



Fifth North/South Higher Education Conference

Higher Education and Business: BEYOND MUTUAL INCOMPREHENSION

Keynote speaker: **Richard Lambert**
author of the Lambert Review of
Business-University Collaboration

THE DEPARTMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT AND LEARNING

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

UNIVERSITIES IRELAND

IBEC-CBI JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL

Council of Directors of Institutes of Technology

Association of Northern Ireland Colleges

NUS-USI Student Movement

Radisson SAS Hotel, The Gasworks, Belfast **16-17 June 2005**

Higher Education and Business: BEYOND MUTUAL INCOMPREHENSION

PROGRAMME

Thursday 16th June 2005

Titanium Room, Radisson SAS Hotel

- Chair: **Dr Chris Gibson**, Pro-Chancellor, Queen's University Belfast, and Chairman, Centre for Cross Border Studies
- 2.15 pm Registration
- 3.00 Official opening by the Northern Ireland Minister with responsibility for Employment and Learning, **Ms Angela Smith MP**, and the Irish Minister for Education and Science, **Ms Mary Hanafin TD**
- 3.45 Keynote address: **Mr. Richard Lambert**, author of the Lambert Review of Business-University Collaboration for the UK Government, member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England, and former editor of the *Financial Times*.
- 4.30 Refreshments
- 5.00 First response by **Professor Peter Gregson**, Vice-Chancellor, Queen's University Belfast
- 5.30 Second response by **Professor John Hughes**, President, National University of Ireland Maynooth, followed by discussion
- 7.30 Reception in Filini's Restaurant
- 8.00 Dinner
- Speaker: **Mr David Dobbin**, Chairman, Confederation of British Industry (Northern Ireland)

Friday 17th June 2005

Titanium Room, Radisson SAS Hotel

- Chair: **Dr Tom McCarthy**, Chief Executive, Irish Management Institute
- 9.30 am Challenges to Research Collaboration between Universities and Industry: **Professor Bernie Hannigan**, Pro Vice Chancellor for Research, University of Ulster, and **Dr Ena Prosser**, Director, Enterprise Ireland Biotechnology Directorate
- 10.30 The Capitalisation of Campus Companies: **Dr Christopher Horn**, Vice-Chairman and Co-Founder, Iona Technologies plc, Dublin, and **Dr Hugh Cormican**, Managing Director, Andor Technology, Belfast
- 11.30 Refreshments
- 12.00 Skills and Lifelong Learning: **Dr Mary Meaney**, Director, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown, and **Mr. Niall Saul**, Group Head of Human Resources, Irish Life and Permanent Group, and Chair of IBEC Human Resources and Social Policy Committee
- 1.00 Final discussion
- 1.30 Lunch Filini's Restaurant
- 2.30 Close

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS AND CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSONS



Ms Angela Smith MP was appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Northern Ireland Office in 2002, and now has responsibility for the Department for Employment and Learning, the Department of Education and the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment. She has been MP for Basildon and East Thurrock since 1997, having previously served for eight years as a County Councillor for Basildon Pitsea. She has also been an Assistant Government Whip, and Parliamentary Private Secretary to Paul Boateng, Minister of State at the Home Office. She is a former Head of Political and Public Relations at the League Against Cruel Sports.



Ms Mary Hanafin TD has been Minister for Education and Science since September 2004. Before that she was Government Chief Whip and Minister for State at the Departments of the Taoiseach and Defence, holding special responsibility for the Information Society. From 2000-2002 she was Minister of State with special responsibility for Children at the Departments of Health and Children, Justice, Equality and Law Reform, and Education and Science. Until her election to the Dail in 1997 she was a secondary school teacher of Irish and history. She is a daughter of Des Hanafin, a Fianna Fail senator for nearly 30 years.



Mr Richard Lambert was appointed as an external member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England, the body that is responsible for setting interest rates and managing monetary policy in the United Kingdom, in June 2003. In December 2003 he completed the Lambert Review of Business-University Collaboration for the UK Government. Mr Lambert started working at the *Financial Times* in 1966 as a trainee and retired as Editor in 2001. During the intervening years he edited the Lex column (1974-79), was New York Bureau chief (1982-83) and Deputy Editor (1983-91). He is chairman of Visiting Arts, a non-profit agency that helps to bring international artists and arts managers to the UK, and a Trustee of the British Museum.

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Dr Hugh Cormican is Managing Director of Andor Technology, a Belfast-based company which develops and manufactures instruments for the global spectroscopy and scientific imaging markets. He was studying for his PhD in physics at Queen's University Belfast when he became Andor's founding MD

in 1989. The company's range of CCD and intensified CCD camera systems are used throughout the world for academic, industrial and government research across a wide range of fields such as biotechnology, physics and chemistry. Andor's US headquarters opened in Connecticut in 1997 and Andor Japan was established in 2000. The company commenced dealings on the London Stock Exchange's AIM market in December 2004. In 2000 Dr Cormican was awarded the Institute of Physics Paterson medal and prize for commercialisation of physics.



