conchubhair & P. Ó Liatháin (eagí), *Ar an imeall i lár an domhain: Ag trasnú tairseacha staire, teanga, litríochta agus cultúir*. Leabhar Breac

O'Dwyer, Fergus (2022) "Confrontational humour in a Dublin sports club flouting the conversational maxims of indirectness: "just letting things go and having a laugh"" In Lucek, Stephen and Amador Moreno, Carolina P. (Eds.) *Expanding the Landscapes of Irish English: Research in Honour of Jeffrey Kallen* (Routledge Studies in Sociolinguistics), 178–196. New York: Routledge.

Murphy, B., Leavy, A., & Erbe-Healy, A. (2021). An exploration of the mathematics outcomes of 9-year-old children in multigrade classrooms in small schools. Presentation at Growing Up in Ireland 13th Annual Research Conference, 25th Nov [online].



# Conferences and Community

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## Our Towns, Our Future – Capturing the voices of youth

Dr. Cliodhna Martin has been heavily involved in the Our Town Our Future project during the academic year 2021/2022. The project, an initiative of the Museum of Childhood Ireland and the Heritage Council, seeks to capture the voice of children and young people as they explore their role in revitalising Ireland’s historic town centres. Cliodhna has been focusing on Tralee, working with planners, architects and the Tralee Chamber of Commerce to encourage and hear those perspectives on the town.

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## FÉILTE



FÉILTE, the Teaching Council’s annual Festival of Education in Learning and Teaching Excellence, took place in October 2021. Supported by Dr. Aimie Brennan, MIE graduates Róisín Lowe (BEd) and Niamh O’Neill (B. Ed) presented research posters at the StudentMeet Booth at FÉILTE. Their posters were then available to view on the Teaching Council website and social media, and were put on display in the Nagle Rice building at MIE.

## Dublin recognised as UNESCO Global City of Learning

In 2021, UNESCO recognised Dublin as a Global City of Learning, and it was an honour for MIE staff to have been part of this process. Denise McMorrow (IADT) and Seán Delaney (MIE) are the Co-Chairs of the Dublin Learning City project. MIE has provided core leadership to this project over a number of years, and we employ Emer Murphy who is the Communications and Outreach Co-ordinator of Dublin Learning City. In addition, the Summer Schools held in MIE each year have contributed to the work. In 2019, Dublin became a member of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) to promote Dublin as a learning region, and Dublin was ultimately successful in its application to be recognised as a Global City of Learning. Denise McMorrow and Emer Murphy travelled to Korea to accept the award on behalf of the City of Dublin, and the award was presented formally to the Lord Mayor, Allison Gilliland, in November 2021.

On 18 May a memorandum of understanding was signed by representatives of all learning cities in Ireland in City Hall in Belfast. This included representatives from Cork, Limerick, Derry-Strabane and Belfast. Dublin was represented by the Lord Mayor, Alison Gilliland. An all-day strategic planning session was held in early June for Dublin Learning City. Emer Murphy is the Coordinator for Dublin Learning City.

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## Community Mentoring

The Community Mentoring (CM) programme is an inter-institutional and community-based mentoring programme to link students from under represented groups with mentors in third-level education. MIE has participated in the programme for the last three years. CM held its annual Mentor training on for 2021 in November, providing an opportunity for the programme coordinators for each institution, including Dr Colleen Horn (MIE), to help facilitate sessions, meet with other programme coordinators and meet with the new group of CM, including those who had been recruited this year from MIE.

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## Maths Week at MIE

Maths Week 2021 took place from 18–22 October. The Maths Ed Team, Breed Murphy and Dr Sorcha Browne, prepared a programme that included student events, whole college events and outreach activities. Highlights included Fadhb an Lae, an alternative maths quiz, geoboard challenges, an art workshop, a maths talk and maths trails. Children from Scoil Mhuire Marino visited the campus and participated in a maths trail and geoboard activities, which were planned by the PME 1 students.

