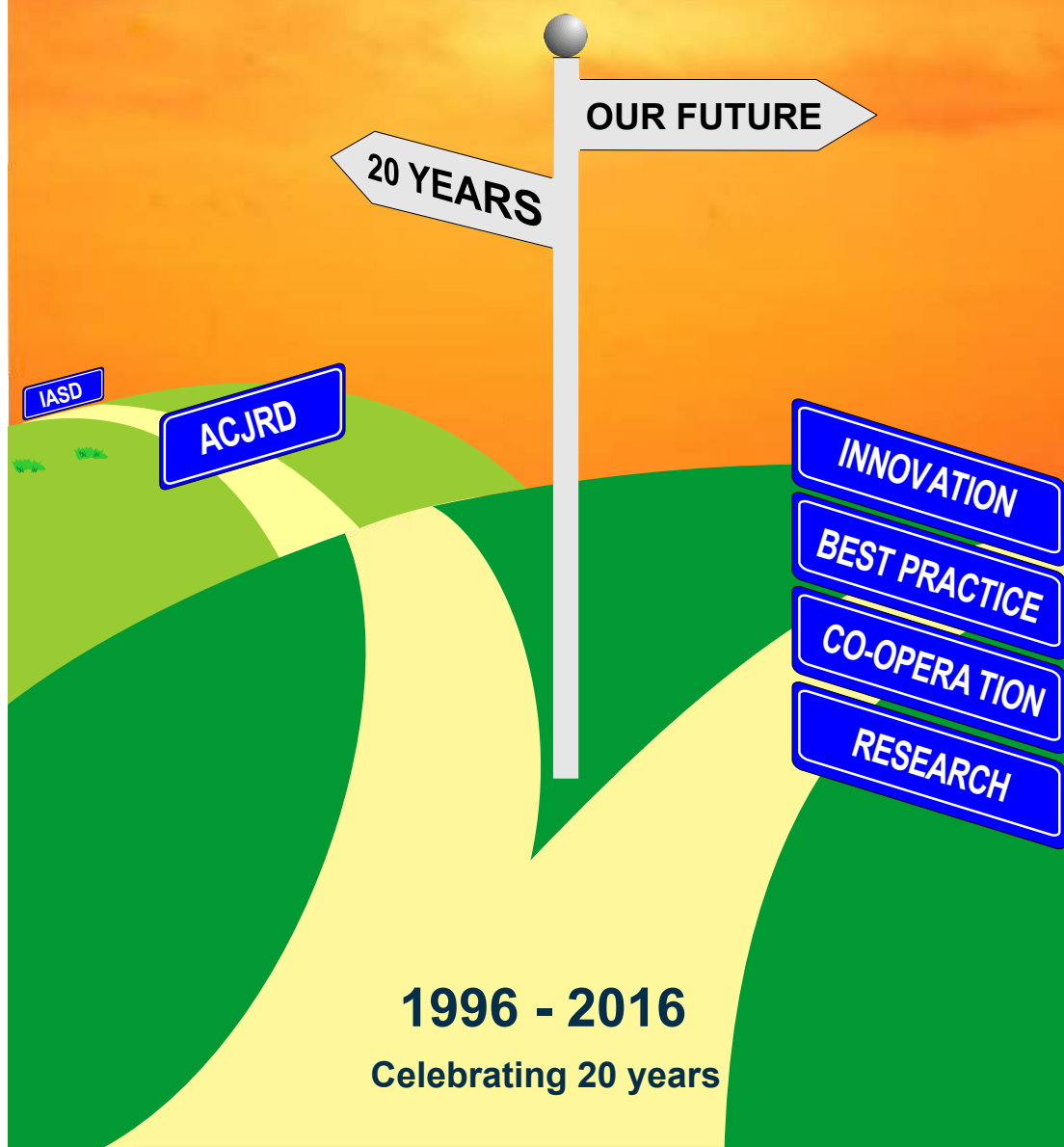




acjrd

The Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development



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Foreword

On the occasion of its 20th anniversary, the Association of Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) Ltd. took pause to reflect on its origins, its contributions and achievements within the Criminal Justice System.

It is hoped that readers will enjoy this brief reflection on what the ACJRD has accomplished since its foundation, and in so doing pay tribute to its Patron, The Hon. Mr. Justice Michael Moriarty, and all founding members, in particular Martin Tansey RIP, without whose dedication and vision the association may never have existed. Tribute is also due to successive Council Members, both retired and current, who have ensured the continued growth and sustainability of the Association.

ACJRD's first manager, Geraldine Comerford, and current Manager, Danelle Hannan, temporary maternity cover Manager, Margaret Ward, together with all the support staff over the years and our current Administrator, Katherine Daly, have all made an enormous contribution to the outputs of the Association.

ACJRD would not exist without the commitment of our funders. In the early days of the Association the only funder for a considerable number of years was The Department of Justice. As with all such organisations, ACJRD had some viability and sustainability concerns during the post-Celtic Tiger recession but thankfully, the collaborative funding structure that now exists between The Department of Justice & Equality, The Irish Prison Service, The Probation Service and The Department of Children & Youth Affairs, together with the excellent stewardship of the Manager, Danelle Hannan, ensured that the Association has grown from strength to strength, engaging in its many activities and celebrating twenty years of commitment to the Criminal Justice community.

