



The Role of Universities and Other Institutes of Higher Education in Economic, Social and Cultural Development in Peripheral Regions

November 14-15, 2019

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Signal Hill Campus, 100 Signal Hill Road, St.
John's, NL

Link to live broadcast <https://signalhillcampus.com/roleofuniversities>



Waterford Institute of Technology
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA PHORT LAIRGE



INTRODUCTION

Land Acknowledgement

A land acknowledgement is offered to recognize Aboriginal peoples' enduring connection to their traditional territories, to recognize the history of the land that is currently shared by many peoples, and to recognize stewardship as a shared commitment of all those who reside in a territory. The practice of territory acknowledgement is itself a replication of an Aboriginal practice which predates European contact.

We respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

Rationale for the Conference

The traditional roles and practices of higher education institutes (HEIs) are encapsulated in two functions: education and research. Universities, and other HEIs, are the principle generators and disseminators of new knowledge through research, publication of the same, and through engagement with local, regional, national and international stakeholders. Through HEIs education role, which, with the importance of lifelong learning in today's society, extends well beyond the relatively brief period(s) of time that students acquire degrees, diplomas and certificates, HEIs transfer this new knowledge and technology to their students and through them, to business, government and the broader society. As well, in fulfilling its mandate to educate, HEIs train students, provide them with specific marketable skills, which enhances their long-term earning capacity, enlighten students and imbue them with the desire and capacity to understand and think critically about the ever-changing world around them. Notwithstanding these important goals for HEIs, it is noteworthy that members of the academy (i.e., faculty members and students) engage continuously with numerous societal stakeholders to provide general educational benefits, which, in turn, facilitate the democratic processes and enable people to be better informed — a better-informed citizenry should lead to better collective decisions.

It is important to recognize that the roles of HEIs are not static, but have evolved in response to numerous challenges and opportunities. The forces of change have come through many avenues, including:

(1) **advances in technology** (social media, the internet and almost instantaneous exchange of information) change the flow of information and intellectual noise that students and society are exposed to daily. Consequently, our pedagogy has had to evolve. As well, how research is disseminated and published (e.g., the proliferation of online publications in all disciplines and often the requirement to provide the data from empirical studies for independent verification) has changed. In addition, advances in technology has affected how some research is performed (e.g., literature reviews and on-line surveys) and has enhanced the ability of researchers to more easily collaborate remotely, to work with teams of like-minded researchers from around the world and to more easily access and exchange research information;

(2) **evolving constraints and opportunities** (e.g., climate change and other environmental realities, and the ability to disseminate large amounts of information to mass audiences, without reality checks as to the veracity of the information) contribute to the intellectual content of our courses, the research topics we address and how we define knowledge and engagement;

(3) **student needs** have become more complex as today's engaged students demand an education that enlightens them, challenges them intellectually, allows them to grow, enhances their own ability to make a positive difference in their own lives, and provides them with the capacity to be more effective and engaged citizens;

(4) **broader community expectations** have matured to the point that HEIs are now expected to contribute to the promotion of sustainable economic, social and cultural development of the regions in which these HEIs are located. These expectations sometimes extends to enhancing societal equity and to facilitating social mobility in an efficient and effective manner; and,

(5) **availability of public sector resources** HEIs are becoming increasingly constrained, with the knock-on effect of compromising the ability and effectiveness of HEIs to make the contributions that they want to and need to make in order to produce both an educated workforce and an enlightened electorate, who are then in a strong position to deal effectively with the challenges and opportunities that they face in the future.

It is important to appreciate that the multidimensional and multifaceted approach to education and the research potential and importance engendered by STEAMB (i.e., science, technology, arts (i.e., humanities

and social sciences), engineering mathematics, and business) disciplines. In today's world, a focus on STEAMB is a prerequisite for dealing effectively with research, education and engagement to address the challenges and opportunities that we face today and will face tomorrow. In other words, it is important to recognize and appreciate that each of these disciplines have the potential to reinforce the contribution of the others.

Values and identities are not the same as right and privileges. Society benefits more when multidisciplinary insights are brought to bear in helping to address real world problems and unforeseen future opportunities. A multidisciplinary approach may help to contribute to a sustainable future that is inclusive, relatively cohesive, and tolerant.

Finally, when institutions are further away from the centre of the academic universe, the impact and influence of their research may dissipate. However, HEIs located in peripheral regions are also confronted with the reality of a smaller population and a smaller business sector than those institutions located in major urban centres. To more effectively adopt and adapt technology, for example, the members of the HEIs in peripheral regions have to engage more fully with local stakeholders. It is only through this local engagement and interaction will the local region have the capacity and access to meaningful technological transfers to promote their economic, social and cultural development.

Universities and institutes of higher education have an important role to play in all societies, but their importance in peripheral regions is magnified. Higher education could and should help analyse, probe, and hypothesize how society could engage with the opportunities and problems it faces, today and tomorrow. Moreover, higher education serves as a conduit for ideas from the wider world into the peripheral regions through institutional, academic, professional and disciplinary networks. This conference is a practical example of that for the South East of Ireland and for Newfoundland and Labrador.

Funding provided by the Vice-President Academic's "Support for Scholarship in the Arts at Memorial Program", the Collaborative Applied Research in Economics (CARE) initiative, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) of Memorial University Memorial Office of Public Engagement, Vice-President Research Memorial University, Dean of Humanities and Social Science, and the Waterford Institute of Technology.

AGENDA	
	Thursday, November 14, 2019
8:00 – 8:05 am	Land Acknowledgement – Scott Lynch
8:05 - 8:20 am	Welcome Honourable Christopher Mitchelmore Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs Member for St. Barbe - L'Anse aux Meadows
8:20 - 8:50 am	First Keynote Address Noreen Golfman , Provost and Vice-President (Academic) of Memorial University - <i>Centering the Periphery: Closing the Urban - Regional Gap</i>
8:50 – 9:00 am	Questions and Discussions – keynote address
9:00 – 10:45 am	Session 1 - Humanities and Social Science Memorial University
9:00 – 9:30 am	Danine Farquharsen - <i>Literature and Politics, Culture and Climate</i>
9:30 – 10:00 am	Sean McGrath - <i>The Future Nature Initiative: An Experiment in Public Ecology</i>
10:00 – 10:30 am	Stephen Tomblin - <i>Knowledge Construction and Building Bridges Across Venues</i>
10:30 – 10:45 am	Questions and Answers Session 1
10:45 - 11:00 am	Networking /Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:45 pm	Session 2 - Business Engagement
11:00 – 11:30 am	Felicity Kelliher - <i>Higher Education Institutes in Peripheral Regions: Exploring the Innovation Broker Role</i>
11:30 – 12:00 pm	Gordon Cooke - <i>A kitchen table chat about enticing young rural adults to stay: To stay where and do what?</i>
12:00 – 12:30 pm	Eugene Crehan - <i>HEIs role in supporting knowledge-based enterprise creation, growth and sustainability: frameworks and experiences in Ireland's South East region.</i>
12:30 – 12:45 pm	Questions and Answers Session 2
12:45 - 1:00 pm	Networking Break
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch 1:00 – 1:30 Keynote Speaker 1:30 – 2:30 Susan Hodgett - <i>Stories on the Edge</i>
2:30 – 4:15 pm	Sessions 3 - Science, Health & Environment