Dr Mary Meaney is Director of the Institute of Technology in Blanchardstown. After completing a PhD in Environmental Analytical Chemistry, she became a lecturer in the School of Chemical Sciences in Dublin City University. In 1996 she was appointed Assistant Registrar for DCU and in 1999 she moved to take up the

position of Registrar with the newly opened Institute of Technology in Blanchardstown (ITB). Dr Meaney was appointed Director of ITB in 2000 and is active in a number of educational fora in the Republic of Ireland, including the Council of Directors of Institutes of Technology, the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC) and the Central Applications Office (CAO). She was a member of the Irish Government's recent Enterprise Strategy Group chaired by Eoin O'Driscoll.



Mr Niall Saul is Group Head of Human Resources and Organisation Development with the Irish Life and Permanent Group. He joined Irish Life in July 1997 from Waterford Crystal, where he was Human Resources Director covering the Crystal Division's operations in Ireland, the UK, and the USA. He has also held senior Human

Resource management positions in the banking / financial services, European automotive, construction, retail and electronics industries. Mr Saul's particular areas of interest are the role of the Human Resource function in turnaround/

survival situations, change management, the creation of competitively focused organisations, and the development of competence-based approaches to performance management. He holds a Masters Degree in Change Management (HEC/INSEAD, France) and is an adjunct professor of the National College of Ireland. He is Chairman of IBEC's Human Resources and Social Policy Committee.



Dr Chris Gibson is a Pro-Chancellor of Queens University Belfast, Chairman of the Civic Forum (currently in suspension) and Chairman of the Centre for Cross Border Studies. He is a recent past Chairman of CBI (Northern Ireland). His career has encompassed both general management and marketing roles in a

number of companies in the UK and Ireland. He was awarded an OBE in 1998 for his contribution to British-Irish trade and Anglo-Irish relations. He is currently a non-executive director of Independent News & Media (Northern Ireland) Ltd, and is Non-Executive Chairman of Wilson Country Foods Ltd in Portadown and of L.E. Pritchetts Ltd, a company in the Lakeland Group based in Newtownards. He is a Council member of the Irish School of Ecumenics and has recently become Chairman of the Learning Advisory Council of the Police College.



Dr Tom McCarthy became Chief Executive of the Irish Management Institute in September 2004. Between 2002 and 2004 he had been Professor of Economics and Dean of the Business School at Dublin City University.

He was previously a member of the Economics Department and Dean of

Research and Graduate Studies at National University of Ireland Maynooth. He has also held appointments at University College, Cork, Queen's University, Canada, Trent University, Canada, and the University of Limerick. Dr McCarthy is a member of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), the Irish Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (ICSTI), and the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS). His research areas include public finance, education, management and funding of research, budgetary policy, fiscal federalism and market design.

Mr David Dobbins is current Chairman of the Confederation of British Industry (Northern Ireland) and Group Chief Executive of United Dairy Farmers,

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Professor Peter Gregson was appointed President and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast in 2004. He was formerly at the University of Southampton, where he held the posts of Director of Research of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, Head of the Department of Engineering Materials

and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (2002-2004). A pioneer in knowledge transfer, he led a commercial partnership with IP21PO, and initiated a collaboration between the Universities of Southampton, Bristol, Bath and Surrey which secured the largest allocations under the Higher Education Innovation Fund in 2001 and 2004. His radical restructuring of the governance and management structures at Southampton was featured in the Lambert Review. Professor Gregson's research into structure/property relationships in aerospace aluminium alloys, and computational and experimental modelling of load bearing medical devices is internationally recognised.



Professor John G. Hughes was appointed President of National University of Ireland, Maynooth in 2004. A native of Belfast, and a graduate of Queen's University Belfast (BSc with First Class Honours in Mathematics and a PhD in Theoretical Physics), he has an international reputation in Information Technology.

Following appointments at Queen's and at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, he became Professor of Information Systems Engineering at the University of Ulster in 1991. He held a range of senior academic positions at UU and was actively involved in promoting research and technology transfer initiatives which attracted substantial funding to the University. Professor Hughes is a Fellow of the British Computer Society and was elected by the Society as *IT Professional of the Year* in 1997. In 1999 his research team won the prestigious European Grand IST prize for software innovation.



Professor Bernie Hannigan is Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research at the University of Ulster. She previously held the positions of Dean of Life and Health Sciences and Head of School of Biomedical Sciences. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, she joined the University of Ulster in 1983

and became Professor of Immunology in 1997. Professor Hannigan has contributed to the attraction of substantial research income and has published over 100 scientific papers. Her current role includes oversight of the University's technology and knowledge transfer activities and directorships of the relevant subsidiary companies: UUSR and UUTech.