Finally, the commitment and support of our members, the generosity and altruism of all conference and seminar speakers, and the enthusiasm and effort of our volunteers and interns consistently demonstrates and delivers our mission to inform the development of policy and practice in justice and our vision to demonstrate "Innovation in Justice."



MAURA BUTLER | *Chairperson*

ACJRD Ltd.

Celebrating 20 years of Innovation in Justice

1996 – 2016

Association's History Timeline



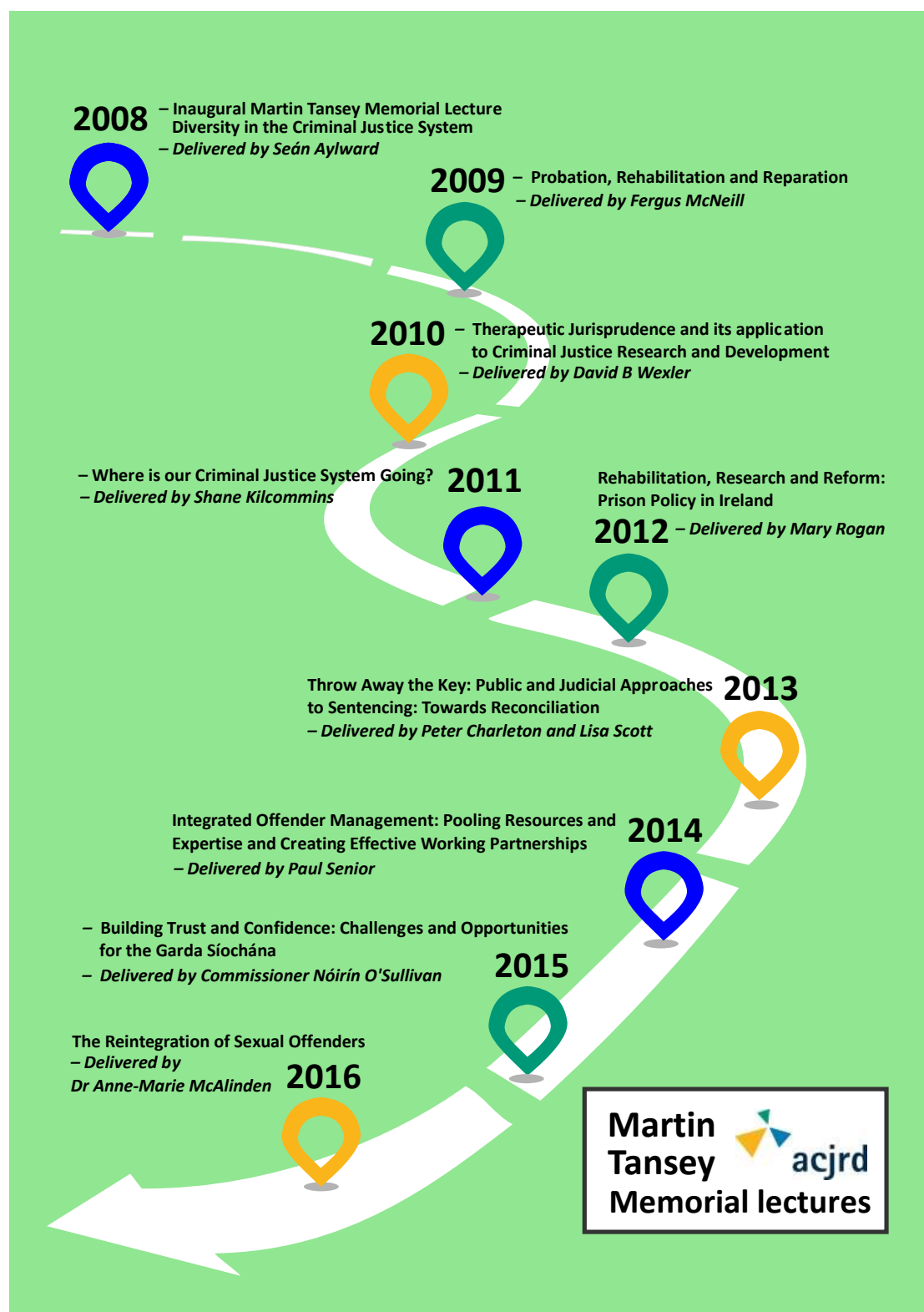
Establishment and Development of the Association

The Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) Ltd., was formerly known as the Irish Association for the Study of Delinquency (IASD) Ltd, was established in 1996. The IASD based its structure on the Scottish Association for the Study of Delinquency. Its founders in alphabetical order included: Mr Seán Aylward, Robert Eagar, Solicitor (now a Judge of the High Court), Chief Superintendent Seán Feely, Judge Gillian Hussey, Mr John Lonergan, The Hon. Mr. Justice Michael Moriarty, Mr Kieran O'Dwyer, the late Mr Tom O'Reilly, the late Mr Bernard Owens, Mr Seán Redmond, Mary-Ellen Ring BL (now a Judge of the High Court) and Mr Martin Tansey. On establishment, its focus was to provide insights into problems confronting the members' work, to open unofficial channels of communication and to facilitate cooperation between the members of the diverse 'Criminal Justice family' by developing the facilitation of inter-agency solutions.