2:30 – 3:00 pm	Terry-Lynn Young - <i>Postcards from the edge-how founder populations and the universities that serve them can change the world.</i>
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Barbara Neis - <i>Maximizing the contribution of universities to the social, cultural and economic development of peripheral regions: the role of multidisciplinary, community-engaged research centres</i>
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Kelly Vodden - <i>Engaging on Rural Sustainability</i>
4:00 – 4:15 pm	Questions and Answers Session 3
4:15 – 6:00 pm	Sessions 4 - Economics and Applied Science
4:15 – 4:45 pm	Ray Gosine - <i>The role of academia in examining the regional impact of technological innovation associated with oil and gas development</i>
4:45 – 5:15 pm	Alvin Simms - <i>Developing and Applying Geo-Spatial Hybrid Demographic and Economic Supply Chain Models: A Systems Approach for Computing Regional Economic Impacts and Profiles</i>
5:15 - 5:45 pm	Herb Emery - <i>Universities as Instruments of Regional Development in Canada's Provinces</i>
5:45 – 6:00 pm	Questions and Answers Session 4
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Banquet 7:00 Speaker 7:30 – 9:00 Pat Parfrey - <i>On improving the value of health care spending in NL</i>
	Friday, November 15, 2019
9:00 - 10:40 am	Session 5 - Economics
9:00 – 9:30 am	John Maher - <i>Pensions : populations, payment, poverty, and possibilities</i>
9:30 – 10:00 am	Lynn Gambin - <i>Analysing the NL labour market: providing information through the Labour Market Observer (LMO)</i>
10:00 - 10:30 am	Derek Messacar - <i>Postsecondary Education in Canada: Benefits and Barriers</i>
10:30- 10:40 am	Questions and Answers Session 5
10:40 – 10:50 am	Networking/Coffee Break
10:50 – 12:30 pm	Session 6 - Demographics & Immigration
10:50 – 11:20 am	Sean Cadigan - <i>The Mannion Emigrant Records Collection: Data, Digitisation and Democracy</i>

11:20 – 11:50 am	Tony Fang - <i>Recruitment and Retention of Newcomers: The Role of Employers</i>
11:50 – 12:20 pm	Isabelle Côté - <i>Uprooting people: Population Resettlement in Comparative Perspectives</i>
12:20 – 12:30 pm	Questions and Answers Session 6
12:30 – 2:00 pm	Lunch 12:30 Keynote Speaker 1:00 – 2:00 Geoff Eaton - <i>The Importance of the University to its Stakeholders</i>
2:00- 3:50 pm	Session 7 - Centres of Engagement (CARE, Harris Centre, Vaughan Chair in Regional Economics & South east Economic Monitor)
2:00 – 2:25 pm	Robert Greenwood - <i>The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, Memorial University: Integrity, Independence, Practical Application</i>
2:25 – 2:50 pm	Herb Emery - <i>Mission and vision of the Vaughan Chair in Regional Economics</i>
2:50 – 3:15 pm	Doug May - <i>Reaching Out to Know Our Economic Selves!</i>
3:15 – 3:40 pm	John Casey - <i>Impact of HEI's on Regional Economic Performance</i>
3:40 – 3:50 pm	Questions and Answers Session 7
3:50 – 4:30 pm	Closing Keynote Speaker Richard Hayes - <i>Higher Education and Regional Leadership</i>
4:30 - 5:00 pm	Edward Roberts - <i>Memorial and our Province – Where Now and Whither Tending?</i>



SCOTT LYNCH

Professor and Head of Economics at Memorial University

Professor Scott Lynch is in his 32nd year at Memorial University and has seen the Newfoundland and Labrador economy experience both the positive and negative aspects of the business cycle. Living through the boom to bust periods gives one a unique perspective on the likely future of the NL economy. Professor Lynch research areas include applied macroeconomics, forecasting provincial macroeconomic indicators, forecasting energy demand, immigration with a focus on Newfoundland and Labrador, research in productivity with a NL context. He is currently Head of the Department of Economics at Memorial University.



JENNIFER LOKASH

Associate Professor and Head of English at Memorial University

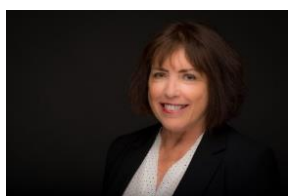
Jennifer Lokash is an Associate Professor in Memorial University's Department of English, and her broad research interests are in literature and environment, literature and medicine, and literature and the body. She teaches courses in 18th- and 19th-century Romantic poetry, the Gothic novel, critical theory, and posthumanism. She is currently serving time as Head of her department.



HONOURABLE CHRISTOPHER MITCHELMORE

***Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour
Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs
Member for St. Barbe-L'Anse aux Meadows***

Christopher Mitchelmore is from Green Island Cove on the Great Northern Peninsula. He was first elected to the House of Assembly in 2011; was re-elected in 2015 and again in 2019. On December 14, 2015 he was appointed Minister of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation and on September 6, 2019, he was appointed Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour. Minister Mitchelmore has studied in the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic, and has a Bachelor of Commerce Honours (Co-op) degree from Memorial University. He created Flower's Island Museum, worked in economic development and has an extensive track record of community involvement.



DR. NOREEN GOLFMAN

***Provost and Vice-President (Academic) of
Memorial University***

Dr. Noreen Golfman is provost and vice-president (academic) of Memorial University, overseeing pan-university initiatives to ensure that decisions align with Memorial's mission and strategic priorities; sets goals that are integrated across academic and administrative units; and ensures university planning and budgets align with academic priorities.

Dr. Golfman served as dean of the School of Graduate Studies at Memorial from June 2008 to September 2014. She is a professor of English and holds a PhD from the University of Western Ontario. She served two terms as president of the Canadian Federation of Social Sciences and Humanities, a national education advocacy group.

Active in Canadian cultural issues and experienced with the media, Dr. Golfman is the founding director and chair of the St. John's International Women's Film Festival, vice-chair of the Newfoundland and Labrador Film Development Corporation and chair of the board of the Friends of Canadian Broadcasting. Since 2011 she has co-chaired the board of directors of Business and the Arts NL, an organization that brokers relationships and funding between the arts and the corporate/private sectors.

[Centering the Periphery: Closing the Urban - Regional Gap](#)

The increasing global dimension of higher education challenges how regional institutions resist and react to change. With the steady withdrawal of public

funding, the radical interventions of technology, the changing world of work, increasing demands for increased student support services, innovation in teaching and learning, as well as other factors, traditional colleges and universities are in a bit of an existential crisis. Transitioning to the future has become an urgent priority. The gap between metropolitan and regional centres is rapidly closing, because the skills necessary to solve problems, contribute to social coherence, and enhance quality of life are necessary everywhere. Indeed, our regions depend on institutions of higher education to prepare people for the future, and to advance social and economic health more than ever. How best to manage this pivot from the traditional to the 21st century university without sacrificing the foundational principles of the former?



DR. DANINE FARQUHARSON

***Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies,
and Associate Professor of English***

Danine Farquharson is a scholar of Irish literature and culture and the energy humanities. Her publications include *Shadows of the Gunmen: Violence and Culture in Modern Ireland* (Cork UP, with Dr. Sean Farrell) and *Cold Water Oil* (forthcoming, with Dr. Fiona Polack). She is a co-founder with Dr. Julia Wright of SSHORE (Social Sciences and Humanities Oceans Research and Education initiative), and a member of the Petrocultures Research Cluster, the Canadian Association for Irish Studies, and the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English.

Literature and Politics, Culture and Climate

Danine's talk will speak directly to the value and use of scholarly research and teaching in the humanities in relation to the historical, political, cultural, and economic lives of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. In particular, she will share her research and her anecdotal experience working in Irish studies and the energy humanities to offer participants some clear indications of the impact and relevance of cultural studies' contribution to ongoing solutions to today's "wicked problems."



