



ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION IRISH BRANCH

URBAN CENTRES AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Friday 1 September 2017, DIT Grangegorman, Dublin

**Opening Address by Eoghan Murphy TD
Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government**

Invited speakers:

Andy Pike

Henry Dash Professor of Regional Development Studies,
Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS), Newcastle
University

Mike Danson

Professor of Enterprise Policy, Heriot-Watt University

(Full Program and registration details attached)



**Eastern and Midland
Regional Assembly**



Theme:

The theme of this year's RSA-Irish Branch Annual Conference is "Urban Centres and Regional Economic Development". Within this broad theme we consider the National Planning Framework, issues surrounding housing, regional spatial and economic strategies and international comparator cases. The issues facing urban development are increasingly prominent on national policy agendas. Urban areas are major contributors to national economies and play a key role in balanced regional development. Key issues facing urban centres include managing urban expansion and congestion as well as promoting competitiveness, innovation, and environmental sustainability. There are increasing calls for support of regional economic development through diverse infrastructure investments determined by regional and national priorities to foster linkages between urban centres in Ireland. It is widely accepted that a planning process need to be put in place for the development of city-regions and it is recognised that without the implementation of appropriate planning frameworks there will be significant costs on the national economy, as it will limit the growth of rural, regional and urban areas.

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Keynote Speakers Sponsored by the East and Midlands Regional Assembly

Mike Danson



Mike Danson is Professor of enterprise policy at Heriot-Watt University. He graduated with a MA in Economics and Statistics from the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. He was recognised as an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences in 2001, elected a Fellow of the Institute of Economic Development in 2007 and of the Regional Studies Association in 2010. Formerly at the University of Strathclyde, the University of Glasgow and Strathclyde Regional Council, he joined the University of the West of Scotland in 1988 and was appointed as Professor in Scottish and Regional Economics in 1995. After acting as Associate Dean (Research and Commercialisation) in the Business School and Director of Research for the Faculty at UWS, he joined Heriot-Watt University in October 2012. Mike has been a member of several government advisory groups on land reform, ageing and talent management, contributed to the volunteering strategy for Scotland and the employability framework, has advised governments and agencies across the world including the State of Chihuahua through a commission of the OECD.

Mike's paper is entitled "*community resilience and enterprise in the periphery – lessons from the Celtic and Nordic Europe*". As international trade and custom unions move centre stage with the Brexit analyses and negotiations dominating much commentary, there is a tendency to focus on the drivers of big business and globalisation in regional economic development. However, in this environment there is a continuing need to consider how regions and communities who are on the periphery can realise their comparative advantages and prosper. Drawing on research and experiences from across Northern Europe, and from Scotland, the Faroes and Ireland especially, this presentation will explore the contributions of minority languages, heritage and provenance to delivering sustainable development.

Andy Pike



Professor Andy Pike is Henry Dash Professor of Regional Development Studies at the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS), Newcastle University. His research interests are in the geographical political economy of local and regional development. He is widely published in international journals, author of *Origination: The Geographies of Brands and Branding* (2006), co-author of *Local and Regional Development* (2017) and co-editor of *Handbook of local and Regional Development: Major Works* (2015). He has undertaken research projects for the OECD, UN-ILO, European Commission, UK Government and national, regional and local institutions. He is currently working on brands and branding geographies, evolution in economic geography, the governance of local and regional economic development, and the city-regional governance of infrastructure funding and financing. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, was an editor of *Regional Studies* and was the founding Director of the Postgraduate Local and Regional Development programmes in CURDS.

Abstract: Demand-side policies for city economies have been relatively neglected in recent years. Yet their potential to contribute to inclusive growth by generating more and better jobs remains under-explored. Demand-side policies for inclusive growth seek to raise demand for labour in a city economy, increase labour demand for specific groups, and/or improve the quality of employment. Five types of demand-side policies are business support, demand-led skills programmes, city fiscal policy, infrastructure, and economic planning and strategy. Drawing upon analysis of international experiences from Australia, Europe and the US, policy interventions are identified based upon clear and robust aims and rationales and the careful co-ordination, matching and sequencing of demand with supply-side initiatives at the local level. The integration of economic and workforce development initiatives from a demand-side perspective can be particularly beneficial, focusing on target sectors that are priorities for local economic development. Demand-side policies for inclusive growth in cities can play a complementary, sequenced and supportive role with supply-side policies. Adopting a place-based ‘whole city’ approach, priorities for demand-side policies comprise: identifying and targeting inclusive growth sectors; fostering demand-led skills development; building closer employer

engagement and partnership focused upon priority sectors; lobbying for greater devolved powers; and strengthening policy analysis and evaluation frameworks

Other Speakers



Professor Niamh Moore-Cherry is Associate Professor in the School of Geography, University College Dublin. She is an urban geographer and her research is focused on understanding how cities are governed; how urban policy is developed; and with what impacts. Her current work focuses on the spaces and practices of governance, particularly in the Dublin city-region, and the implications for spatial planning and quality of life in city-regions.