From the dedication and hard work of the founders the IASD grew in strength and became recognised as a valuable resource. In 1999 the Council appointed its first part-time Manager. The Association's first offices were in Finglas, Dublin 11, then Phibsboro Road, Dublin 7 (2001) and then to Coleraine Street, Dublin 7 (2003). In 2006 at the fifth AGM of the IASD the Council proposed a name change from IASD to the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) Ltd. The Association then put down roots in the SPADE Enterprise Centre in Dublin 7. In 2008 the first part-time administrator was appointed to assist the Manager.

Sadly, The Founding Chairperson, Martin Tansey, passed away in March 2007. The subsequent Chairperson, Maura Butler, has with an expanded Council membership, built on the original structure by developing a member-focused Working Group structure, diversifying research processes and engaging in collaborations within and outside Criminal Justice agencies resulting in an increased and diverse membership.

Martin Tansey Memorial Lectures Timeline



Profile of Founding Chairperson

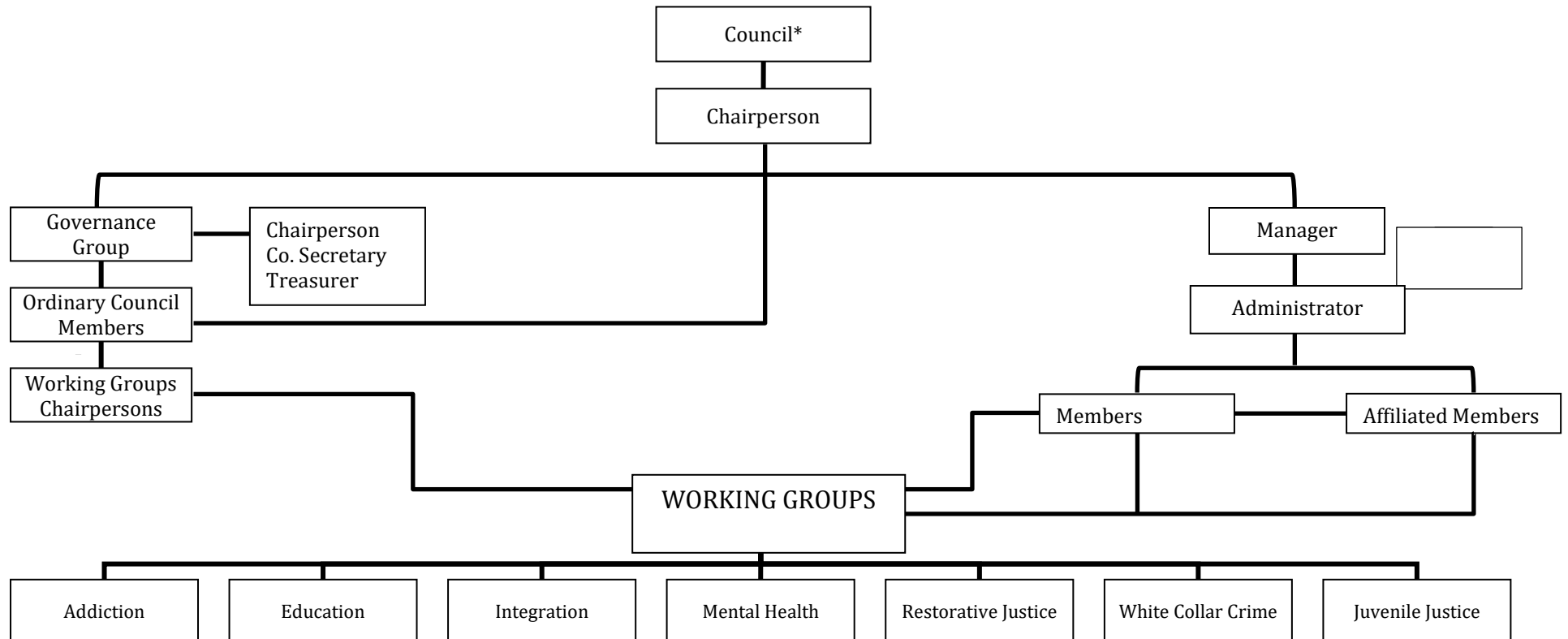
As previously indicated the late Mr Martin Tansey was one of the founding members of the IASD. Martin was head of The Probation Service from 1971 until his retirement in 2001. He was strong in the belief that rehabilitation of offenders was a primary social objective and consequently, he was often referred to as a 'founding father' of Irish community sanctions. His recognition of the principle that community support is a vital cog in rehabilitation continues as an intrinsic objective of those who support community sanctions as an alternative to incarceration.