DR. SEAN MCGRATH

Professor of Philosophy and Theology at Memorial University

Sean J. McGrath is professor of Philosophy and Theology at Memorial University and a Member of the College of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the author of many books, including the recently published *Thinking Nature: An Essay in Negative Ecology* (Edinburgh University Press, 2019).

The Future Nature Initiative: An Experiment in Public Ecology

In 2015, with SSHRC funding, a team of graduate students and faculty members in the Humanities and Social Sciences began an experiment in public ecology. The aim was to raise awareness around ecological health in Newfoundland and Labrador by helping the public think about the future of nature in the province. We openly embraced the ambiguity in the term “nature” precipitated by developments in science and technology and the 2016 declaration of the era of climate change as a new geological epoch (the Anthropocene.) Our method was to deploy the breadth of ecological science at MUN to facilitate a public meditation upon what we love about this place, and what the future might hold in store for the woods, the water, the wildlife and the human populations of Newfoundland and Labrador. We have held multiple events, in National Parks, art galleries, northern communities, and other public venues. In this presentation I will articulate the principles and assumptions of the Future Nature Initiative and summarise our results to date.



DR. STEPHEN TOMBLIN

Professor of Political Science at Memorial University

Dr. Stephen Tomblin is a recently retired political science department professor. BA (Calgary); MA (Dalhousie); PHD (British Columbia). He was a full professor and first arrived in 1985 and retired the end of December 2018. Tomblin has published widely on a variety of policy issues including regionalization, municipal restructuring, health care policy reform, governance, health human resource planning, physical infrastructural development, energy-environmental restructuring, and the Moroccan Initiative. He produced discussion papers for the Romanow Commission and the Newfoundland and Labrador Royal Commission on Renewing and Strengthening Our Place in Canada. The discussion paper on civic engagement for the Romanow Commission was peer-reviewed and published by the University of Toronto Press. Tomblin has benefitted from participating in various collaborative/interdisciplinary

research projects and clusters. These include: SSHRC-sponsored Challenges and Opportunities of the Knowledge-based Economy in Newfoundland and Labrador; SSHRC-NERC sponsored Coasts Under Stress initiative; CIHR-sponsored research project on health care reform (that was spawned by the Romanow team and produced the book Paradigm Freeze; and the SSHRC-sponsored Major Collaborative project on Municipal restructuring. He was a member of the WHO Collaboration Centre out of Dalhousie that addressed challenges of health policy reform in dissimilar historical, institutional, cultural, and political context, including Brazil, Jamaica and Zambia. Tomblin also appeared at the United Nations in New York to address cross-border regional issues and attended a worked shop on regionalization in Dakhla, Northern Africa, in the summer of 2018.

Knowledge Construction and Building Bridges Across Venues

The primary objective of the presentation will be draw upon over 34 years of research to argue the significance and importance of building and supporting policy, evidence-based, functional venues, ideas, institutions, and interest mobilization and the challenges associated with too many venues that are more bi-lateral, territorial, and political. The focus will be on the significance and importance of investing in multi-lateral, more functional, evidence-based approaches and why recent but also more historical-political attacks have undermined the conditions necessary for improving decision-making or serving the needs of citizens and the planet. Drawing upon decades of research in dissimilar policy fields, emphasis will be placed highlighting the importance of good governance, effective public policy and why investing in universities, communities and functional patterns of knowledge construction and social learning are the right approach. But emphasis will also be placed on describing the power of old embedded ideas, institutions, and interests and why they have made it so difficult to contest old sources of power and the status quo.



DR. FELICITY KELLIHER

Chair of the Irish Academy of Management

Felicity is Chair of the Irish Academy of Management and a member of the Irish Research Council and the Royal Irish Academy Social Science Committee. A Fulbright and Dobbin Atlantic Scholar, Felicity has published widely in the area of management capability development, rural community engagement and learning in small firms. She has co-authored three books, 19 chapters, 30+ journal articles and over 80 conference papers. As co-founder and senior researcher of the RIKON research group, Felicity has engaged with over 1200 small firms in service innovation, capability development and learning initiatives since 2007, and was awarded the Knowledge Transfer Ireland Research2Business Collaborative Impact award in 2015 in recognition of this work. Before entering academia, Felicity worked internationally as a project manager in the technology sector.

Higher Education Institutes in Peripheral Regions: Exploring the Innovation Broker Role

This paper explores the role of higher education institutes in cultivating local business development in peripheral regions. Business development is an activity embedded in on-going networks of relationships, drawing on external resources to build dynamic capabilities within the firm. Policy instruments and facilitated programs pursue regional business development through innovation networks under the logic that repeated interactions between businesses and others in the community leads to innovation capability development. However, little is known in relation to how an innovation broker role, held by higher education institutes, impact business-led regional innovation over time. Following a review of relevant literature, the proposed model illustrates how the broker role can be employed as an anchoring mechanism in cultivating regional business innovation capabilities.



DR. GORDON COOKE

Associate Professor of Industrial Relations at Memorial University

Gordon B Cooke is Associate Professor of Industrial Relations within the Faculty of Business Administration at Memorial University of Newfoundland. He studies various 'non-standard work arrangements' like fluctuating work schedules, long or short work weeks, casual/on-call/non-permanent employment, and unusual work locations (e.g. telework). While these arrangements can be either 'employer-friendly' &/or 'employee-friendly', they tend to generate more organizational rather than worker benefits. Since these labour market realities can affect workers differently according to age, family status, stage of life, or location, his current focus is on the employment and education/training options available to younger or older workers in rural communities of varying sizes in North Atlantic jurisdictions like Northwest Ireland, the Faroe Islands, Shetland, Northern Norway, and especially, Newfoundland.

A kitchen table chat about enticing young rural adults to stay: To stay where and do what?

For a young adult facing four decades of work ahead, choices involving the pursuit of employment and/or education/training can be daunting, especially for rural individuals who have to layer on the 'stay versus leave' decision about where to live. These decisions are affected by one's skills, aptitudes and values, but also on one's social networks, role models, and the quality and availability of local work and lifestyle opportunities. Over the past several years, we have studied several categories of 'Stayers' and 'Leavers' encountered in rural communities within Northwest Ireland, Newfoundland, Faroe Islands, and Shetland.

While this study will notionally be based on 30 semi-structured interviews with young adults (18-30 years of age), conducted in rural island communities during 2009-2016, insights from our other studies in rural Newfoundland will be woven into the presentation. Rather than presenting detailed summaries from the young islanders whom we interviewed, our intended contribution is to present parts of our typology as a way to spur on discussions towards policy remedies, as well related issues like the state of rural infrastructure and public spending priorities.



DR. EUGENE CREHAN

Director of Programmes in the Centre for Enterprise Development and Regional Economy (CEDRE) at Waterford Institute of Technology

Dr. Eugene Crehan is the Director of Programmes in the Centre for Enterprise Development and Regional Economy (CEDRE) at Waterford Institute of Technology where has managed several enterprise/entrepreneur development programmes. He is highly experienced in working with start-ups and early stage businesses and has access to multiple entrepreneurship related networks relevant to early stage businesses. His research interests are in the areas of investment and competitiveness development in early stage businesses. He has lectured in Marketing and Strategic Management at Waterford Institute of Technology and University College Cork. He has significant experience in international business development having held senior management positions with organisations such as Diageo (Baileys), Waterford Crystal and A.T. Cross. He has lived in the USA, Europe and the Middle East and has conducted business in over 50 countries during 18 years of international roles. He is a Doctor of Business Administration, holds BA and MBA Degrees and a Post Graduate Diploma in Enterprise Development. He is a Fellow of the Irish Institute of Training & Development, a NCGE Entrepreneurship Education Fellow plus a European Entrepreneurship Educators Fellow.

