QUEEN'S BUSINESS SCHOOL PRME Chapter UK and Ireland Conference 2025

Speaker Bios









Leeanne Armstrong

Leeanne Armstrong is a Managing Associate at Lewis Silkin LLP. She has extensive experience advising regional, national, and international employers on both contentious and non-contentious employment law matters.

Leeanne supports HR, management, and in-house legal teams with a range of employee relations issues, including performance management, ill health, discipline and grievance, DEI issues, redundancies, contract and policy reviews, senior exits, and TUPE transfers. She has particular expertise representing clients in employment tribunal litigation, including complex discrimination, whistleblowing, and equal pay claims. Leeanne also delivers training on a wide range of employment law matters.



Alison Currie

Alison Currie is the Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at InterTradeIreland, leading an experienced team that strives to enhance opportunities for cross border trade, innovation, collaboration and investor readiness.

Alison's focus is on helping businesses to grow, through collaborative innovation supports, developing investor readiness and facilitating cross border clustering activities. Ultimately the goal is to connect businesses with cross-border partners to increase efficiency, boost profits, reduce costs and improve sustainability through innovative processes, products and services. Alison is spearheading the delivery of InterTradeIreland's key strategic priority which is to support collaboration, clusters and networks as well as supporting the all-island entrepreneurship ecosystems so that even more investor ready business can grow and scale.

Alison has significant experience working in strategic management roles within the economic development and innovation ecosystem in Northern Ireland, Ireland, and Scotland. Previously she was the Co-Innovate Programme Director, an EU Interreg funded programme delivering cross-border collaboration and innovation projects. Prior to this, Alison was an Operations Manager in InterTradeIreland leading on the delivery of cross-border trade supports.

Alison works closely with The Department for the Economy in Northern Ireland and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment in Ireland to promote and deliver economic, entrepreneurship and clustering policy.



Professor Robert Davison

Robert Davison is a Professor of Information Systems at the City University of Hong Kong. His research focuses on the use and misuse of information systems, especially with respect to problem solving, guanxi formation and knowledge management, in Chinese organisations. He is particularly known for his scholarship in the domain of action research. Within the AIS, Robert chaired the research ethics committee for many years, and is currently convenor of the College of Senior Scholars. Robert is the Editor-in-Chief of the Information Systems Journal and the Electronic Journal of Information Systems in Developing Countries. As a researcher and as an editor, he seeks to promote both an inclusive and an indigenous perspective to research.

Home Page: http://www.is.cityu.edu.hk/staff/isrobert



Ambassador David Donoghue

Ambassador David Donoghue had a long and varied career in Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs. He was involved for many years in the Northern Ireland peace process. He was one of the Irish Government's negotiators for the ground-breaking Good Friday Agreement (1998), which has provided a political framework for lasting peace and stability in Northern Ireland.

Ambassador Donoghue served at different times as the Irish Ambassador to Russia, Austria and Germany. From 2001-2004 he was the Director General of Ireland's development co-operation programme, today known as Irish Aid, and oversaw in this capacity a programme growing significantly in budget allocation and thematic and geographic range. He also served as Political Director from 2009-2013, a post which gave him responsibility for Ireland's overall foreign policy.

From 2013-2017 Ambassador Donoghue was the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in New York. At the request of the President of the General Assembly, he served as cofacilitator (with Kenya) for the UN negotiations which led to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015. He also served as co-facilitator (with Jordan) for the negotiations which produced the New York Declaration on large movements of refugees and migrants, adopted at a special summit in September 2016.

Ambassador Donoghue retired from the Irish foreign service in September 2017. Since then, he has been actively involved with issues relating to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and to follow-up to the New York Declaration and the related Global Compacts on Migrants and Refugees. He is contributing to the work of a number of think-tanks and academic institutions on these issues and also on issues around conflict prevention and resolution. He is, inter alia, a Distinguished Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute, the Executive Committee Chair of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Ireland, and a Professor of Practice at Queen's Business School.