Mr. Stephen Blair was appointed the inaugural Director of the Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly when it was established in 1999, and became the Director of the newly reconfigured Southern Regional Assembly in January 2015. Stephen holds Masters Degrees in Urban & Regional Planning and Public Management, and worked for many years as a Planner in a number of Local Authorities in Ireland, including the 1990's as Waterford City Planning Officer.



Dr. Deiric O Broin is **Director** of NorDubCo, North Dublin's regional think tank, in Dublin City University. Prior to coming to DCU he was employed as an economic policy analyst in the private sector, where he worked primarily on projects for transnational corporations. He is currently the Deputy Convenor of the PSAI's Local Government Specialist Group.



Dr. Chris van Egeraat is senior lecturer in economic geography at the Department of Geography, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He is research associate of NIRSA and Secretary of the Regional Studies Association, Irish Branch.



Dr. Seán O'Riordáin, is one of the longest standing members of the RSA in Ireland, and is Chairman of the Public Policy Advisors Network, a member of Geoscience Ireland and contributes to management programmes in the IPA and the University of Ulster, among others. One of Ireland's leading advisors to government at all levels in economic and local development, he has extensive experience preparing economic strategies and policy reviews for the local government sector, the local and community development sector and national departments in Ireland and internationally.



Mr. Aidan Gough in his role as Strategy and Policy Director, advises on collaborative strategy, policy and initiatives to help InterTradelreland in boosting North/South economic co-operation. Aidan leads InterTradelreland's policy and research team to identify areas where joint Government intervention can help to create an environment where it is easier to do business and increase the competitiveness of businesses and the island in the global economy. Aidan is a graduate of Queen's University with an MBA and MSc in Economics. Prior to joining InterTradelreland in 2000, Aidan was Director of the Northern Ireland

Economic Council.



Dr. Ruth Pritchard is a research associate at the School of Political Science & Sociology at NUI, Galway. Her academic interests include research on forms of political and civil dialogue, balanced regional development and local governance. In addition, she has worked extensively on rural development and social inclusion issues. .



Mr. Gerard Brady is currently Head of Tax and Fiscal Policy in Ibec, Ireland's largest business representative organisation. His role involves engagement with policymakers on public policy issues of importance to business and helping business navigate economic issues. He regularly contributes to regional and national media. He was the winner of the Foundation for Fiscal Studies Miriam Hederman O'Brien prize for research on fiscal policy in 2013.



Dr. Justin Doran lectures Economics in the School of Economics in University College Cork, Ireland. His research interests lie in the area of regional economics, resilience, macroeconomics, applied econometrics, business innovation and firm performance. He is the Chairman of the Regional Studies Association Irish Branch and an active member of the Regional Science Association International - British and Irish Section.



Dr. Ronan Lyons is an economist based at Trinity College Dublin. As an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics there, his work is a mixture of teaching and research. As a researcher, he is interested in why certain regions thrive and how we as humans make economic decisions. My main fields of academic research are economic history, housing markets and urban economics.



Mr. Jim Conway is Director at Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly



Dr. Pauline White is Policy Analyst at Western Development Commission Western Development Commission



Professor Jim Walsh is a research Professor of Geography in the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) He was Vice-President of the University between 2005 and September 2016 with responsibilities for strategic initiatives and innovation. He was also Deputy President between 2007 and 2012. He has been Chairman of the Regional Studies Association (Irish Branch). He has extensive experience as an advisor in many areas of public policy including the Expert Advisory Group for National Spatial Strategy and the Commission for the Economic Development of Rural Areas.



Dr. David Meredith is research officer at Teagasc. His research interests centre on understanding the interrelated local, regional, national and international social and economic processes that underpin contemporary rural development.



Mr. David Minton is Director at the Northern & Western Regional Assembly

Provisional Conference Programme and Speakers

09:00 Registration

09:45 Opening and welcome (Justin Doran, Chair RSA and Eoghan Murphy TD, Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government)

10:10 Plenary Session - National Planning Framework and Governance

Jim Walsh (MU)	Spatial Planning for Regional Development in Ireland
Niamh Moore-Cherry (UCD)	Spatial planning, metropolitan governance and territorial politics in Europe: A case of metro-phobia in Dublin, Ireland
Proinnsias Breathnach (MU)	The National Planning Framework: Déjà vu all over again?