HEIs role in supporting knowledge-based enterprise creation, growth and sustainability: frameworks and experiences in Ireland's South East region.

Higher education institutions (HEIs), universities and Institutes of Technology (IOTs) across Ireland serve their regions in the provision of tertiary level education at undergraduate and post-graduate levels. In addition, they play an important role by engaging with businesses to augment regional competitiveness through scientific research, centres of excellence and programmes that encourage and support nascent entrepreneurship. Conscious of the absence of a university in the South East of Ireland, the two Institutes of Technology (Waterford and Carlow) have actively engaged with regional businesses to increase innovation capacity and regional competitiveness. Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT), the Top Ranked Institute of Technology in Ireland in 2018, is a university-level institution in the South East of Ireland with over 10,000 students (under-graduate to doctoral level) and 1,000 staff. Reflecting the changing regional needs, WIT has developed frameworks for existing businesses, entrepreneurs, researchers, academics and policy makers/implementers to engage in mutually beneficial methods to support economic growth and development of the region. This presentation reviews how WIT's research, innovation and enterprise development frameworks, funded by the European Union and the Irish Exchequer, and leveraged through engaging regional networks, have shaped the development of an innovation eco-system and influenced regional economic development.



DR. SUSAN HODGETT

Professor of Area Studies at the University of East Anglia (UEA), England

Susan Hodgett is the founding Professor of Area Studies at the University of East Anglia (UEA), England. She was Principal Investigator of the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council's Blurring Genres Network, exploring the use of narratives in relation to modern governance, with Professors

RAW Rhodes (Southampton University) and Mark Bevir (University of California, Berkeley) 2016-18. Susan is currently Sub Panel Chair of the UK's national Research Excellence Framework 2021 UoA 25, Area Studies. She has served as President of the UK Council for Area Studies Associations (2011-14), President of the International Council for Canadian Studies (2014-16), and President of the British Association for Canadian Studies (2008-11). She has worked on development in Atlantic Canada and beyond, and with the Government of Canada including organising the Canada UK Joint Declaration Seminar Series.

Susan has researched with colleagues from the Human Development and Capability Association and Cambridge University on policy issues, the Capability Approach, and human development. Her work with Dr. David Clark was used to inform public dialogues conducted by the What Works Wellbeing Centre (Sciencewise/HM Government), materials gathered contributed to later evidence programmes and the Sainsbury's Living Well Index. As well she has worked with the UK Cabinet Office (Analysis and Insight Units), the UK Home Office (UK Civil Service Learning/Senior Civil Service and the Policy Profession) and devolved administrations in Northern Ireland and Scotland. Her most recent book, with Professor Patrick James (University of Southern California), on the future of Area Studies, was published by Lexington Press USA in 2018 (Necessary Travel: New Area Studies and Canada in Comparative Perspective). Currently she is writing with Professor Rod Rhodes What Political Science can Learn from the Humanities- Blurring Genres, (forthcoming, 2020) London, Palgrave. Susan has extensive experience of peer review for national and international research councils and various academic publishers. Before becoming an academic she was General Secretary of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland and worked closely with the volunteer sector.

[Stories on the Edge](#)

This paper explores concerns over the health of modern democracy in Trumpian times (Shattuck, 2018; McMullin, 2018) and, following the Brexit Referendum (2016), considers introspection about our separate, but inevitably intertwined, futures. Central to this examination has been discussion about the future of apparently unchallengeable neoliberal forces in the face of rising populism (Peters, 2018). States previously considered 'stable' and unerringly capitalist have endured more than a decade of persistent and severe austerity impacting rather too many of their populations. Resultant disruptions are forcing governments to reassess what they actually know and understand of the peoples and countries that they govern. In search of a more fulfilling and perceptive

polymaking this paper examines the role of novels and stories in helping us to better understand peoples and places. In particular, it takes as its subject liminal places where people sometimes feel left behind. It considers how we can learn about places on the edge, from stories from the edge, including Atlantic Canada and Ireland and considers the advantages of using research methods from the Arts and Humanities in setting future development policy agendas. It takes as its basis stories from the edge on development and polymaking made personal, to discover the incipient contribution of storytelling to the deficient art of polymaking.



DR. TERRY-LYNN YOUNG***Director of Genomics Research in the Faculty of Medicine***

Professor Terry-Lynn Young is the Director of Genomics Research in the Faculty of Medicine and the founder of the Genomics-Based R&D Centre for Health in Grand-Falls Windsor. Dr. Young received a Ph.D in molecular genetics at Memorial and postdoctoral training in Genome Sciences at the University of Washington, Seattle. Her research lab focuses on gene discovery in

hereditary conditions in the Newfoundland population (a genetic isolate) including sensory impairments, heart disease and cancers and she leads multidisciplinary efforts to translate discoveries into improved clinical management and services. Dr. Young has received numerous recognitions for her research including the President's Award for Outstanding Research and received funding from Genome Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA). Most recently, Dr. Young and her team received the 2018 Governor Generals Award for Innovation for discovering the gene causing sudden death and the implementation of life-saving therapies.

Postcards from the edge-how founder populations and the universities that serve them can change the world.

In this presentation, I will tell you the story of the so-called Newfoundland curse-a silent, lethal inherited heart disease that reigned down upon communities in our Province for hundreds of years, and how a local team of university professors overcame many barriers to save lives, influencing governmental policy and setting the global standard for life-saving treatment in the process. By focusing on unmet medical problems in the communities we serve, our team of outsiders became the leaders, currently touted by Genome Canada as the best example of how teams can do Precision Medicine. For this project, our team received the 2018 Governor Generals Award for Innovation. I will also present a new university-led STEM project in hereditary hearing loss that is currently underway in central Newfoundland (Grand-Falls Windsor) with the potential for major industry disruption.



DR. BARBARA NEIS

***John Lewis Paton Distinguished University Professor,
Department of Sociology, Memorial University***

Barbara Neis (Ph.D., C.M., F.R.S.C.) is John Lewis Paton Distinguished University Professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Based in the Department of Sociology, she is also the former co-founder and co-director of the SafetyNet Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Research and a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Council of Canadian Academies. Professor Neis has worked for three decades in multi-disciplinary teams carrying out community-engaged research in marine and coastal contexts on social and environmental change, rebuilding fisheries, gender and fisheries, occupational health and safety and mobile work. She is currently Project Director on an 8-year SSHRC-funded Partnership grant entitled On the Move: Employment-Related Geographical Mobility in the Canadian Context. She is also a co-investigator in two modules of the Canada First Research Excellence-funded, 8-year, Ocean Frontier Institute where she is co-leading Module I on fisheries governance and Module M-2 on aquaculture health and safety.