Colin Jess

Having spent over 35 years working in the local banking sector, Colin left a senior role and sought a fresh challenge joining Social Enterprise NI where the contacts and networks that he built have been a huge assistance in growing and developing the awareness of the social economy business model. Social Enterprise NI represent the social economy in NI and Colin has been at the forefront of engaging with all sectors, building on the relationships he has developed. He has in particular developed strong relationships with government departments and politicians, presenting to Assembly Committees and also as Secretariat of the All Party Group on Social Enterprise.

Colin was appointed by the former Minister of Finance in December 2020 to the Procurement Board as an external advisor and seeks to promote the inclusion of social value in procurement at every opportunity. Colin is working closely with a local MLA on developing a Private Members Bill to bring social value legislation to NI.

Outside of work, Colin is Chairman of a local Irish League football club.



Sophie Kacki

Ms Sophie Kacki is Manager, Programmes & Engagement at the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), an initiative of the UN Global Compact. She manages the intersection of PRME communities and programming, serving as the primary point of contact for PRME Signatories and Chapters, and supporting Champions, Working Groups, and PRME Global Students. Sophie holds a Master's in International Relations from IE University. Her previous roles include Coordinator, Communications & Participant Engagement at PRME, where she advanced global engagement and community-building.



Professor Sheila Killian

Sheila Killian is Professor Emeritus of Accountability at University of Limerick, and her research is located within the ARC Accountability Research Cluster at the Kemmy Business School at UL. Her work centres on issues of social justice and the common good with a specific focus on sustainability, responsible education and the impact of 'expert' power. She led Kemmy Business School's initial engagement with PRME in 2008, and was a founding member of the UK & Ireland Chapter's Steering Committee. She has published three books and numerous peerreviewed papers, commissioned reports and book chapters, and has held editorial roles at the Journal of Business Ethics and Accounting Forum, as well as multiple editorial board memberships.



Naoimh McNamee

Naoimh has been at the helm of the Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation since late 2017, during which time she has led significant organisational change with an emphasis on increasing stability and embedding a greater business focus within the organisation, to enable the peacebuilding programmes to thrive. She is an experienced leader, with a fervour for strategic human resource management and building high performing teams. Naoimh is an accredited mediator (MCIArb), with qualifications in International Relations (DCU) and International Security & Global Governance (Birkbeck). She has held a number of roles in both London and Dublin in the not-for-profit, political, legal, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and management consultancy sectors. Naoimh has an innate passion for Glencree and the reconciliation work of the organisation.



Professor Joanne Murphy

Joanne Murphy is Chair of Inclusive Leadership at Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham. Her research explores leadership, change and organisational development in political volatility, including environments affected by ethno-political conflict, violence and disorder. Her latest book is 'Management and War: How Organisations Navigate Conflict and Build Peace' (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020)



Professor Carole Parkes

Carole Parkes is an Emeritus Professor of Responsible Management and Leadership and has both a business and academic background (at Aston and Winchester). Carole has been a champion for the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) since its inception in 2007. She is the former Chair of the PRME Chapter UK & Ireland, has been a member of the PRME Global Advisory Committee and worked at the PRME Secretariat in New York as a Researcher in Residence. She is also a key member of the PRME Anti-Poverty Working Group and has been a visiting Professor in Chicago, USA. At the PRME 10th Anniversary Global Forum in 2017, Carole was presented with a PRME Pioneer Award 'for her leadership and commitment to the development of PRME' and appointed a UN PRME Special Advisor for PRME Chapters globally. Carole is a Trustee of SOS (Students Organising for Sustainability), a Trustee for Fircroft College (a residential college focused on social justice) and a former Board member for Business in the Community. She is also a journal and book author and editor, publishing on issues related to sustainability and social justice.



Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas

Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas EdD FRSA is the Chair of PRME UK and Ireland Chapter and a member of the PRME Global Expert Pedagogy Group which developed the Impactful Five (i5) Playbook for Responsible Leadership. Natascha is a National Teaching Fellow and expert in sustainability named in The SustainabilityX® Magazine's inaugural Global 50 Women In Sustainability Awards™. Natascha is Editor-in-Chief of Bloomsbury Fashion Business cases and Co Principal Editor of the International Journal of Sustainable Fashion and Textiles. Natascha is currently Professor of Marketing and Sustainable Fashion at Ravensbourne University London where she leads the Regenerative Fashion Lab as well as the MBA in Fashion Business and Entrepreneurship. Natascha is a member of the United Nation's Global Compact UK's Advisory Group and contributed to their Measuring Up 2.0 report. Natascha is Vice Chair of the Costume Society and is regularly invited as a keynote speaker and panellist and contributes to media pieces on fashion business, culture and sustainability for the BBC, New York Times and NPR. Natascha is a member of the London and South East Local Network.



