

Irish Society for Women in Economics NewsLetter

7th March 2025

Welcome

Dear all

Welcome to ISWE first newsletter of 2025.

We are excited to share some important news with you. In this newsletter, we give you an update on the exciting work we have been doing in relation to our working packages: mentorship & school outreach. We also briefly review a number of main events that we have held in the last year including an important trip to Asia by ISWE Chair Emma Howard, ISWE fourth post-budget analysis review and ISWE inaugural Conference on Gender, Economics and Society.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter!

The ISWE Team

Dates for your diary



2025 ISWE-International Women's Day,
University of Galway, 10 March

2025 Irish Economic Association Conference,
Queen's University Belfast, 7-9 May

ISWE is a platform seeking to inspire, empower and increase women's visibility in economics in Ireland to ensure that the role of economists in public debates, policy decisions, and education is more representative of Irish society.

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Mentoring

ISWE launched its 2025 Mentorship Programme on January 20th at the Central Bank of Ireland. The event brought together this year's participants alongside returning mentors and mentees from the 2024 programme for a networking lunch. Deputy Governors Vasileios Madouros and Mary-Elizabeth McMunn addressed the gathering, demonstrating the Bank's continued support for this initiative.

Building on last year's success, the programme has grown to include 39 mentor-mentee matches. We have expanded our criteria to welcome early-stage PhD candidates and students from selected master's programmes, while also broadening institutional representation through increased private sector mentor participation.

The strong response to the 2025 programme highlights our economics community's commitment to nurturing the next generation of economists. We are grateful to all the experienced economists who have volunteered as mentors, and especially thank the Central Bank of Ireland for hosting the launch event and their ongoing support.

This expansion marks another step forward in ISWE's mission to support and advance women in economics, and we look forward to seeing these mentoring relationships flourish.



ISWE Executive with Deputy Governor Vasileios Madouros, Central Bank of Ireland



Deputy Governor Mary-Elizabeth McMunn addresses the mentors and mentees



Mentees pictured here at the training programme

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School Outreach

ISWE, in conjunction with UCD School of Economics, are piloting a workshop programme in which undergraduate students will visit transition year students in secondary schools to talk about their experience of studying economics. The workshops will give secondary school students an insight into studying economics and will introduce them to the diverse and interesting career paths that economics can provide.

The first cohort of 25 undergraduate students – our student champions – have now been trained, many of whom will deliver workshops at schools in the Dublin area during March and April. This initiative has been supported by The Business Studies Teachers' Association of Ireland (BSTAI).



The picture above was taken during the training session of student champions in UCD.

The fourth annual ISWE Post Budget Analysis Event took place in University College Dublin in early October.

The event consisted of a panel discussion, moderated by Prof. Orla Doyle (UCD), with panellists Dr. Tara Mitchell (TCD), Dr. Dora Tuda (ESRI) and Dr. Enda Hargaden (UCD). Panellists provided a critical assessment of 2025 Budgets, followed by a lively Q&A session.

BUDGET 2025 ANALYSIS
Irish Society for Women in Economics

ISWE
Irish Society for Women in Economics

Dr. Tara Mitchell
Trinity College Dublin

Dr. Dora Tuda
Economic and Social
Research Institute (ESRI)

Dr. Enda Hargaden
University College Dublin

WEDNESDAY 2nd October at 17:30
NTh1 Newman building
UCD Belfield Campus

Register at: 

Chair: Prof. Orla Doyle
University College Dublin



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Trip to Asia

As part of the seventh global St Brigid's Day programme, Ireland's Embassies and Consulates hosted and supported a range of events to celebrate the achievements of women. ISWE Chair Emma Howard was invited by the Consul General for the Consulate General of Ireland to Hong Kong and Macao Jennifer Bourke, and her excellency Ambassador Sarah McGrath, Irish Ambassador to Singapore for their St. Brigid's Day celebrations.

In Hong Kong, Emma gave a presentation on 'Gender Equality and Women in Economics' followed by a fireside chat with Stefanie Evennett, Managing Director of the Asia Board Director Programme at the Financial Times. The second event, in association with the Irish Chamber of Commerce (Hong Kong), was a presentation on 'The Irish Economy', followed by Q&A.

In Singapore, with the Ambassador and delegates from the Irish Embassy, Emma visited Raffles Girls' School to give a talk to girls from schools across Singapore on 'How economics can help us achieve the Sustainable Development Goals', followed by a reception and tour of the school. She also gave a talk at the Embassy, in collaboration with the Irish Chamber of Commerce, Singapore, on 'The importance of diversity in addressing global economic challenges'. Finally, she spoke to Michelle Martin on the 'Influence' segment of her radio show on MONEY FM 89.3.



ISWE Chair Emma Howard with the Ambassador and delegates from the Irish embassy in Raffles Girls' School in Singapore

ESM Youth Talk

UCD School of Economics hosted this year's ESM Youth Talk on Climate Change and Financial Stability in collaboration with UCD Economics Society. ISWE founder and committee member Orla Doyle and her colleagues hosted Rolf Strauch, chief economist at ESM - European Stability Mechanism. Rolf delivered his lecture to a full house of economics students, inspiring the next generation of economists!



Rolf Strauch, chief economist at ESM with ISWE founder and committee member Orla Doyle

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ISWE Conference

The inaugural ISWE Conference on Gender, Economics and Society, hosted by the Central Bank of Ireland, brought together researchers from leading institutions across Ireland and the UK.

With Professor Jo Swaffield (University of Southampton) delivering the keynote lecture, the conference featured research from the Central Bank, ESRI, and seven universities across Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Presentations covered vital topics including gender income and wealth gaps, the care economy, labour markets, entrepreneurship, and political participation. The discussions highlighted important policy implications and future research directions for advancing gender equality in economics and society.

We are pleased to announce that the second ISWE Conference will be held on the 4th of September 2025. Watch for our upcoming call for papers!

Our thanks to the Central Bank of Ireland for hosting, and to all presenters, panelists, chairs, organizers, and volunteers who made this event possible. Ní heart go cur le chéile!



Conference presenters address questions on the gender pay gap.

Trinity College Dublin's International Macro (IM-TCD) group, in partnership with the Irish Society for Women in Economics, invites submissions for the first Women in Macro workshop on April 25th, 2025.

The workshop aims to create a supportive environment for women macroeconomists to present their research and receive valuable feedback.

We are honoured to have Professor Isabelle Mejean (Sciences Po) delivering the keynote address.

For more information about the workshop, visit:

<https://www.tcd.ie/Economics/research/imtcd/events/workshop/>