Martin has been honoured since 2008 by the ACJRD through the hosting of the Martin Tansey Memorial Lectures. These lectures have focused on topics that were intrinsic to Martin's dearly held views of offender rehabilitation and his vision for sharing expertise amongst members of the Criminal Justice Community in an effort to influence how stakeholders engage with their work.



Organisational Development and Structure

ACJRD Council and Working Group Structure



*Each Council Member may nominate an Alternate

Aims and Objectives

The ACJRD has developed upon its initial goals set out in 1996. It aims to promote study and research in the field of criminal justice and other related fields and to disseminate results in order to advance education and benefit the community.

Mission statement

'to inform the development of policy and practice in justice'.

The ACJRD provides a forum where experienced personnel from the criminal justice sector can highlight problems and discuss possible solutions. The Association aims to develop a wide network of members and to build links with relevant organisations in Ireland and abroad. It aims to raise awareness of issues relating in particular to children, young people and crime. The ACJRD has been able to follow through with its objectives through the hard work and dedication of its council members, staff, and volunteers. They have all played an important role in contributing to the research and development of criminal justice policy over the last twenty years through conferences, seminars and research.

Vision

Innovation in Justice

ACJRD's vision has been manifested in the themes of its research, conferences, seminars and submissions all of which have had a view towards impending policy changes and perceived gaps in the delivery of a comprehensive criminal justice system.

www.acjrd.ie

Council Representation and Staff

The Patron of ACJRD is The Hon. Mr. Justice Michael Moriarty, who was a founder of the Association.

The membership of the Association's Council aims to be representative of the various Criminal Justice Agencies, Academia and Practitioners. **Retired Council Members** during our 20 year history include the founding members outlined at page 5 of this booklet. In subsequent years further retirements in alphabetical order included: Ms Mary Burke, Mr Brendan Callaghan, Ms Nicola Flanagan, Ms Norah Gibbons, Mr Derek Hanway, Ms Geraldine Hurley, Ms Ursula Kilkelly, Mr Roger Killeen, Mr Rodger Landers, Mr Pat Lane, Mr George Maybury, Superintendent Vincent McGuire, Mr John Molloy, Professor Ian O'Donnell, Mr David O'Donovan, Ms Anne O'Gorman, Mr Finbarr O'Leary, Ms Kathleen O'Toole, Mr Brian Purcell, Mr Brian Rowntree, Mr Dermot Stokes and Mr Padraic White. Retired Alternates include: Mr John Brosnan and Mr Gerry Hickey (consecutive alternates for Kathleen O'Toole) Ms Madeline Moore (Alternate for John Molloy) and Mr David Prendergast (Alternate for Yvonne Daly). The former and first Manager was Geraldine Comerford.

ACJRD's Current Council has representation from The Law Society of Ireland (Criminal Defence Solicitor), An Garda Síochána, Dublin City University, The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Oberstown (Retired), University of Limerick, Office of the Revenue Commissioners, Probation Service, Irish Prison Service, The Garda Inspectorate, The Department of Justice and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs who in alphabetical order include:

Ms Maura Butler – Chairperson
Mr Eugene Corcoran – Treasurer
Dr. Yvonne Daly (Alternate Dr. Vicky Conway)
Ms Jane Farrell – Company Secretary (Alternate Mr Pádraig Mawe)
Ms Patricia Flynn
Professor Shane Kilcommins (Alternate Dr. Susan Leahy)
Mr John McCormack
Mr Gerard McNally
Mr Jim Mitchell
Mr Robert Olson (Alternate Ms Eimear Fisher)
Mr Doncha O'Sullivan
Ms Michelle Shannon

The Council meets every six weeks with Council members hosting the meetings.

The part-time staff members include: Danelle Hannan, Manager (on maternity leave), Margaret Ward, Manager (providing maternity leave cover from November 2015), Katherine Daly, Administrator and a large number of Interns and Volunteers.

Membership

ACJRD membership is open to experienced personnel working in or professionally associated with the criminal justice system. It embraces all those working in diverse aspects of criminal justice and concerned in the prevention and treatment of adult and juvenile offending. Members may be retired or serving personnel. Organisational membership and individual membership is available.

Individual members who participate in events and discussions do so in a private capacity and do not therefore represent their organisation or agency or commit them in any way. Associate membership may be offered by invitation to persons undertaking research related to the criminal justice system. Many ACJRD activities are open to non-members.

Members get reduced rates when attending ACJRD events e.g. nominal cover charge at seminars and conference discounts. They may also receive invitations to a limited number of member-only events.

Since the introduction of Working Groups members with specialist expertise have been linked to each other.

Volunteers and Interns

Volunteer opportunities arise from time to time to assist at ACJRD events during the year, including the annual conference, where criminology and criminal law graduates act as rapporteurs. Details and application forms for volunteers are available in the 'Get Involved' section of www.acjrd.ie. In recent times ACJRD has offered a limited number of internships in its office, working with the part-time manager and administrator. The volunteers and interns get an insight into the work of ACJRD, free attendance to ACJRD events and an opportunity to network with peers and senior members of the Association.

Further opportunities for graduates may be available in relation to ACJRD research projects.

