STEERING GROUP

AND WORKING GROUP LEADERSHIP PROFILES



National Academic Integrity Network

October 2026

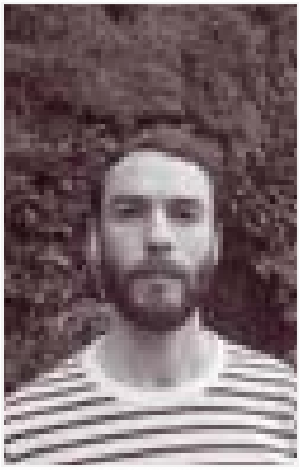
NAIN Steering Group



Dr Mary-Claire Kennedy

Dr Mary-Claire Kennedy is the Chairperson of NAIN. She is an Associate Professor and Academic Integrity Lead at University of Limerick. A pharmacist by training she has worked in clinical, academic and professional regulatory settings in the UK and Ireland. Her research interests include assessment of professional competence, clinical education and academic integrity.

CHAIR



Dr Justin Tonra

Dr Justin Tonra is Deputy Chairperson of the National Academic Integrity Network. He is an Associate Professor of English and Academic Integrity Officer at University of Galway. His professional and research interests in academic integrity include policy implementation, assessment security, and the impacts of generative artificial intelligence on higher education. His broader research lies at the intersections of literature and technology, encompassing digital humanities, book history, authorship, poetry and poetics, and scholarly editing.

DEPUTY CHAIR



Catherine Fox

Catherine Fox is Principal of Dunboyne College of Further Education and Training (DCFET) and brings extensive experience across further education, academia, communications and industry, with a strong track record of leading educational innovation, partnership development and learner-centred growth.

Catherine holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Maynooth University and a Master's in Journalism from Dublin City University. She has also completed postgraduate studies in Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), Programme Design and Validation.

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NAIN Steering Group



Dr Loretta Goff

Dr Loretta Goff is the Academic Integrity Education Officer at University College Cork, where she provides training and resources on academic integrity, academic misconduct, ethical use of generative AI, and AI and assessment for both students and staff.



Dr Matthew Lynch

Dr Matthew Lynch is Senior Lecturer at RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences and Convenor of its Academic Integrity Committee. He has led the development and introduction of RCSI's first Academic Integrity policy and its subsequent revisions together with various supporting resources including a student academic integrity training resource.



Kevin McStravock

Kevin McStravock is an experienced higher education professional specialising in quality enhancement, student engagement and policy. He is Quality Enhancement Manager at Ulster University and a Board Member and Non-Executive Director of Quality and Qualifications Ireland, with extensive experience in governance and stakeholder engagement.

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Dr Violeta Morari

Dr Violeta Morari (SFHEA) is the Head of Department of Mathematics in Munster Technological University (MTU). Her interests are in the area of mathematics education and academic integrity, as well as the impact of Generative AI in higher education. She is the Academic Integrity Advisor for the Faculty of Science and Informatics.



Emma Muldoon Ryan

Emma Muldoon Ryan is the current Vice President for Academic Affairs at Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn (AMLÉ), the national students' union. She is the former Vice President for Education at MTU Cork Students' Union. She graduated with her BA(Hons) in Creative Digital Media from MTU Cork. Emma's main role is to always highlight the voice of the students across Ireland to NAIN.



Ruth Ní Bheoláin

Ruth Ní Bheoláin is Dean of Academic Affairs at CCT College Dublin and an experienced higher education professional specialising in quality assurance and enhancement, academic leadership and student engagement. She has extensive experience in sectoral collaboration, professional development and quality enhancement across Irish higher education.

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NAIN Steering Group



Dr Paul O'Leary

Dr Paul O'Leary is the SETU Head of Quality Promotion, who promotes institutional excellence, driving frameworks that ensure academic quality, effectiveness, and a high-quality student learning experience. Combining an extensive multi-disciplinary academic background with specialised expertise in higher education quality assurance (HE QA/QE), accreditation, and faculty development, the role bridges strategic oversight with hands-on academic support.



Dr Julie Uí Choistealbha

Dr Julie Uí Choistealbha is the Registrar of Hibernia College, and a member of the College's Executive Management Team. Her work is rooted in quality assurance, professional learning and a deep commitment to ethical and value-led practice. Tá an-suim aici sa Ghaeilge agus cuireann sí fáilte roimh aon ocáid gur féidir léi a bheith ag feidhmniú go proifisúnta trí Ghaeilge.



Dr Katherine Whitehurst

Dr Katherine Whitehurst is the Director of Teaching and Learning and a Senior Lecturer at MIC. She has worked in Higher Education as an Academic in Canada, Scotland, England and Ireland. In her role as Director, Katherine works to strengthen the practices of teaching, learning, assessment and feedback in the college. She is the head of the Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) centre, where she over sees a team of academics and technical experts in the delivery of digital learning PD, resources and support.