Maximizing the contribution of universities to the social, cultural and economic development of peripheral regions: the role of multidisciplinary, community-engaged research centres

Governments (federal and provincial) and ultimately wider society invest heavily in universities and in other institutes of higher education in peripheral areas like Newfoundland and Labrador. In an ideal world, these institutions provide the education and professional and practical training needed to sustain an engaged, informed and skilled population with the capacity to learn how to parent, volunteer, govern and work in the paid labour force of these places. They also capture and invest extensive funding and expertise in designing and carrying out high quality research relevant to the place, transfer and adapt relevant knowledge from elsewhere, and create opportunities for discussion and engagement with the results of that research. In reality- these contributions, while essential, are not always as extensive or as effective as they could be. Some of the responsibility for failure lies outside universities and other institutions including a lack of receptor capacity in government and wider society to take up and engage with the skilled labour force and research and other expertise coming from these institutions. Universities have to also take some responsibility for these failures. Disciplinary and departmental siloes contribute to failure as does an approach to training and to research that is splintered and piecemeal rather than organized around problem-solving learning using an engaged model rich with experiential learning. This presentation will take up this problem arguing for the critical role multidisciplinary, community-engaged research centres can play in helping to address this piece of the capacity enhancement gap associated with universities in peripheral contexts like Newfoundland and Labrador.



DR. KELLY VODDEN

Associate Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies Grenfell Campus, Memorial University

Kelly Vodden is Professor (Research) with the Environmental Policy Institute and Associate Vice-President of Research and Graduate Studies at Grenfell Campus. She has been engaged in community and regional development research, policy and practice across the country, and particularly in Newfoundland and Labrador for more than twenty-five years. She has published and led projects on topics ranging from rural regional governance and development models to climate change adaptation, rural drinking water systems, and labour force mobility and has written and presented widely on these topics.

Engaging on Rural Sustainability

Research and experience in rural and regional development highlight the importance of post-secondary institutions working collaboratively with government, industry and community organizations in the pursuit of innovation and community resilience. Small business and municipalities in our province face significant fiscal, technical and human resource capacity challenges. In addition, many rural and regional development organizations, regional offices of provincial and federal departments, and college campuses have been hard hit by funding cuts, resulting in a reduced presence in rural regions. These trends and others, including demographic changes, make the potential role of Memorial University in economic, social and cultural development all the more critical in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Drawing from my experiences as a faculty member and senior academic administrator at Grenfell campus, I will provide examples of the contributions we have made and can make to rural development through community engaged teaching and research. Finally, I will reflect on key issues to be tackled and institutional supports required to enhance our future impact.



DR. RAY GOSINE

***Associate Vice-President (Research) and
Professor of Electrical and Computer
Engineering at Memorial University***

Dr. Ray Gosine is Associate Vice-President (Research) and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Memorial University of Newfoundland. He is also a Visiting Professor at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy and a Professor (status) in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Gosine's research is in the areas of intelligent systems, robotics and automation with a particular interest in the applications of these technologies to natural resource industries. His academic appointments included an NSERC Chair in Industrial Automation at the University of British Columbia and the J.I. Clark Chair of Intelligent Systems for Operations in Harsh Environments at Memorial University. Dr. Gosine recently chaired a Public Review Panel (www.nlhfrp.ca) to advise government on the scientific, socio-economic, public policy, regulatory, environmental and public health issues associated with unconventional oil and gas development (i.e. fracking) in Western Newfoundland. Currently he is collaborating with colleagues at the University of Toronto and Memorial University on research related to understanding the opportunities, challenges, and consequences associated with automation and digitalization of Canada's underground mining and offshore oil and gas industries.

Dr. Gosine is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering (FCAE), a Fellow of Engineers Canada (FEC), and a Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) program on Innovation, Equity and the Future of Prosperity.

The role of academia in examining the regional impact of technological innovation associated with oil and gas development

The opportunities and challenges associated with development of oil and gas resources in Newfoundland and Labrador provide excellent insights into how the distributional consequences associated with technological innovation are shaped significantly by public policy. This presentation will discuss the role of academics and academic collaboration in considering these potential impacts in the context of two different applications of innovative technologies, namely hydraulic fracturing and digitalization, to oil and gas development in Newfoundland and Labrador.



DR. ALVIN SIMMS

Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at Memorial University

Alvin Simms PhD is a faculty member in the Dept. of Geography, Memorial University and Research Leader at The Harris Centre's Regional Analytics Lab. His research focuses on the development and use of regional economic and spatial analytic models to assess the impacts of industries, public services and the viability of places for the purpose of informing evidence based policy and strategies for regional economic development through community and regional engagement. Alvin completed his BA Economic Geography at Memorial University, MSc in Quantitative Methods Geography and PhD in GIScience at the University of Calgary.

Developing and Applying Geo-Spatial Hybrid Demographic and Economic Supply Chain Models: A Systems Approach for Computing Regional Economic Impacts and Profiles.

Integrated geo-spatial hybrid demographic and economic supply chain models are used to construct and identify linkages between industries, labour markets, services and places. These integrated models are used to assess the impacts related to temporal shifts in commodity prices, industries, labour markets, services and technology. The outcomes from these analyses produce a multi-dimensional database which contain all the possible linkages between places and the components of their economies. Further analyses are used to drill down and examine local, sub-regional, provincial, national economic and place based geographic spillover effects. The premise for this type of analysis is that by drilling down in these complex geo-spatial datasets it becomes an application in the predictive nature of impacts at the local level rather than a reactive view of the data. The outcomes are based on economic and population trends as well as what if scenarios for future planning. This presentation will provide an overview of how this approach provides a platform for evidence based planning in both the short and long term and discuss how important it is to establish local ownership of the outcomes through community directed research, local data collection and engagement.



DR. HERB EMERY

Vaughan Chair, Department of Economics University of New Brunswick

Dr. Herb Emery focuses his research on the development of the Canadian economy and the persistence of long-standing regional disparities. Aside from understanding the economic fundamentals of growth in a small open economy, Dr. Emery's work incorporates political, historical, cultural and other institutional factors that have shaped Canadian development processes.

Dr. Emery holds the Vaughan Chair in Regional Economics at UNB. His impact, since coming to UNB in July 2016, has been substantial. He has become an acknowledged and widely consulted opinion leader in industry, media and government circles. He holds an MA and PhD in Economics from the University of British Columbia. His academic career began at the University of Calgary where, from 1993 to 2016, he established a track record of excellence in research, teaching and leadership.

Universities as Instruments of Regional Development in Canada's Provinces

This study investigates whether measures of university student enrolments, research funding and overall university budgets are correlated with provincial GDP growth, labour productivity growth, employment growth, investment and Total Factor Productivity growth. Our results show that, on the margin, research funding and expenditures on universities have no effect on the growth of the regional economy. We find that increases in undergraduate engineering enrolment are positively associated with GDP growth, productivity growth and total factor productivity (innovation), suggesting that faculties or schools of engineering are a source of knowledge spillovers that compensate for the lack of scale economies from agglomeration in the region. It could also be the case that applied science human capital is less substitutable with graduates from outside the province, and ideas and innovations are not costless to import and apply.



DR. PAT PARFREY

MD, OC, FRCPC, FRSC

Professor of Medicine (Nephrology)

Clinical Lead, Quality of Care NL/ Choosing Wisely NL

Dr. Parfrey is a clinical epidemiologist and nephrologist, and a John Lewis Paton Distinguished University Professor at Memorial University. His long-time interest in research was the impetus for his leading the creation of the Translational and Personalized Medicine Initiative (TPMI), a collaborative evidence-based research program that drives positive health care outcomes. As the Clinical Lead for Quality of Care NL/Choosing Wisely NL, Dr. Parfrey leads a research team focused on the reduction of low value health care, while also focusing on ensuring the right treatment is provided to the right patient at the right time. Quality of Care NL/Choosing Wisely NL is currently engaged in over 50 research projects that encourage positive behaviour change across the health care system, including physician practice, policy decision making, and patient engagement that supports long-term solutions for a more sustainable health care system. Information on Quality of Care NL/Choosing Wisely NL projects can be found at qualityofcarenl.ca.