Working Groups Structure



Working Groups

The ACJRD facilitates working groups where members with a specific expertise share that expertise with each other. Members of the ACJRD Council chair individual Working Groups, reporting back to Council. Initially the hope was that an on-line forum for each working group would provide a space for that individual group discussion, debate and exchange of views. However members indicated a preference for face-to-face interaction and networking.

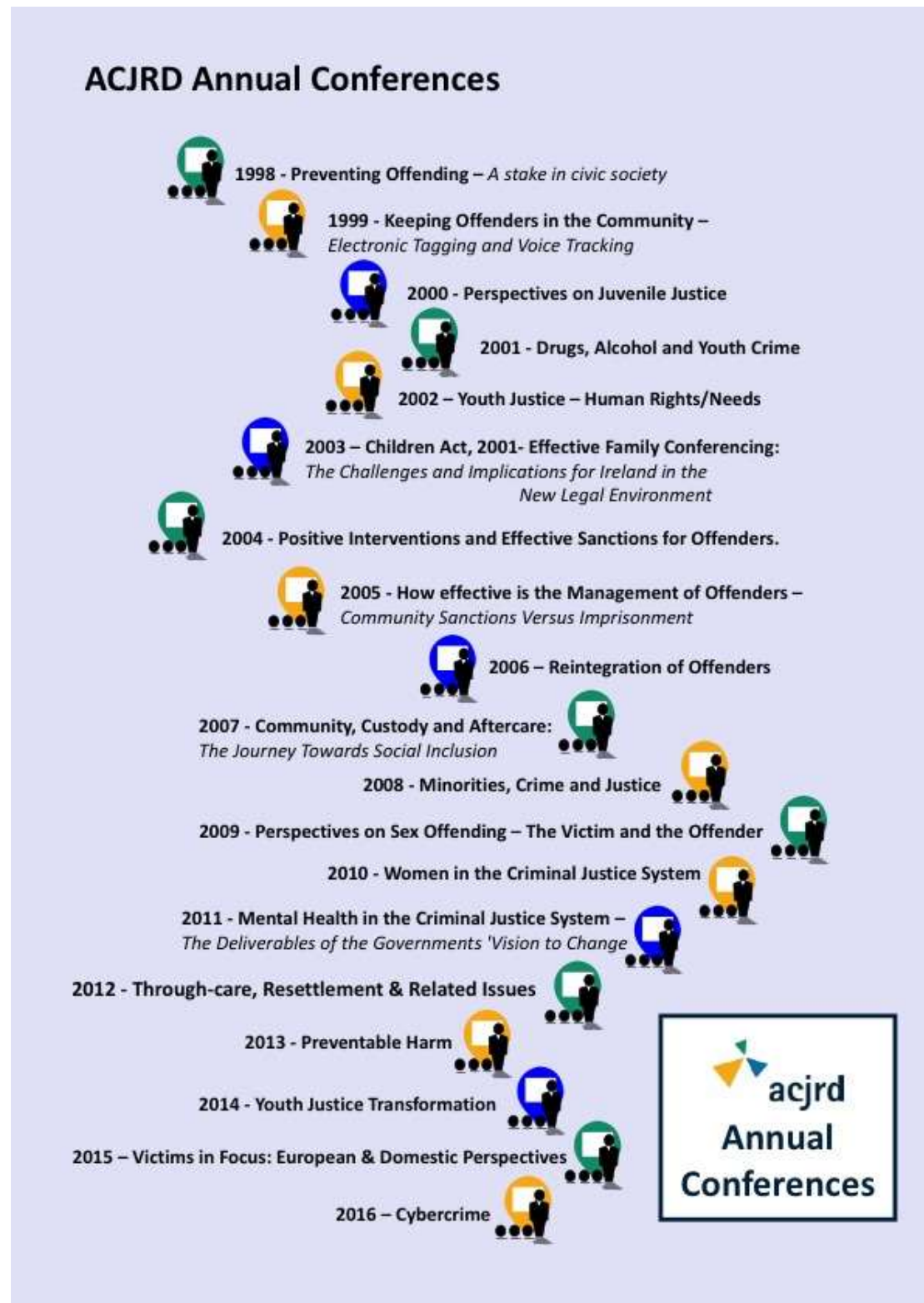
The motivation for creating the working groups was to encourage membership participation and influence in the work of ACJRD. By tapping into member expertise in this manner, the mission of the organisation 'to inform the development of policy and practice in justice' has been supported and influenced.

Currently ACJRD has the following Working Groups:

- Addiction
- Education
- Mental Health
- Juvenile Justice
- Reintegration
- Restorative Justice
- White Collar Crime

A series of seminars have been organised annually since 2010, to match the interests of specific working groups. Typically, the presentations from such events are uploaded on the Association's website at www.acjrd.ie/workinggroups. In recent years ACJRD has hosted a pre-Christmas networking event for all working groups where there is discreet-group and inter-group interaction and networking and feedback on desired events. There can be a symbiosis between seminar and conference events where a seminar topic will suggest a conference and *vice versa* e.g. 2016 *Cybercrime* conference.