Dr Ena Prosser has been Director of Enterprise Ireland Biotechnology Directorate (formerly BioResearch Ireland) since January 2003. In July 2005, she will join Fountain Healthcare Partners, a new venture capital business specializing in the Life Sciences. EI Bio facilitates the commercialisation of opportunities

arising from Irish biotechnology research, working with universities, state funding agencies and EI's healthcare and food teams to develop new Irish start-up companies and to licence technology. Previously Dr Prosser worked as Director of the Corporate Office of Technology with Elan Corporation, the indigenous Irish multinational pharmaceutical company. She is currently chairing an Irish Council for Science Technology and Innovation (ICSTI) task force which is developing a National Code of Practice for the management of intellectual property from public-private co-funded research. She is also Co-Chairperson of Women in Technology and Science (WITS).



Dr. Christopher J. Horn is Vice Chairman of the Board and co-founder of Iona Technologies (established 1991) in Dublin. He was the initial developer of Orbix® and held the joint offices of Iona's President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board from Iona's inception until May 2000. He continued as Board Chairman until

2003. From 1984 until 1994 he was a Lecturer in Computer Science at Trinity College, Dublin. He also worked in Brussels for the European Commission, and was an integral part of the ten-year *Esprit* programme designed to improve the continent's technology industry. A non-executive director of a number of software companies, Dr Horn is currently Chairman of the Irish Management Institute. He has also served as chair of the Expert Group on Future Skills (part of Ireland's 1998-99 Educational Technology Investment Fund) and the Dublin Chamber of Commerce eCity working group, and was founding Chairman of the Ireland China Association. He is currently Chairman of UNICEF Ireland Committee.

Higher Education and Business: BEYOND MUTUAL INCOMPREHENSION



a farmer-owned co-operative which is the largest dairy business in Northern Ireland. He has extensive domestic and international experience in the food and drink and packaging sectors. He is also Chairman of Medevol, a N. Ireland-based clinical trials company, a council member of Food from Britain and a director of the

Northern Ireland Dairy Council and the Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association. A chartered engineer with a first class honours degree from Queen's University Belfast, Mr Lambert has completed postgraduate courses at the London and Harvard Business Schools. In 1998 he was awarded honorary Chinese citizenship in recognition of his services to business development in China.

THE LAMBERT REVIEW OF BUSINESS-UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION

In the words of Richard Lambert's covering letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lambert Review (published in December 2003) was intended to meet three objectives:

- To illustrate the opportunities being created by changes both in the way business is undertaking research and development (R&D), and in the way that universities are opening their doors to new forms of collaboration with business partners.
- To celebrate the success of those businesses which are already collaborating successfully with university research departments, to their benefit and to the benefit of the UK economy more broadly. They are role models for the majority of universities which at present have no links with universities.
- To offer a wide range of ideas to stimulate debate and recommendations to help shape policy.

Mr Lambert identified the biggest challenge as lying on the demand side. "Compared with other countries, British business is not research-intensive, and its record of investment in R&D in recent years has been unimpressive. UK business research is concentrated in a narrow range of industrial sectors, and in a small number of large companies. All this helps to explain the productivity gap between the UK and other comparable economies." Similar things could be said about the Republic of Ireland.

However he also noted reasons to be optimistic. "Britain's relatively strong and stable economic performance in recent years will improve the climate for business investment of all kinds. Public spending on science is increasing significantly

in real terms, and the UK's science base remains strong by international standards, whether measured by the quality or the productivity of its output." Again, similar sentiments could apply to the Republic of Ireland.

Mr Lambert also noted "a marked culture change in the UK's universities over the past decade. Most of them are actively seeking to play a broader role in the regional and national economy. The quality of their research in science and technology continues to compare well against most international benchmarks. Much more attention is being paid to governance and management issues."

Business is also changing, he stressed. "Growing numbers of science-based companies are developing across the country, often clustered around a university base. New networks are being created to bring business people and academics together, often for the first time. The UK has real strengths in the creative industries, which are also learning to cooperate with university departments of all kinds. So this is a great time to be looking at the question of business-university collaboration."

Further details are available in the conference briefing papers.

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LOCATION: Radisson SAS Hotel, The Gasworks, Belfast



This conference has been organised by Universities Ireland and the IBEC-CBI (Northern Ireland) Joint Business Council on behalf of a committee drawn from the Department for Employment and Learning (Belfast), the Department of Education and Science (Dublin), Universities Ireland, the Council of Directors of Institutes of Technology, the Association of Northern Ireland Colleges and the National Union of Students/Union of Students in Ireland Student Movement.

