



### *Irish Context*

The Irish Department of Education and Skills released the 'National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030' recommending that "*All higher education institutions must ensure that all teaching staff are both qualified and competent in teaching and learning, and should support ongoing development and improvement of their skills*". In response, the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching & Learning in Higher Education (National Forum) was established in 2013 by the Minister for Education and Skills in order to enhance the quality of the learning experience for all students at third level, both full-time or flexible learners.

### *AISHE Activities*

The National Forum is a national agency that aims to draw on the examples of great practice in Ireland and internationally in order to help shape the delivery of an outstanding teaching and learning experience at third level in Ireland. The All Ireland Society for Higher Education (AISHE) has been working with the National Forum to build capacity and partner with it in delivering aspects of its core aims including developing a digital road map to promote elearning activities across the sector, as well as developing a national framework for the professional development of teachers in higher education.

### *Publications*

In 2013 AISHE published three issues of The All Ireland Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (AISHE-J) it's open-access, peer-reviewed, journal of scholarly research into Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. AISHE-J welcomes the submission of manuscripts presenting original scholarly work or commentary in any aspect of teaching and learning in higher education. AISHE-J invites both submissions that focus on higher education on the island of Ireland and manuscripts specifically dealing with transnational or international issues and perspectives. (<http://www.aishe.org>)

AISHE worked with the Dublin Regional Higher Education Alliance and Dublin City University on the publication of '*Voices of Academics in Irish Higher Education: Perspectives on Professional Development*' (Slowey, Kozina & Tan).

### *Events*

During 2013 AISHE ran a symposium on Innovative Assessment at Master's Level with Professor Sally Brown disseminating the outcomes of her National Teaching Fellowship, which covered issues concerning the boundaries between Masters and undergraduate level assessment, innovative approaches to assessing at Masters level and options for enhancing assessment in masters programmes.

### *Membership*

AISHE currently has 300 members and an Executive Committee of 12 members.