[On improving the value of health care spending in NL](#)

38% of the NL provincial budget is spent on health with 60% of the health budget spent on institutional care. The value of this spending is low as NL has the highest per capita spending on health and worst health outcomes. Demographic change has been substantial, particularly outside St. John's, with a decrease in the proportion of children and a large increase in the proportion of seniors.

An holistic approach is necessary to improve the value of health spending with (1) increased spending on the social determinants of health, (2) a balance in spending on acute care services in specialized centres and the provision of long term care, emergency care and primary care in localities, (3) integration of health care across it's domains using technology, (4) reduction in low value care where the risk of the intervention outweighs the benefit, (5) a focus on getting the right intervention to the right patient at the right time, (6) enhanced access to effective pharmacare, (7) translation of innovative health care delivery interventions in other jurisdictions, (8) improvement in the culture of support and compassion for patients across the spectrum of providers, decision makers, unions, policy makers and the public.



JOHN MAHER

President of the Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland

John is President of the Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland and a former chair of the Irish Accounting & Finance Association. He is a member of the Occupational Pensions Stakeholder Group of the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority in Frankfurt and is a former member of the Consumer Consultative Group of the Irish Financial Regulatory Authority. His research interests include pensions and financial services and has given guest lectures in these areas at Maynooth, Memorial, Regina, and Rostock Universities. He is a co-founder and current chair of the Centre for Newfoundland and Labrador Studies at WIT. A chartered accountant and a member of Taxation Ireland, he has a BComm from UCD and a MComm from UCC. He has organised and presented at three regional development conferences with Newfoundland collaborators in conjunction with Waterford and Wexford local authorities and on the Southern Shore in Newfoundland.

Pensions: populations, payment, poverty, and possibilities

Europe and Ireland have aging populations with increasing demographic dependency ratios. Policy makers are concerned with the level of retirement income and with the manner in which such provision takes place. Life expectancy has improved in recent decades and globalisation has increased competition for the location of economic activity as well for trade. The workforce is also changing in terms of its male and female composition, its sectoral composition, its contractual nature and terms of related remuneration. At the same time, housing costs have significantly outpaced wages and salaries in several European countries, including Ireland, leading to supply shortages, rental inflation and increased pressure on social provision. There is a secular trend with respect to gender issues in both social and economic domains. In the present context, this manifests itself with respect to pension outcomes experienced by women in retirement.

Ireland is in a post financial crisis pre Brexit environment, with a national debt level of about €214bn, and is seeking to address several of these socioeconomic challenges. Our research at WIT involves investigating approaches for utilising property to enhance retirement income and the examination of decumulation patterns of those in retirement. Participation in groups such as the Pension Policy Research Group which consists of Irish economic, sociological, accounting, and taxation researchers offers an interdisciplinary perspectives with respect to these matters. Undertaking a European funded research project furnished a research vehicle with a pan European lens and orientation. Similarly, participation in an Occupational

Pension Stakeholder Group at a European level now offers academic, institutional, regulatory, supply and demand side perspective on how these matters are engaged with across the 28 member states. These countries are large and small, Baltic, Atlantic, Black Sea and Mediterranean in outlook, and represent traditional social free market and former communist economies and societies. This engagement creates channels for theory, evidence and experiences for students. It helps to expand the knowledge and planning horizons of regional and national stakeholders. It serves to mediate and develop conceptual frames, policies and commercial and investment opportunities through the dissemination of research outputs. This process requires extensive networking, access to data and evidence, some travel, focused effort at theorising the forces at play, and communicating on a variety of platforms to different audiences. Such is the role of social science research on the periphery.



DR. LYNN GAMBIN

Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Memorial University

Lynn Gambin is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Particular areas of interest include the economics of education and training, health and health care, and government policy. She

has spent more than a decade in the UK carrying out research on vocational education and training, skills mismatches, and various labour market programs across Europe. At Memorial, she teaches microeconomics and health economics and is the editor of CARE's Labour Market Observer which regularly summarizes conditions in the Newfoundland and Labrador labour market.

Analysing the NL labour market: providing information through the Labour Market Observer (LMO)

The LMO is intended to contribute to CARE's overall objective to promote greater understanding of the province's economy and wider social impacts. The LMO uses the latest estimates from the Canada Labour Force Survey to provide a summary of the labour market conditions and compares the current estimates to previous periods. The commentary is meant to be accessible to a variety of readers. The focus of each edition of the LMO varies with recent themes including: changes in full-time v. part-time employment, differences in unemployment by sex, comparisons to Canada, and longer term trends in participation and unemployment rates. Behind the LMO is student involvement with this project providing opportunities for the undergraduate author to become familiar with analysing LFS data and writing for a broad audience.



DR. DEREK MESSACAR

Research Analyst in the Social Analysis and Modelling Division at Statistics Canada

Dr. Derek Messacar is a Research Analyst in the Social Analysis and Modelling Division at Statistics Canada and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Economics at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Derek joined Statistics Canada upon receiving his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Toronto, in 2016. Prior to this, he received his M.A. at the University of British Columbia and his B.A. at Brock University. Derek is an empirical micro-economist with research spanning topics in behavioural public finance, labour, and the economics of education. His research has been published in leading Canadian and international journals including the Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Labor Research, Economics of Education Review and Canadian Public Policy.



DR. MARC FRENETTE

Statistics Canada

Dr. Marc Frenette has spent more than two decades at Statistics Canada using virtually all major survey, administrative, and linked data sources to highlight and explain trends in various socio-economic areas, including postsecondary access, economic returns to schooling, postsecondary savings, occupational skills, automation risks, apprenticeship training, returns to community college training, immigration, international students, refugee claimants, social assistance dynamics, and income inequality, among others. He also spent two years at the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, as the lead researcher for two of Canada's largest randomized field experiments in the area of postsecondary access (Future to Discover and BC Avid). Throughout his career, his approach has focused on applying rigorous analytical methods to answer policy-relevant questions, while highlighting the results in an accessible manner for non-specialist audiences. Marc holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Nottingham.

Postsecondary Education in Canada: Benefits and Barriers

This presentation will highlight Canadian evidence on labour market outcomes of postsecondary graduates along several dimensions, such as across cohorts, short-term versus long-term, and by detailed field of study. The presentation will also provide a summary of the main factors associated with access to postsecondary education, including financial and non-financial.



DR. SEAN CADIGAN

***Associate vice-president (academic) for
Memorial University***

Sean Cadigan is the associate vice-president (academic) for Memorial University, and has been a history professor there since 2001. He came to Memorial from Dalhousie University, where he was associate professor of history and taught in the areas of maritime labour history, the history of fisheries and Canadian history. Cadigan's research interests are the socio-economic and environmental history of Newfoundland and Labrador, including the impact of offshore oil development.

The Mannion Emigrant Records Collection: Data, Digitisation and Democracy

Between 2015 and 2018, Memorial University, in partnership with the Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency, engaged in the development of digitised handwritten notecards of Irish migrants to Newfoundland and other records collected over a lifetime by historical geographer Dr. John Mannion and his partner Maura. In addition to improving the in-progress name and geography web-based access and mapping tools, this will include additional features to locate and evaluate records by event, date, source, name of relative, relationship, occupation, ethnicity, and religion. While these records have great potential for use in the promotion of family history and genealogical tourism and in health-related genetics research, the project is also an important example of the steps that may be taken to preserve research records through digitisation and conversion to query-based analytical databases. Such conversion allows for ready public accessibility and use in more student-centred learning environments.



