



Dearbhú Cáilíochta
agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann
Quality and
Qualifications Ireland

QQI NFQ 20th Anniversary Conference

17th November 2023

REGISTRATION 9AM

9:45am

**Welcome, Introduction &
QQI perspective**

Dr Padraig Walsh, CEO QQI
Professor Irene Sheridan, Chair QQI Board (MC)

10:20am

Opening Keynote

Dr Grant Klinkum, NZQA
Professor Irene Sheridan, Chair QQI Board (MC)

BREAK 11AM

11:20am Breakout Sessions

**NFQ in Global
Qualifications Framework
Context**

Panel Discussion and Q&A
Goldsmiths Hall

Andrej Pirjevec, ESU
Helene Peterbauer, EUA
Iraklis Pliakis, Cedefop
Nadia Starr, SAQA
Dr Sjur Bergan, Independent higher education expert
Pauline Radcliffe, SCQF Partnership (Chair)

**ATP & RPL as Fundamental
Infrastructure of the
Framework**

Focused Presentations
Swift Suite

Dr Catherine Peck & Dr Deirdre Stritch, ATP project/ThreeSixtyInsights
Presenting a report commissioned by QQI "From Counting to Cultivating Successful Participation. A Review of the Landscape of Practice Supporting Access Transfer and Progression in Irish Education and Training"

Conor Thompson, AONTAS
"Community Education: Stepping Stones and Stable Roots"

Deirdre Goggin, MTU RPL Lead
"The National Framework of Qualifications; the foundation for institutional RPL practice"

Dr Graham Glanville, TCD RPL Lead
"Identifying, documenting, assessing and certifying prior experiential learning for access to a postgraduate programme"

Sarah Barron, KCETB
"How the NFQ supports Recognition of Prior Learning"

Shirley Ryan, UL
"M4STEM A QQI Pathway"
Professor Denis Ryan, ICHAS (Chair)



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Building Trust in Qualifications Systems

Panel Discussion and Lightning Talks
Field Suite

Alan O’Gorman, WWETB
Ali O’Mahony, UCC Students’ Union
Mairéad Boland, QQI
Navin Vasudev, SAQA
Elva Casey, Hibernia College
“Building Trust Through an Academic Integrity Champions Network (Academic Integrity)”
Greg O’Brien, Griffith College
“Institutional culture change for durable frameworks, in turbulent times”
Billy Kelly, NAIN (Chair)

LUNCH 12:30PM

1:40pm Breakout Sessions

Making Sense of Microcredentials

Focused Presentations
Swift Suite

Arancha Oviedo, QQI
“Data about microcredentials in the qualifications system”
Iraklis Pliakis, Cedefop
“European viewpoints on microcredentials”
Tony Donohoe, Chair, IUA Microcreds Enterprise Advisory Group
Pauline Flusk, Innopharma Labs
“Microcredentials aligned to the NFQ: Forging Educational Pathways”
Professor Ann Ledwith, UL
“From MicroCreds to Masters: A Curated Learning Pathway”
Dr Grant Klinkum, NZQA (Chair)

Integrating the NFQ within Employment, Workforce Planning & Professions

Panel Discussion and Q&A
Goldsmiths Hall

Damien Owens, Engineers Ireland
Dr Janet Carton, RCPI
Dr Mary-Liz Trant, National Apprenticeship Office
Meadhbh Costello, IBEC
Terry Fennell, FDQ
Professor Irene Sheridan, Chair QQI Board (Chair)



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Lightning Talks

Field Suite

Amanda Butler, KCETB

“How Robust Change Management Systems Support Award Standards”

Bridie Killoran, ATU

“The Role of Digital Career Learning Pathways in Supporting Access to HE at ATU”

Mary Beare Aust, SETU

“Supporting Learners to Understand National Framework Equivalences - Ireland, UK and Bologna”

Robert Farell, Innopharma Labs

“Creating a Digital Skills Qualification pathway for various career stages”

Dr Valerie Brett, SETU

“The Literacy Development Centre (LDC): Leading in Education in Adult Literacy”

Dr Rory O’Sullivan, FET Research Centre, DCU (Chair)

2:50pm

Learner Experience of the NFAQ

A range of learners from across tertiary education

Hannah Kelly, NStEP (Chair)

3:10pm

Reflections from key stakeholders

Seán Ó Foghlú, Maynooth University

Dr Tomás Mac Eochagáin, Griffith College

Anne McHugh, Donegal ETB

Billy Kelly, NAIN

Professor Irene Sheridan, Chair QQI Board (Chair)

4:20pm

Closing Speech

Professor Irene Sheridan, Chair QQI Board

4:30PM CONFERENCE CLOSES