Annual Conferences Timeline



Annual Conference Delivery

Since its foundation, the ACJRD has sought to promote wider public understanding of the administration of various elements of Criminal Justice, the causes and prevention crime and the treatment of offenders. It achieved this by the various activities engaged in each year, one of which is its annual conference. To date, the ACJRD has held nineteen annual conferences. Past conference themes profiled Juvenile Justice (five times), Reintegration (five times), Crime Prevention (three times), and discreet themes that shone a light on *Minorities Crime and Justice*, *Perspectives on Sex Offending – The Victim and the Offender*, *Women in the Criminal Justice System*, *Mental Health in the Criminal Justice System*, *Victims of Crime and Cybercrime*.

Focusing on Juvenile Justice

The area of juvenile justice has always been a priority one for ACJRD. In 2000 the conference theme was *Perspectives on Juvenile Justice*. This was followed in 2001 with a conference on *Drugs, Alcohol and Youth Crime*, in 2002 with *Youth Justice – Human Rights and Needs*, 2003 with *Children Act 2001 – Effective Family Conferencing*. In 2014 conference attendees again focused on Juvenile Justice during a conference entitled *Youth Justice Transformation*.

Focusing on Reintegration

The five conferences that focused on reintegration included *Keeping Offenders in the Community – Electronic Tagging and Voice Tracking* (1999); *How Effective is the Management of Offenders* (2005); *Reintegration of Offenders* (2006) *Community Custody and Aftercare* (2007) and *Through-care, Resettlement & Related Issues* (2012)

Focusing on Prevention

The three conferences that focused on prevention included *Preventing Offending* (1998); *Positive Interventions and Effective Sanctions for Offenders* (2004) and *Preventable Harm* (2013)

Sample Publications



Research Projects

The availability of criminological research funding has been affected by the economic downturn. However, it is hoped that liaison between suitably qualified PhD students in partnership with ACJRD's identification of research needs through its diverse membership, will serve the criminal justice community with necessary research into the future.

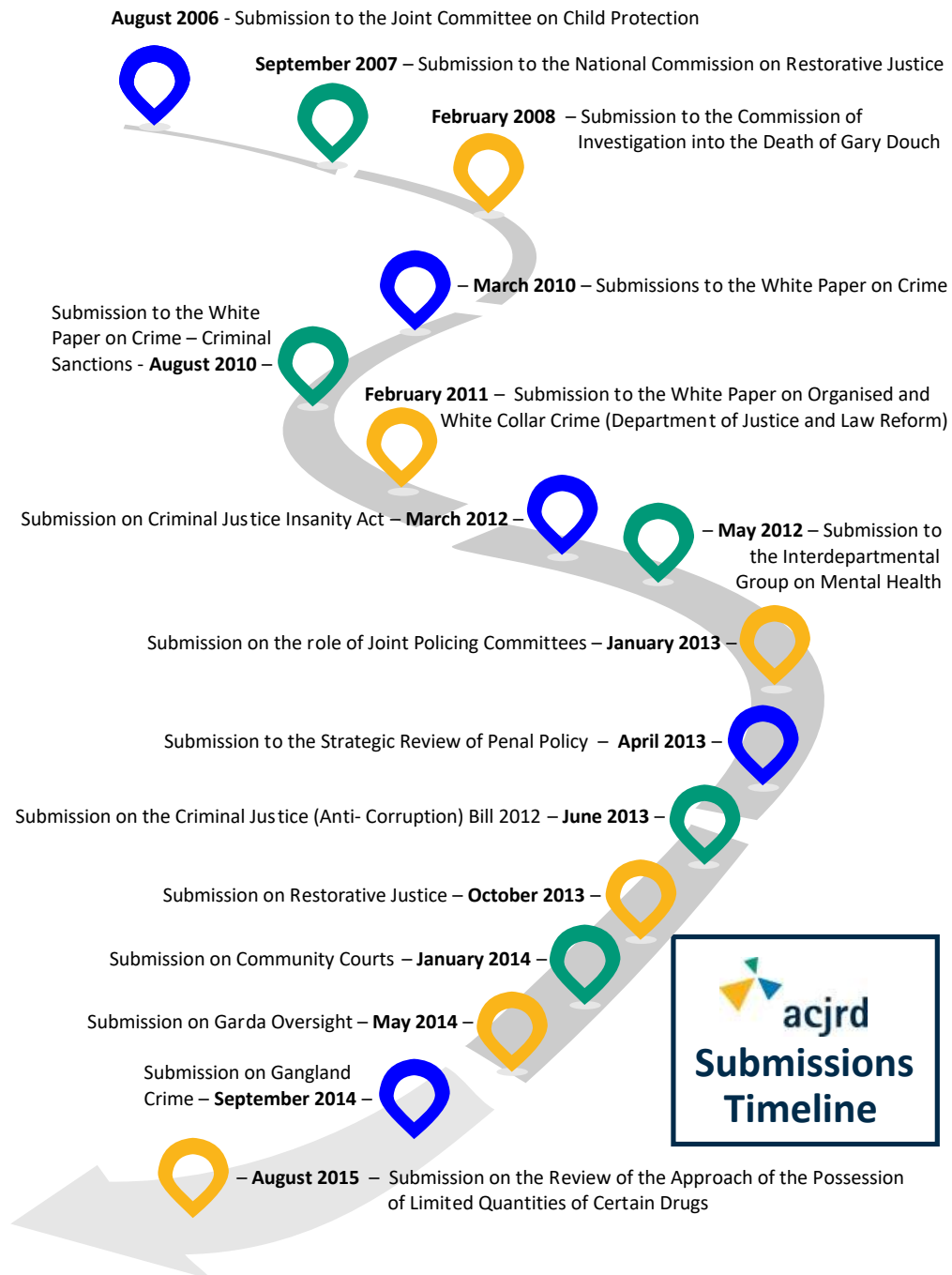
Prior to the commencement of the Children Act 2001 and since then, the ACJRD has continued to promote discussion and research in the area of juvenile justice and has a working group in this area of Criminal Justice. In July 2005 IASD initiated two research projects with assistance of funding from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform (now the Department of Justice and Equality) entitled the ***Dublin Court Research Project***, compiled by Sinead McPhillips and a ***Literature Review and Systems Review***, compiled by Julie Bowe. In 2007 the ACJRD contracted Jennifer Carroll, Emer Meehan with Sinead McPhillips to complete a nationwide study of ***The Children Court – A National Study***.