DR. TONY FANG

Full Professor and the Stephen Jarislowsky Chair in Cultural and Economic Transformation at Memorial University

Tony Fang is a Professor of Economics and Stephen Jarislowsky Chair at Memorial University. He has a PhD from University of Toronto and was a visiting professor at Harvard, NBER, and The Wharton School. He is also a past President of the Chinese Economists Society and a previous Domain Leader of CERIS, The Ontario Metropolis Centre. He published widely in immigration, equity, diversity; pension, retirement policy and ageing workforce and has received 15 research awards from SSHRC and 5 research grants HRSDC, totaling \$4 million.

Recruitment and Retention of Newcomers: The Role of Employers

According to our recent studies, the main reason newcomers leave the province is lack of employment. Yet, few have examined employers' attitudes towards hiring newcomers and international students. With Newfoundland and Labrador's depressive demographic trends, out-migration of native-born population and newcomers, along with the recent introduction of the Atlantic Immigration Pilot program and Express Entry program to Canada's immigration system with its focus on employability, particularly from the employer's side, delving into the factors affecting immigrants' employment is a matter of crucial concern for both policy and practice. This project will analyze the data from a survey of 800 employers in all four Atlantic Provinces in order to provide better understanding of the employment conditions of the newcomers and international students in Newfoundland and Labrador from the employer's perspective. It will provide valuable insights on provincial labour market conditions, labour and skill shortages and how immigrants and international graduates could potentially fill the skill gaps and the important roles that employers can play in more effective newcomer recruitment and retention.



DR. ISABELLE CÔTÉ

Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at Memorial University

Isabelle Côté is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She received her PhD in Political Science from the University of Toronto in 2014. Prior to that, she was a postdoctoral fellow at KITLV (Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies) in Leiden, and held various guest researcher positions in China and Indonesia, where she conducted extensive fieldwork on internal migration to several minority regions. She is currently the President of the Atlantic Provinces Political Science Association (APPSA), and has co-organized its annual conference in 2018. She has also published in numerous journals including *Ethnic and Racial Studies*; *PS: Political Science and Politics*; *Democratization*; *Civil Wars*; *Ethnopolitics*; *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*; and *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, and has recently co-edited a volume on 'Sons of the Soil' conflict with Matthew I. Mitchell and Monica Duffy Toft (Routledge, 2019).

Uprooting people: Population Resettlement in Comparative Perspectives

Recent research suggests that by 2100, relocation could be necessary for 400 communities in the United States alone, due to, for example, sea level rise or population loss. Elsewhere, population resettlement is driven by a desire to promote economic development, or minimize the costs associated with providing services to remote communities. What are the main distinguishing features and dynamics of resettlement schemes? What explains the adoption of different forms of resettlement policies? What are the similarities and differences in their politics and spatial practices? Taking stock of the recent interdisciplinary scholarship on resettlement, I focus on three contemporary case studies: 1) 'Neo-resettlement' in the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador; 2) rural resettlement in Ireland; and 3) Louisiana's Isle de Jean Charles Resettlement Project. Together, these case studies underscore that future community resettlement must take into account the role of state and non-state actors in shaping resettlement policies, the contentious politics and pitfalls of relocation schemes, and the fraught relationship of home/land, rights and costs.



GEOFF EATON

Executive director of Young Adult Cancer Canada

Geoff Eaton is a two-time cancer survivor, the founder and executive director of Young Adult Cancer Canada.

He's been extensively recognized for his work on behalf of young adults with cancer, and shared his story of hope and inspiration with over 75,000 people from across Canada.

Given less than a 2% chance of living, Geoff's story will renew your belief in the long shot and remind you that 1% is not 0%.

MUN changed my life and thousands of my YACcer brothers and sisters across Canada.

I am excited to share with you how my life was changed by MUN, how the establishment and growth of Young Adult Cancer Canada (YACC) was directly influenced by the professionals, professors and students at MUN and how the future for hundreds of thousands of young Canadians will be impacted by the YAC Prime Study and our research partnership with Dr. Sheila Garland of MUN.



DR. ROBERT GREENWOOD

Associate Vice President, Public Engagement and External Memorial University

Rob is lead on the Public Engagement Framework for the University, which coordinates and supports the University's collaboration with partners and stakeholders. In this capacity, he is also responsible for the Signal Hill Campus (including the Emera Innovation Exchange, Graduate Student Accommodations, Conference Services and Events, and the Johnson Geo Centre), the Botanical Garden, the Newfoundland Quarterly, Alumni Engagement, Strategic External Relations and the Harris Centre. The Harris Centre's mandate is to coordinate and facilitate Memorial University's educational, research and outreach activities in the areas of regional development and public policy.

Rob has operated his own consulting business and has served as a Director and Assistant Deputy Minister of Policy in Economic Development departments in Newfoundland and Labrador and in Saskatchewan. He was Vice President, Corporate Development, Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan, and was founding Director of the Sustainable Communities Initiative, a partnership of the University of Regina, the City of Regina, and the National Research Council of Canada. He has taught, consulted, published and presented extensively on community economic and regional development, strategic economic planning, sectoral and cluster development, knowledge mobilization and public engagement.

The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, Memorial University: Integrity, Independence, Practical Application

Since 2004, the Harris Centre has been Memorial University's vehicle to coordinate and facilitate the university's activities in regional policy and development in NL. With a mandate that includes all campuses, faculties and units, the Harris Centre has worked with faculty, students and staff to fund applied research, mobilize knowledge to meet needs, and has served as an honest broker and facilitator. Harris Centre founding director, Rob Greenwood, will share lessons in connecting the university with communities, industry, NGOs, governments and citizens.



DR. HERB EMERY

*Vaughan Chair, Department of Economics
University of New Brunswick*

Mission and vision of the Vaughan Chair in Regional Economics

The key theme guiding the vision of the Vaughan Chair is the growth of the New Brunswick economy and the regional economy to ensure a sustainable standard of living. Growth is the outcome of investment, growth of the labour supply/population, the productivity of capital and labour and innovation. All of those drivers of growth in turn are influenced by policy decisions and institutions which establish the conditions and incentives for business activity and the competitiveness of producers in the region. The over-arching context for growth in NB and the broader region is that NB is a small open economy, meaning it is a price taker in its export markets. The processes of economic adjustment in response to economic opportunities and shocks that differ from economies with more reliance on their own domestic markets for their GDP. Prosperity of the regional economy is a consequence of competitive producers in the global marketplace.

The purpose of the work of the Vaughan Chair is to contribute to policy development in the province and the region through research, outreach and communications aimed at informing the public and government about what does and does not drive growth. The activity of the Chair will also have the purpose of identifying policy levers available to decision makers to create the conditions that attracts and retains investment; develops the human resources of the region and creates conditions that spur entrepreneurial and innovative activity. The outputs of the Vaughan Chair will not be prescriptive for the purposes of advocacy but will identify tradeoffs and opportunities associated with available courses of action.



DR. DOUG MAY

Professor in the Department of Economics at Memorial University

Dr. May is one of three principal Investigators of CARE and a very longstanding member of the Department of Economics at Memorial University. He currently teaches labour economics but has taught business economics, public economics, resource economics and applied welfare (well-being) economics. Dr. May's research interests relate to applied economics and Canadian and provincial policies. These interests cover such diverse topics as business investment taxes, productivity and cost analysis in manufacturing and resource industries, unemployment insurance, poverty measurement and measuring well-being. He has been an advisor to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador working on a labour market strategy as well as developing the framework for the Community Accounts. He remains an advisor to Statistics Canada on their Macroeconomic Accounts.