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## Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022



Seachtain na Gaeilge took place from 28 February to 3 of March with a range of events for both staff and students, and it was a resounding success. On behalf of the Institute I would like to express our thanks to Aodán Mac Suibhne. Thanks also to Triona Ní Shúilleabháin and Alex Mac Seóin from the Cumann Gaelach (the Irish Language Society), and to Caoileann Ní Dhonnchadha our Oifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) for organising a wonderful week for the students and staff of the Institute, a week that will live long in the memory. The official opening under the tented courtyard featured a display of MIE's musical and céili talent to get the blood pumping on a cold spring day, and there was also the annual turas go Ráth Chairn, a pop up Gaeltacht, a concert and a daily quiz.

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## Camino stop for Good Friday

In April 2022, MIE welcomed parishioners from local churches on their 'Camino Walk' for Good Friday. Serving as the first stop on their walk, MIE hosted around 150 visitors to the chapel on campus, where they could take part in a prayer moment and guided meditation.

## MIE Hosts ESAI Conference

MIE hosted the Educational Studies Association of Ireland on-line conference on April 7th and 8th 2022. The entire IT & eLearning department (Dr Alison Egan, Martin Lynch, Patrick Geary, Andy Carroll and Shane Regan) hosted and managed 'Zoom rooms' to ensure all participants could share their research seamlessly online over the two days. The success of the conference was in no small measure attributable to the hard work and commitment of the IT and eLearning department. At the conference, ESAI President Professor Teresa O'Doherty presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Elizabeth Oldham for her contribution to the Association and the wider field of research in education.



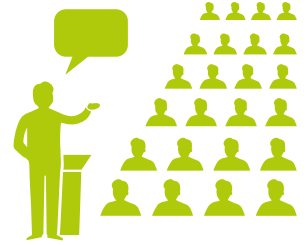
## DICE Conference Shines a Light on Inclusive Education

The DICE Project is a national education initiative, funded by Irish Aid, that promotes the integration of development (global justice) education and intercultural education in initial teacher education at primary level in Ireland. The project is implemented by DCU, Maynooth University, Marino Institute of Education, and Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. The Project office is currently hosted by DCU.

In February 2022, MIE hosted the DICE Conference, which centred on the theme of 'Traveller Voices in Irish Education'. Our keynote speaker was Traveller activist and education support worker Ms Kathleen Murphy, while Jo Holmwood and Mary Branley from Kids' Own Publishing in County Sligo presented a paper on their 'Unheard Voices' book series, authored by children, which has opened up wider discussions about culture, diversity, equality, and justice in the world today. The final paper was from Miriam Colum and PME student Annmarie Collins, who has authored a handbook for educators called 'Travelling Community Teaching Resource'.

The conference was live streamed to more than 150 viewers, and was one of the initiatives that really capture the inclusive 'spirit' of Marino. Our Strategic Plan Transforming Lives: 2021 to 2026 states that our ambition is to inspire in our staff, students and alumni a commitment to social justice, inclusion, sustainability and transformation in education settings, partnering relationships and the broader educational landscape.

To further awareness of intercultural activities, Dr. Barbara O'Toole, the MIE Lead for the DICE Project, attended the the 12-week module 'Introduction to Black Studies', October 2021 to February 2022, organised by the Institute of Anti-Racism and Black Studies (IABS) and funded by DICE.



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## STER Conference led by Students for Students

The annual student-led STER Conference highlights the importance of coming together to share the vision of teacher as researcher and to debate, share and reflect on how education research can be applied in practice.

The theme of the 2022 conference, which took place in April, was “Education Research: Insights, Innovation and Inspiration.” More than 100 students and staff registered to attend the hybrid event, which was chaired by ECE3 student Ava Bannon.

Attendees logged in from Austria, Barcelona, Zurich and HEIs across Ireland, and as well as presentations from students and graduates, the programme included a panel discussion on “perspectives on the research journey” which is specifically aimed at sharing tips and advice for all students who are or will soon be starting with their own research and was expertly chaired by BEd3 student Tara Litchfield.

The conference also saw the official launch of the 5th volume of the STER e-journal, a Special Issue on Intercultural Education guest edited by Dr. Barbara O’Toole. The STER project is co-ordinated by Dr. Aimie Brennan.