Kate Waterhouse was commissioned to compile research on *Conducting Efficient and Effective Criminal Justice Research Projects – Best Practice, Current Difficulties and Future Needs*. The funding for that research was provided by the Children Act Advisory Board.

ACJRD successfully tendered to the St Stephen's Green Trust for the financing of research entitled ***Tracking the Needs and service provision for Women ex-Prisoners*** compiled by Rosemarie McHugh.

Research projects are accessible at <http://www.acjrd.ie/research>

Submissions Timeline



Submissions

In line with ACJRD's objectives to promote study and research in the field of criminal justice, ACJRD has accepted invitations from Government bodies to make relevant submissions to the Restorative Justice Commission, the Commission of Investigation into the Death of Gary Douch and the White Paper on Crime to name but a few.

The Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality at http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/oireachtasbusiness/committees_list/jde-committee/ indicates that it is a 'forum for Oireachtas members to have a meaningful input into key legislation and policy areas which have real significance. It plays a major role in considering policy in the fields of justice, security, the rule of law and equality to ensure that Irish society is safe, secure, just, open-minded and impartial'. It regularly has calls for submissions with which ACJRD has engaged.

ACJRD's submissions are based on proven research methods, drawing upon the practical expertise and skills of our Council members. To meet the objectives of the submissions as set by the Government bodies, the Association recruits researchers for this work many of whom have been interns or volunteers.

It has been a great privilege for ACJRD, its Council and members that it has been invited on numerous occasions to appear before the Joint Committee to provide additional information pertinent to our submissions.

The ACJRD will continue to make submissions, as appropriate, with respect to areas of concern to the Association's members but independently of any individual member.

Collaborative Events

Irish Criminal Justice Agencies (ICJA) Conferences

In recent years the ACJRD has worked in collaboration with various criminal justice agencies e.g. The Prison Service, An Garda Síochána, The Probation Service to deliver an annual Irish Criminal Justice Agencies (ICJA) Conference. The Inaugural ICJA conference in 2013 was led by The Irish Prison Service and was entitled ***Penal Policy Reform***, the 2014 ICJA conference was entitled ***Engagement with Young People*** was led by An Garda Síochána. These conference papers are accessible at www.acjrd.ie/irish-criminal-justice-agencies-conferences. In 2016 the ICJA conference led by the Probation Service was entitled ***Evidence Informed Decision Making: Putting research into practice in Criminal Justice*** and its papers will be similarly published in due course.

Juvenile Justice

Other collaborations include one in 2011 with Barnardos to mark the tenth anniversary of the Children's Act 2001 to examine legislation developments, which have impacted on children and young people involved in the criminal justice and welfare system during the preceding decade.

Parole

ACJRD collaborated with The Parole Board in 2013 to present a conference entitled ***Parole in Ireland – The Way Forward: Experiences from other Jurisdictions***.

Working Group Seminars

Working group collaborations included seminars with the Irish Mental Health Lawyers Association in 2013 and the Irish Criminal Justice and Disability Network in 2015. ACJRD looks forward to more collaborative events in the future and to the dissemination through such events of its mission and vision.