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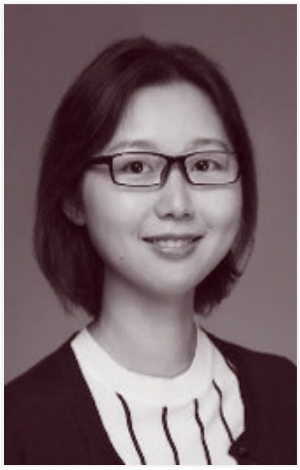
Working Group 1:
Assessment Integrity and Innovation



Dr Loretta Goff

Dr Loretta Goff is the Academic Integrity Education Officer at University College Cork, where she provides training and resources on academic integrity, academic misconduct, ethical use of generative AI, and AI and assessment for both students and staff. She also sits on the Steering Committee of Ireland's National Academic Integrity Network.

CHAIR



Samantha (Jiaxin) Xu

Samantha (Jiaxin) Xu is the Academic Integrity Officer at Dublin City University (DCU). She supports DCU staff with curriculum and assessment design to uphold academic integrity. She also contributes to the university's development and review of academic integrity policy and procedures. She currently leads Subgroup 2, Horizon Scanning Emerging Threats of Academic Integrity, within NAIN's Working Group 1.

DEPUTY CHAIR



Professor Jim O'Mahony

Professor Jim O'Mahony is a Gen AI specialist working with the Department of Learning, Teaching and the Arts at Munster Technological University. In addition, he chairs the subgroup on HEA Policy framework integration and is deputy chair for the Working Group on Assessment Integrity and Innovation.

DEPUTY CHAIR

National Academic Integrity Network

Working Group 2:
Learner Engagement and Partnership



Eilis O'Leary

Eilis O'Leary has been involved in higher education management since 2006. Her extensive experience covers programme development, programme management, lecturing, articulation and transnational agreements, stakeholder engagement and quality assurance and enhancement. Eilis won a National Teaching Hero Award in 2014 and is currently undertaking a Doctorate in Business Administration at South East Technological University.

CHAIR



Emma Muldoon Ryan

Emma Muldoon Ryan is the current Vice President for Academic Affairs at Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn (AMLÉ), the national students' union. She is the former Vice President for Education at MTU Cork Students' Union. She graduated with her BA(Hons) in Creative Digital Media from MTU Cork. Emma's main role is to always highlight the voice of the students across Ireland to NAIN.

DEPUTY CHAIR

National Academic Integrity Network

Working Group 3:
Implementation and Capacity Building



Dr Katherine Whitehurst

Dr Katherine Whitehurst is the Director of Teaching and Learning and a Senior Lecturer at MIC. She has worked in Higher Education as an Academic in Canada, Scotland, England and Ireland. In her role as Director, Katherine works to strengthen the practices of teaching, learning, assessment and feedback in the college. She is the head of the Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) centre, where she over sees a team of academics and technical experts in the delivery of digital learning PD, resources and support.

CHAIR



Siobhán Condron

Siobhán Condron is a Quality Assurance Officer in the Curriculum Development Unit, working within the Further Education and Training (FET) Unit of City of Dublin ETB. Her work focuses on assessment governance, internal verification, external authentication, certification processes and results approval processes (RAP) across City of Dublin FET College. She supports the development, review and implementation of quality assurance policies and procedures that promote consistency, transparency and fairness in assessment and certification practices.

DEPUTY CHAIR

National Academic Integrity Network

Working Group 4:
Research and Scholarship



Dr Paul O'Leary

Dr Paul O'Leary is the SETU Head of Quality Promotion, who promotes institutional excellence, driving frameworks that ensure academic quality, effectiveness, and a high-quality student learning experience. Combining an extensive multi-disciplinary academic background with specialised expertise in higher education quality assurance (HE QA/QE), accreditation, and faculty development, the role bridges strategic oversight with hands-on academic support.

CHAIR



Dr Fionn McGrath

Dr Fionn McGrath is the Academic Integrity Educational Developer in University of Limerick. His background is primarily in philosophy, he holds a particularly strong interest in social theory, technological change and education.

DEPUTY CHAIR

National Academic Integrity Network

Working Group 5:
Communication, Research Dissemination and Outreach



Dr Violeta Morari

Dr Violeta Morari (SFHEA) is the Head of Department of Mathematics in Munster Technological University (MTU). Her interests are in the area of mathematics education and academic integrity, as well as the impact of Generative AI in higher education. She is the Academic Integrity Advisor for the Faculty of Science and Informatics.

CHAIR



Dobrawa Brach

Dobrawa Brach is Communications Manager at Quality and Qualifications Ireland, with experience across strategic communications, stakeholder engagement, digital communications and governance. Her work also spans accessibility, equality and inclusion, and organisational projects supporting QQI's strategic priorities.

DEPUTY CHAIR

National Academic Integrity Network