Professor M. N. Ravishankar

M. N. Ravishankar is Professor of Technology and Globalisation, and Dean of Queen's Business School. Previously, Ravi was Professor of Technology and Globalisation at Loughborough Business School, holding roles including Associate Dean (Research) and Director of Internationalisation. He is a member of AACSB's European Advisory Council and a peer reviewer for EFMD and AMBA. Ravi's scholarship is in the fields of strategic coordination of technology outsourcing and the management of digital innovations.



Cormac Savage

Cormac Savage is a student activist and policy advocate from Northern Ireland, and a 2025 graduate of Harvard University, where he studied Government and Romance Languages & Literatures. His commitment to inclusive, values-driven leadership began before university, when he founded the Secondary Students' Union of Northern Ireland (SSUNI) in 2020. SSUNI—the first organisation of its kind in the UK—was created to embed student voice at the heart of education policy. In its first week, the union led the successful "Trust Our Teachers" campaign, reversing the use of a controversial A-level grading algorithm during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under Cormac's leadership, SSUNI delivered seven successful campaigns for systemic change in education within its first year, setting a new precedent for youth-led advocacy in the region.

Cormac Savage (Continued)

Cormac's work reflects the core values of responsible management education — equity, participation, and ethical leadership — and demonstrates how young people can catalyse change even in politically complex and resource-constrained settings. He has applied this commitment to policy impact through roles in Westminster, working for Rachel Reeves MP (then Shadow Chancellor), and in Brussels with global strategic advisory firm FGS Global, where he will begin his postgraduation career in public affairs and policy.

Named one of Belfast Live's "35 Under 35" (2024) and a Business Post "Innovator to Watch", Cormac was also recognised among the Belfast Telegraph's Top 100 Newsmakers in 2021. In his talk at PRME, he will reflect on the challenges and possibilities of student activism in difficult contexts—examining how values-based leadership, coalition-building, and a strong sense of community can drive meaningful institutional and societal change.



Caroline Stewart

Caroline Stewart is the founder of The Mindfulness Centre NI, she is an experienced mindfulness teacher and a BABCP accredited Cognitive Behavioural Therapist. Caroline previously worked for fifteen years in corporate finance within a large organisation, she combines her experiences and knowledge of mindfulness and CBT to teach skills to enhance physical and emotional wellbeing for people in everyday life, workplaces, schools/colleges/universities and NHS.

For more information on Caroline's work please email carolinestewartcbt@gmail.com or visit <u>www. mindfulnessni.org</u>



Meredith Storey

Dr Meredith Storey is Senior Manager, Programmes & Engagement at the UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME). She leads global initiatives connecting business education communities with resources and development pathways to advance responsible management education (RME) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Meredith holds a Ph.D. in Business Education for Sustainable Development and an M.Sc. in International Management and Global Business from the University of Limerick. Her prior roles include Education and Data Analytics Manager at the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network - SDG Academy and module leader in research, ethics, and responsibility at the Kemmy Business School, UL. At PRME, Meredith leads work on communities, research, pedagogy, curriculum, and professional development.



Nisha Tandon OBE

Nisha is a social entrepreneur, founder and CEO of ArtsEkta – a social enterprise that works to platform minority ethnic communities through arts and culture. She founded this organisation in 2006 following two decades of experience in the community sector and after discovering a critical gap for promoting cultural diversity in NI. Originally from India, she has a degree from the National School of Drama in New-Delhi and a trained Bharatanatyam Indian classical dancer. She is currently a board member of Community Relations Council providing governance, advice and expertise on a wide range of societal issues and administering public funding. In addition, she is board member of Creative Lives UK. In 2013, she was appointed by the Minister for Communities to the executive board of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland - the regional development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland, and is also a member of the Deliberative Arts Forum established to increase the profile of migrant communities in the arts. In addition, she has been non-executive director of Cahoots NI Theatre Company, member of UTV Regional Advisory Board, co-chair of Belfast City Council's Festival Forum and a member of the European Mela Network.