11:20 Coffee

11.50 Parallel session 1.A *Brexit and Housing* (Chair: Pauline White)

Aidan Gough (InterTrade)	InterTradelreland's tariff research & the border region
Gerard Brady (IBEC)	Brexit and the regions: A business view
Ronan Lyons (TCD)	Housing in Ireland: The importance of urban supply

Parallel session 1.B *Regional Economic Development* (Chair: Proinnsias Breathnach)

Justin Doran (UCC)	Firm Growth and regional factors: evidence from Ireland
Enrica Pinca (UCD)	Knowledge and modern theories of growth and development
David Whittle (UCD)	Knowledge complexity and regional development - foreign vs. indigenous actors

13:05 Lunch (Sponsored by East Midlands Regional Assembly)

14:00 Plenary Session - International Perspectives (Chair: Justin Doran)

Mike Danson (Heriot-Watt)	<i>Community resilience and enterprise in the periphery – lessons from the Celtic and Nordic Europe</i>
Andy Pike (CURDS)	Demand-side policies for city economies

15:10 Coffee

15:30 Parallel session 2.A *Perspectives of the Regional Assemblies* (Chair: Deiric O Broin)

David Minton (NWRA)	Chasing Effective Regional Development
Stephen Blair (S. Assembly)	City Networks – a Driver for Regional Development
Jim Conway (EMRA)	A Capital City Region

Parallel session 3.B *Rural and Urban areas in Regions* (Chair: Niamh Moore-Cherry)

Pauline White (WDC)	Regional Growth - Rural areas, towns and cities
Ruth Pritchard (NUIG) and David Meredith (Teagasc)	The Action Plan for Rural Development: Repositioning rural and regional development
Sean O'Riordain (SO) and Chris van Egeraat (MU)	Back to the future-An NSS Repeat or a substantive approach to spatial planning and good governance?

16:45 – 17.15 Panel Discussion (Chair: Chris van Egeraat)

Registration

It is possible to register for the conference online at

<http://rsa-ireland.weebly.com/register.html>

Please note that there is a €70 fee for attending the conference and this includes lunch. Payments are processed via PayPal.

Conference updates

Updates on the conference will be available on the RSA-Irish Branch website at <http://rsa-ireland.weebly.com/> It is encouraged to subscribe to the RSA-Irish Branch's newsletter to have updates delivered to your e-mail as they become available as well as news of other RSA events.

It is possible to subscribe to the newsletter at

<http://rsa-ireland.weebly.com/mailling-list-and-newsletter.html>

Any queries regarding registration should be sent to

justin.doran@ucc.ie

The RSA-Irish Branch would like to acknowledge the support of the following:

Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

School of Spatial Planning and Transport, Dublin Institute of Technology



Eastern and Midland
Regional Assembly

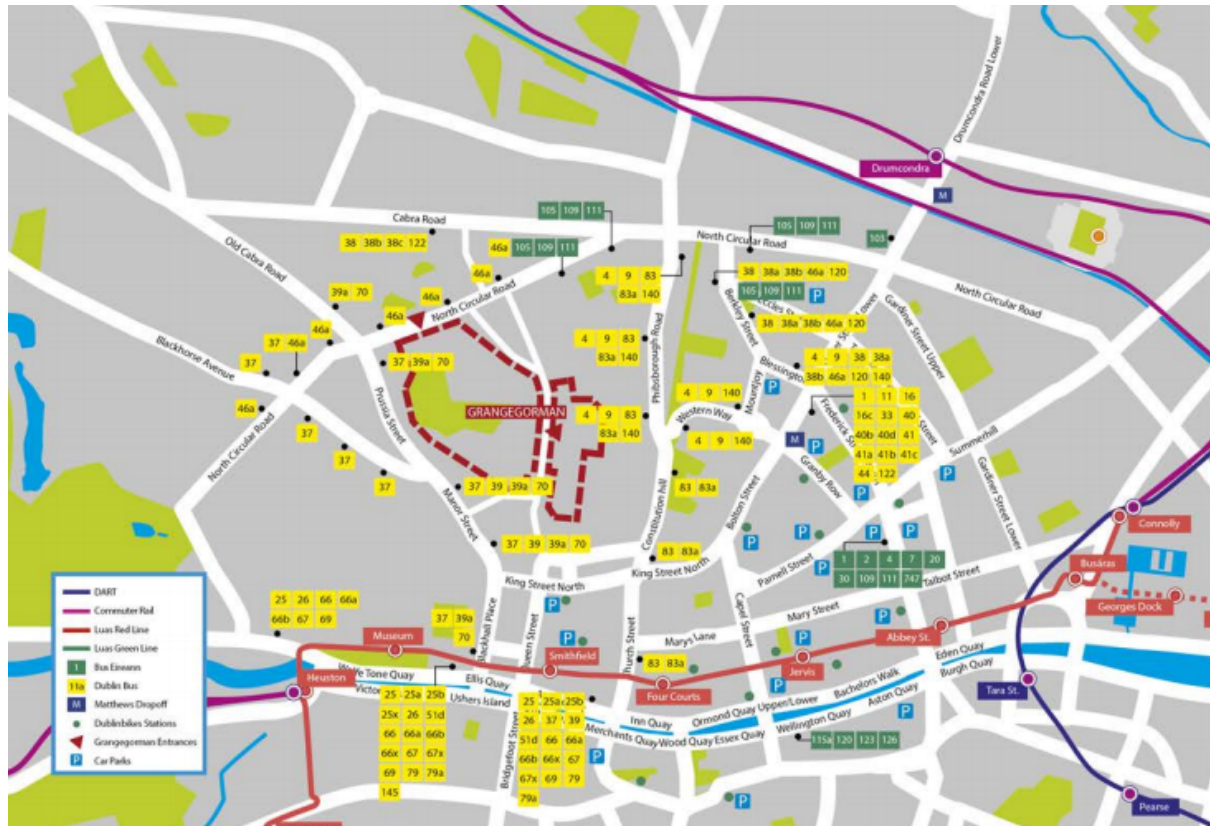


Venue: St. Lawrence's Church, DIT Grangegorman

The Conference Venue is St. Lawrence's Church, DIT Grangegorman. Number 3 on the **campus map below** indicates St Lawrence's Church. The DIT campus at Grangegorman is located in the heart of Dublin and is just 1km from O'Connell Street. Grangegorman is well served by Dublin Bus routes – some of which will drop you at an entrance to Grangegorman while other routes are just a short walk away (**see transport map below**). If you do come to the campus by car, please note that paid on-street car parking is available in the surrounding area while the nearest public car park is ParkRite on Queen Street.




Transport to Campus



Public Transport Access to Grangegorman


The Grangegorman campus is very accessible by public transport from the local and regional area. The campus is within a convenient walking distance to both bus and rail services. Information on rail services to the campus is provided overleaf while details of bus services accessing the campus are summarised below. Bus stops for each of these services are shown on the map overleaf. As shown, Dublin Bus provides numerous services to the city centre and residential areas across Dublin. In addition, Matthews Coaches has its main drop off point within 15 minutes walking distance. A number of regional and intercity Bus Éireann services are also operated within a 10 minute walk of the campus.

For up to date information on bus services to the campus, check out the national journey planner at transportforireland.ie.


Dublin Bus

Dublin Bus routes serving Grangegorman


Adamstown	25b	Donnybrook	46a 145	Merrion Sq.	4 13
Ashtown	38 38a 38b	Drumagh	122	Navan Rd.	38 38a 38b 39a 122
Ballinteer	16	Drumcondra	11 16	O'Connell Street *	4 11 13 16
Ballsbridge	4	Dun Laoghaire	46a		120 122 140
Ballymun	4	Finglas	40 40d 140	Parnell St.*	40 40d 120
Blackrock	4	Foxrock	46a 145	Phibsboro	83 120 122 140
Blanchardstown	38 38a 38b 39a	Gardiner St.*	40 40d		83 120 122 140
Bray	145	Glasnevin	83	Ranelagh	11 11b
Cabinteely	145	Harold's Cross	16	Rathfarnham	16
Cabra	120 122 39a	Harristown	4 13 83	Santry	16
Cappagh Hospital	40d	Hawkins St.*	38 38a 38b	Skerries	33
Castleknock	38 38a	Kelly's Corner	16 83 122	St. Stephens Green	11 46a
Celbridge	67 67x	Kilmacanogue	145	Stillorgan	46a 145
Charlestown	40 140	Kilmacud	11	Terenure	16
Clonskeagh	11	Lucan	25 25a 25b 25x	Wadellai Park	11
Damastown	38 38a		66a 66b 66x 67	Tymelstown	40d
Dolphin's Barn	122	Maynooth	66 66x 67		


Matthews Coach

Matthews Coach routes serving Grangegorman

Bettystown	M	Dundalk	M	Laytown	M
City North Hotel	M	Dublin Airport	M	Parnell St.*	M
Donacorney	M	Grange Rath	M	Whitehall	M
Drogheda	M	Inse Bay	M		
Drumcondra	M	Julianstown	M		

* denotes city centre bus stops.


Bus Éireann

Bus Éireann routes serving Grangegorman

Ashbourne/Navan/Cavan	111 111	Galway	20	Ratoath	105
Belfast/Dundalk/Drogheda	1	Kildare	126	Tullamore	120
Cork	7	Mullingar	115a	Wexford	2
Dublin Airport	747	Naas/Newbridge	123	Wicklow	133