Miscellaneous Initiatives

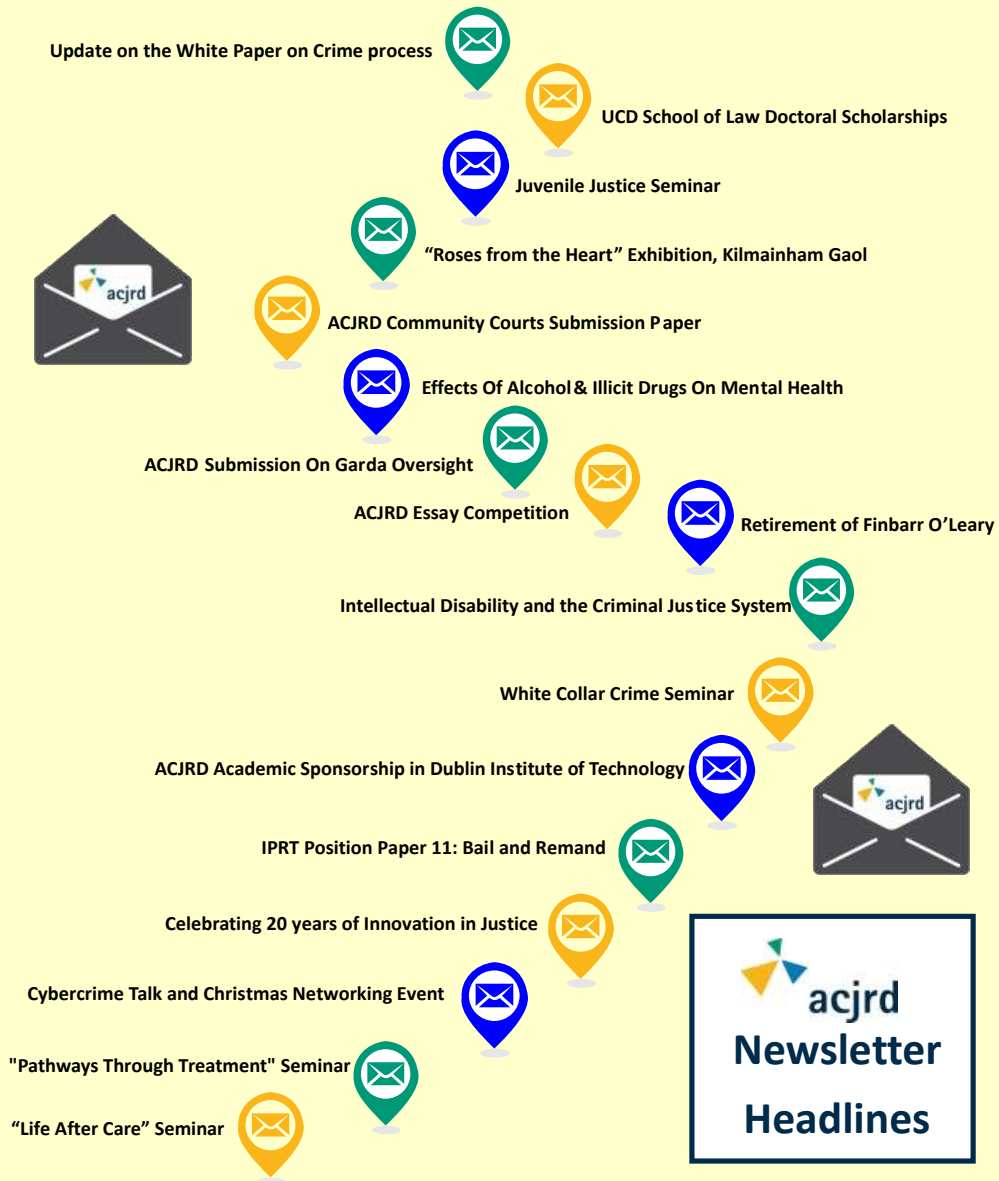
The ACJRD publishes a **newsletter** since 2010. The newsletter keeps members informed about current and forthcoming events. It also includes news from our members and developments in other agencies and organisations whose work compliments ACJRD's aims and objectives. As well as promoting the ACJRD, the newsletters is designed to attract and encourage new members, and promotes the creation and development of an online community for the ACJRD. It is available at www.acjrd.ie/newsletters.

ACJRD welcomes young academics to network and develop their knowledge in criminal justice through its recruitment of volunteers and conference rapporteurs. Recent initiatives to include these scholars include ACJRD's **annual essay competition** and the sponsorship of a prize with both The Dublin Institute of Technology and National University of Maynooth.

Newsletter

The first ACJRD newsletter was published in October 2010 and to date there have been nineteen publications. Each newsletter contains information regarding our events. The newsletter also contains information about recent publications and forthcoming events which may be of interest to our readership.

A selection of Headlines...



Acknowledgements

The ACJRD would not be the organisation it is today without the hard work and dedication of the council members, staff, volunteers, interns and other interest groups. It is hoped that commitment will continue, sustaining the ACJRD as a rejuvenating and exciting organisation that includes diverse membership from many sections of the criminal justice system

The Council and staff of ACJRD would like to thank everyone who has been involved with us over the last twenty years i.e. members of ACJRD, all current and former Council members, speakers, workshop presenters, researchers, volunteers, rapporteurs and interns, without whom, the Association would not have prospered.

The ACJRD would also like to thank the **funders** of the Association:

The Department of Justice and Equality,
The Irish Prison Service,
The Probation Service and
The Department of Children and Health.

Special thanks go to **Mr Dermot Hearne**, Irish Prison Service, for creating the graphics in this publication and to **Annita Harty** MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice (UCD) for her research and compilation of the history and work of ACJRD during its first twenty years.



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