Nisha is a founding member of 'Stronger Together', a collaboration of organisations working in the field of racial equality. From 2002-2005, she was the driving force behind the development of the Indian Community Centre, leading the integration of the Indian community through creating a regional hub for Indian arts, culture and heritage, and in 2007 initiated Northern Ireland's first multi-cultural, multi-disciplinary arts festival Belfast Mela now attracting annual audiences of up to 60,000 people. In June 2014, she was the first Asian women from Northern Ireland to be awarded the prestigious UK Asian Women of Achievement Award for contribution to arts and culture, and later that month was awarded an OBE for services to the minority ethnic sector in the 2014 Queen's Honours List. In 2015, she won the British Indian Award for 'Indian Spirit in the Community' presented by Trade Next and BDO. In 2023, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Queen's University Belfast for contribution to the arts in Northern Ireland.









Nessa Whelan

Nessa Whelan is the Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Network Ireland, where she leads the initiative to embed the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within Irish businesses. Since assuming this role in November 2023, Nessa has been instrumental in establishing the Ireland Network, fostering collaboration among business leaders, policymakers, and civil society to drive sustainable and responsible business practices across the country. With over two decades of experience at the UN Global Compact Office in New York, Nessa has a proven track record in mobilizing corporate action on sustainability at both global and local levels. Her expertise lies in aligning business strategies with global sustainability frameworks, facilitating multi-stakeholder engagement, and promoting transparency and accountability in corporate conduct. Nessa is dedicated to advancing Ireland's contribution to global sustainability efforts, ensuring that Irish businesses not only comply with evolving regulations but also lead in creating long-term value for society and the environment.



Enda Young

Enda Young is a negotiation, mediation, and conflict resolution specialist with over twenty-five years of experience as a practitioner and in delivering training, talks and lectures. He specialises in helping people get better at dealing with conflict and in supporting organisations and leaders through negotiations and challenging conversations.

Enda is the founder and CEO of the Centre for Negotiation and Leadership. He is a former Managing Director of Mediation Northern Ireland and the founder of the negotiation and influencing programme at the William J Clinton Leadership Institute at Queen's University Belfast. Enda is currently a tutor and lecturer for the programme on negotiation at Saïd Business School at University of Oxford, an Adjunct Teaching Fellow at Trinity Business School in Dublin and the Faculty Director on the Certified International Negotiator (CIN™) programme for the Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications in Singapore.

Enda holds an MA in "Theory, Culture and Identity" and a BEng in Mechanical Engineering from Queen's University Belfast. He has been trained at the Program on Negotiation at Harvard University and at the Rotary Peace Fellowship Programme at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. He is a certificated mediator with the International Mediation Institute (IMI) and the Mediators' Institute of Ireland (MII), an accredited Executive Coach with the Academy of Executive Coaching (AoEC) and an Associate Certified Coach (ACC) with the International Coaching Federation (ICF).

Enda Young (Continued)

He is a Co-founder and board member of FactCheckNI, the first independent fact-checking organisation in Northern Ireland. Enda was named as one of the top 40 under 40 in Northern Ireland in 2019 by Business First and he received the Leading Social Innovation category award by CO3 Chief Officers forum in 2024. He is also co-founder and Event Director of the Garvagh Forest parkrun.

Enda has worked with some of the world's largest companies, universities and international NGO's including: Equinor, Sabic, Saudi Aramco, Danske Bank, Almac, Roche, Capita, Durham University, Kent University, Chulalongkorn University Bangkok, Queen's University Belfast, Oxford University, Trinity College Dublin University, the BBC, Aljazeera, Rotary International, the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Development Programme and the Alliance for Middle East Peace etc.

He has delivered talks and training throughout the UK and Ireland and internationally in: Malaysia, the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Germany, Thailand, Brazil, Romania, Turkey, South Africa, the Czech Republic, Canada and the United States.