



egalitarian world initiative



Equality in a Time of Crisis

International Conference

6- 7 May 2010

University College Dublin

This conference brings together academics, activists and social commentators to analyze current inequalities and imagine a socially just society. The ideas are presented over two days through a lively mix of keynote lectures, invited respondents and panel discussions. It marks the end of the *EWI Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge Programme*. It also coincides with the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the UCD Equality Studies Centre.

It is organized by the UCD **Egalitarian World Initiative** (EWI) and the UCD School of Social Justice.

Venue: UCD Quinn School of Business,
Lecture theatre Q015

<http://www.ucd.ie/ewi/>



egalitarian world initiative

Revised Conference Programme

THURSDAY 6th May 2010

08.30-9.15 **Registration for conference** (foyer, Quinn School of Business)

09.15 Welcome by **Prof. Kathleen Lynch** (UCD Professor of Equality Studies & Chair of the UCD Egalitarian World Initiative Network) and **Prof. John Baker** (Head of School, UCD School of Social Justice)

9.30-10.30	<i>Vulnerability and Inequality”</i> Professor Martha Fineman Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory University Atlanta & EWI UCD Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge Research Fellow
-------------------	--

10.30-11.00	Commentary and response on <i>Globalization and Inequalities</i> by <i>Sylvia Walby</i> by Prof. Pat O’Connor (Department of Sociology, University of Limerick)
--------------------	---

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-13.00	<i>“Why Inequality matters”</i> Prof. Richard Wilkinson Professor of Social Epidemiology at Nottingham University and co-author of <i>The Spirit Level: Why more equal societies almost always do better.</i> Respondent: Dr Kieran Allen (School of Sociology, University College Dublin)
--------------------	--

13.00-14.30 Lunch (in the main restaurant)

	<i>Transfer of Knowledge and Transformation of Society: The Relationship between the University and Civil Society</i>
14.30-16.00	<p><i>Participatory, Emancipatory, Feminist, Transformative ways of doing Research</i></p> <p>Prof. Mary Darmanin Faculty of Education, University of Malta & EWI UCD Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge Research Fellow</p> <p><i>Emancipatory Research, St. Michael's Estate, and the Academy.</i></p> <p>Dr John Bissett Researcher and community worker Dublin & former EWI UCD Research Fellow</p>

16.00-16.30

Coffee

	<i>Economic Crisis and State Reaction: Implications for Equality</i>
16.30-18.00	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Chair: Mr Vincent Browne (Broadcaster and journalist)</p> <p>Ms Mary White (Government Minister with responsibility for Integration, Equality and Human Rights)</p> <p>Mr Michael D Higgins (TD, President of Irish Labour Party)</p> <p>Ms Susan McKay (Director, National Women's Council of Ireland)</p> <p>Prof. Ruth Emerek (Institute of History, International and Social Studies, University of Aalborg, Denmark)</p> <p>Mr Niall Crowley (Equality consultant and former CEO of the Equality Authority)</p> <p>Ms Sara Burke (Health policy analyst and journalist)</p>

18.00-19.00

Reception

21.00

Social event (Waterloo bar, 36 upper Baggot St)

FRIDAY 7th May 2010

9.15-10.45	<p><i>“Equality and well-being: distribution, recognition and contribution”</i></p> <p>Prof. Andrew Sayer Department of Sociology, University of Lancaster</p> <p>Respondent: Mr Michael Taft (Political and Economic Researcher, UNITE trade union)</p>
-------------------	--

10.45-11.00 Coffee

	<p><i>Social Movements and the Response to the Economic Crisis</i></p>
11.00-12.45	<p>Dr Laurence Cox (Department of Sociology, NUI Maynooth) Lecture: <i>“Another world is under construction? Social movement responses to inequality and crisis”</i></p> <p>& Panel of respondents to the theme including civil society activists:</p> <p>Ms Rosie Meade (School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork)</p> <p>Dr. Rory Hearne (Regeneration Worker, Dolphin House Community Development Association)</p> <p>Ms Siobhan O’Donoghue (Director, Migrant Rights Centre Ireland)</p> <p>Mr Damien Peelo (Legal Development Officer, Irish Traveller Movement)</p> <p>Ms Cathleen O’ Neill (Manager, Kilbarrack Community Development Project)</p> <p>Mr Donal Toolan (Rights Activist)</p>

Notes on conference speakers

Prof. Pat O'Connor is Professor of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Limerick. She has published widely on gender issues. Her latest book is *Irish Children and Teenagers in a Changing World*, 2008. She is currently working on a cross national project on Higher Education.

Prof. Richard Wilkinson is Professor of Social Epidemiology at Nottingham University and co-author (with Kate Pickett) of *The Spirit Level: Why more equal societies almost always do better*, 2009. He is one of the world's leading scholars of inequality. Over more than 30 years he has played a formative role in research and public awareness of health inequalities and the social determinants of health.

Dr Kieran Allen is Senior Lecturer in the School of Sociology, University College Dublin. His most recent book is *Ireland's Economic Crash: A Radical Agenda for Change*, 2009. His research interests include Marxist Theory; Globalization; Work and Industry.

Prof. Martha Fineman is Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory University Atlanta and a renowned scholar in feminist legal theory and family law. Her scholarly interests are the legal regulation of family and intimacy and the legal implications of universal dependency and vulnerability. Fineman's solely authored publications include such books as: *The Autonomy Myth: A Theory of Dependency*, 2004 and *The Illusion of Equality: The Rhetoric and Reality of Divorce Reform*, 1991.

Prof. Mary Darmanin is at Faculty of Education, University of Malta She has had a long standing interest in gender issues in education and on women in the labour market. Her research has been published in a number of international journals. She is a former EWI UCD Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge Research Fellow

Dr John Bissett is a Researcher and community worker in Dublin & a former EWI UCD Research Fellow. His book *Regeneration: Public good or private profit?* was published in 2009.

Prof. Andrew Sayer is a Professor in the Department of Sociology, University of Lancaster. He is the author of *The Moral Significance of Class*, 2005. He has been examining the relationship between 'moral economy' and political economy.

Mr Michael Taft is a Political and Economic Researcher with the UNITE trade union.

Dr Laurence Cox runs the participatory action research programme in social movement practice at NUI Maynooth and co-edits *Interface*, a practitioner/academic journal of social movements research <www.interfacejournal.net>. He has been involved in social movements for 25 years.