Reaching Out to Know Our Economic Selves!

CARE, The Collaboration for Applied Research in Economics, was formed with two main objectives in mind:

1. To carry out empirical research focusing on economic issues relevant primarily to our Province but also to our Atlantic region and throughout Canada.
2. To build and enhance the ability of our students to carry out and communicate our research findings to the general public.

We are moving along a learning curve using papers, published articles, lectures, videos, our website, Facebook, YouTube and workshops such as this.

This brief talk will highlight some of our recent efforts and focus on what we have discovered. We hope that conference participants will learn something new about our economic selves, thereby helping us to achieve the CARE mission.



JOHN CASEY

Lecturer in the Department of Accounting & Economics in the School of Business at Waterford Institute of Technology

John Casey is a lecturer in the Department of Accounting & Economics in the School of Business at Waterford Institute of Technology. He is course director for the MBS in Accounting and the M Sc in Global Financial Information Systems.

John holds a B Comm from University College Cork, an M Sc in Finance from UCC and is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

He has published a number books: An Introduction of Equity Investment Fund Accounting, Case Studies in Advanced Financial Reporting with Clare Kearney and was a contributing author in Cases in Corporate Governance and Business Ethics.

He lectures to undergraduate, post graduate and executive programmes. His current teaching modules include corporate finance, investment fund accounting, financial accounting and corporate financial interpretation.

He is an active researcher, primarily in the area of auditing, accounting education and regional economics. He is a member of the AIB Centre for Finance and Business Research and is part of the team that produces the annual South East Economic Monitor.

Previously, he with Price Waterhouse (now PwC) in audit in Ireland and Luxembourg.

Impact of HEI's on Regional Economic Performance

The funding of HEI's is coming under more scrutiny as pressure mounts on the public purse. However, what happens is HEI's and their regions when institutions are under resourced?

South East of Ireland can some provide insights into this question. While it is normal for any HEI to claim that they are under-funded, the two tiered higher education system results in systemic under-funding of the Institute of Technology sector of the Irish higher education system. Evidence is presented that there is a link between HEI funding and HEI performance.

However, does this translate to broader regional economic performance? Waterford is the only regional city without a fully funded university. By 'coincidence' the South East region underperforms all the other regional cities: higher unemployment, lower participation rates, lower educational attainment, lower disposable incomes... The South East is also experiencing a brain drain as young people leave to region to pursue opportunities elsewhere – perhaps, never to come back.

The argument can be advanced that a 'fully funded' university is an essential element of a suite of interventions required to assist the South East in improving its economic performance.



DR. RICHARD HAYES

Vice President for Strategy at Waterford Institute of Technology

Dr Richard Hayes is currently Vice President for Strategy at Waterford Institute of Technology. He was previously Head (Dean) of the School of Humanities. He is a graduate of Maynooth University and University College Dublin, Ireland, from which he received a PhD for a thesis on American theatre. He has lectured in a number of higher education institutions in Ireland and abroad and has published articles and essays on many aspects of Irish and American literature. He has in more recent years focussed in his scholarly activity on aspects of urban and regional development and has a particular interest in the relationship between higher education institutions and the regions in which they are based.

Higher Education and Regional Leadership

Using Waterford Institute of Technology (and the nascent Technological University of the South East of Ireland) as a case study, this paper will explore aspects of the role of higher education institutions as regional leaders. The paper takes as a starting point the seemingly rudimentary understanding of the role and function of higher education within public discourse, at least in Ireland. It will also consider the changing nature of the relationship between the State and higher education institutions (in Ireland) as context for any understanding of the role of universities and colleges. It will then seek to elucidate a more holistic understanding of higher education institutions and will focus in particular on regional higher education institutions and their defined and distinctive roles. The paper will explore some ideas relating to the definition of “region” in Ireland before turning to examine notions of regional leadership and seek to position HEIs as potentially disruptive regional change agents. The paper will, finally, offer some thoughts on changing role of the individual academic in this context.



EDWARD ROBERTS

The Honourable Edward Moxon Roberts CM ONL QC is a Canadian politician and the 11th Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador

Edward Roberts, a Newfoundlander by birth, holds BA (1960) and LIB (1964) degrees from the University of Toronto. He also earned an MA in History (1st class Honours) from Memorial in 2006, three years after the University conferred the degree of Doctorate of Laws honoris causa upon him. He believes this is the only instance in its history when an honorary graduate subsequently earned a degree!

He edited The Varsity, the U of T student newspaper in 1960-61 and was President of the Canadian University Liberal Federation in 1961-62. He became Premier Joseph Smallwood's Chief of Staff (in current terminology) from 1964 to 1966, when he was elected to the House of Assembly, and the Premier's Parliamentary Assistant until 1968, when he became a Cabinet Minister. Elected Leader of the Liberal Party in 1972, he led the Opposition in the House in 1977. He remained an MHA until 1985, when he did not seek re-election to a seventh term.

Called to the Newfoundland Bar in 1965 and appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1979, Mr. Roberts, a barrister, practiced law with Cox and Palmer and its predecessor firms until late 1991, when Clyde Wells invited him to return to elective politics. He became Minister of Justice, Attorney General, and Government House Leader, was elected to the House in a by-election and won an eighth term in the 1993 general election. He did not stand in the 1996 GE. He is the only person to have been a member of the Cabinets of the province's first three Liberal Premiers.

Mr. Roberts was appointed Chair of Memorial's Board of Regents in 1997, and was Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador from 2002 to 2008. A Trudeau Foundation Mentor in 2010, he chaired the province's Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee 2004-2009, and has edited, annotated, and published two memoirs – Peter Cashin's "My Fight for Newfoundland" (2012) and "A Blue Puttee at War" (2014), by Sydney Frost, MC. He was named Memorial's Alumnus of the Year in 2009 and received the Newfoundland and Labrador Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Administration from the Institute of Public Administration Canada in 2010. He is a Member of the Order of Canada and the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.

[*Memorial and our Province – Where Now and Whither Tending?*](#)

ABOUT CARE



The Collaborative Applied Research in Economics (CARE) initiative brings together applied research economists who are located in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Maritimes and throughout Canada. Its objective is to promote applied economic research within the region with a view to facilitating an enhanced understanding of our economies and any associated wider social impacts. As part of satisfying its research agenda, CARE endeavors to involve students in exciting real-world research projects in order to improve their skills. Hopefully, through integrating students within the supported applied research projects, CARE researchers will stimulate students' interests in carrying out further research in these areas and, in so doing, will both increase the knowledge capital of the region and provide skills to these students that will make them more productive employees when they enter the job market.

In addition to releasing the Labour Market Observer and CARFOR (our month forecast of key economic indicators), CARE provides information videos to make complex economic concepts accessible to the general public, presentations on interesting and relevant economics issues of the day, panel discussions on various aspects of public policy, commentaries on important economic debates/discussion and generates and disseminates knowledge through the support and publication of research topics that run the gamut from income inequality, poverty, social progress, productivity and innovation, discrimination and health, mental health and insurance, economic well-being, performance of young cancer survivors, gender wages gaps, economic impacts of cruise tourism, universities and the community sector, culture and heritage, resource studies involving the fishery, electricity, oil and gas, the environment, taxation, and royalty analysis.

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