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## Marino Story Time – Instilling a Love of Stories

One of MIE’s guiding principals is to assist parents to fulfil the responsibilities of their role as educators. And what better way than to read a story? The Marino Story Time Project – an initiative between Marino Institute of Education, Dublin City Libraries and the Northside Partnership – supports parents to read stories to their children aged three to five years. Dr. Joan Kiely leads MIE’s engagement on the initiative. After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Marino Story Time Project team were delighted to run the 21st iteration of the project in March and May 2022.

To start off, 49 families from the North Dublin area attended an induction workshop at MIE and, armed with seven storybooks, tip sheets and guidance on dialogic strategies, parents then committed to reading stories to their children each night over five weeks. The parents returned to MIE with their children to a graduation ceremony at MIE in early May and were presented with certificates by poet, playwright and broadcaster Vincent Woods. Each child-participant received a rosette to celebrate their completion of the project. Vincent also spoke to the Story Time participants about his childhood experiences of hearing stories and becoming a reader and ultimately a writer. Dublin City libraries facilitated parents and children to join the library. In this way, the Marino project hopes to encourage life-long engagement with books.

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## Creative Arts Summer School

The Creative Arts Summer School is an initiative of PATH 3 and is coordinated in MIE by our Access Officer, Louise Condon. It is offered in cooperation with UCD, TCD, IADT, RCSI and led by NCAD. It was held in MIE on June 22nd, 2022. Workshops were offered in art, drama and music and facilitators for the day included Mark Joyce, Eileen Keane Niland, Máire Nuinseann and Ciara Roche-Power.

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## MIE hosts ATEE Spring Conference

In May 2022, MIE hosted the ATEE Spring Conference. The theme of the conference was “Teacher Education and Practice: Foresight and Hindsight” and delegates heard keynote talks about teacher education in Ireland, democracy and teacher education and education in uncertain times. ATEE President, Professor Davide Parmigiani, Ms. Bernie McNally, Secretary General, Department of Education, and Marino Institute of Education President, Professor Teresa O’Doherty, were on hand to officially open the conference and welcome over 100 delegates from 18 different countries to attend sessions on Education Disciplines and Practice, Migrant Teachers and Teaching without Borders, The End of Teacher Education, Teacher Education and Media, and Sustainability and Teacher Education, and to enjoy entertainment including traditional Irish music, a visit to the Book of Kells and a trip to Howth, Portmarnock and Malahide Castle.





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## Visitors from Loyola University Chicago

Fr. Scott Hendrickson, Associate Provost for Global and Community Engagement, and Fraser Turner, the Director of Global Initiatives at Loyola University Chicago, visited MIE on June 15th, 2022. Fr. Hendrickson and Fraser were visiting potential partner institutions in Ireland, to discuss areas of collaboration such as direct mobility exchange, virtual education and faculty exchange/partnerships.

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## Danish cultural exchange

Dr. Maja Haals Brosnan hosted a cultural exchange with ECE 1 and our Danish ECE Erasmus Partner, UC Syd in international policy in ECE, attended by our 80 ECE first year students and the 28 ECE final year ECE students. Irish and Danish ECE systems and curriculum frameworks were interrogated and discussed.

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## Visit of the President of the GAA



We were delighted to welcome Prof. Larry McCarthy President of the GAA to campus on May 10th to present medals to the following teams: Ó Maolagáin Cup Championship winners 2020 (Camogie); League Div. 5 winners 2021 (Ladies Football); and the Fergal Maher Cup winners 2022 (hurling). This was the first time that a President of the GAA visited MIE in an official capacity. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the successes of the GAA teams, their mentors, sponsors and club organisers.

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## Zurich University of Teacher Education

Dr. Aimie Brennan hosted two colleagues from Zurich University of Teacher Education, Switzerland, from February 26th to March 11th 2022. The programme included a focus on student teacher research development, professional practice and Irish teacher education more broadly. Franziska Detken hosted an information session on teacher education in Zurich for students and staff in MIE, and many MIE colleagues met with Beatrice and Franziska to share practice during their stay.





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