



acjrd

ACJRD

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

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Executive Summary

The Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) has hosted a wide array of events and seminars during 2017. These included our 20th Annual Conference entitled "*The Brexit Impact on Criminal Justice Cooperation in Ireland*", and the 4th Annual Irish Criminal Justice Agencies Conference entitled "*Youth Justice Policy in Ireland - Where to next?*" which was a collaboration of the ACJRD, the Irish Youth Justice Service, The Probation Service, The Department of Justice, the Irish Prison Service and An Garda Síochána. The ACJRD also held Working Groups seminars and events at which attendees had the opportunity to contribute their opinions and share perspectives.

The Association also continues to further current and future Research opportunities, maintains a membership base and a number of Working Groups and also contributes to the criminal justice community in Ireland via quarterly newsletters and continued memberships and relationships with other not-for-profit organisations who share common ground with the objectives of the ACJRD.

This report provides a summary of the events and activities for 2017 under the following headings: Research, Events, Membership, Working Groups, Student Engagement, Newsletter, Commitment to Achieve Change, Governance and Associations and Memberships.

1. ACJRD Research

The ACJRD Research-Sub-Committee oversaw the following projects during 2017:

Conducting Efficient and Effective Criminal Justice Research Projects

- Best Practice, Current Difficulties, Future Needs

The Association believes that quality research findings are essential to a more effective and responsive criminal justice system. To assist future research efforts, the Association wishes to explore how collaboration between criminal justice policy makers, practitioners and researchers might be further enhanced to their mutual benefit. To this end a study has been commissioned to consider what works best in conducting criminal justice research projects, what difficulties arise in terms of data, access, etc., and what actions might be taken to support efficient and effective research projects into the future. The ongoing study involves the compilation of the views of policy makers, practitioners and researchers who have recent experience of criminal justice research projects.

This study has been funded by a grant from The Children's Act Advisory Board.

Training Needs Assessment of Integrated Sentence Management Officers

An analysis of training needs of Integrated Sentence Management Officers was undertaken by Róisín Giles, a NUI Maynooth Student on placement with the ACJRD. This project was carried out for the Irish Prison Service and supervised by the ACJRD research sub-committee.

2. ACJRD Events 2017

Below is a summary of ACJRD events during 2017. Please note the following outputs do not include the ACJRD Working Groups outputs which are profiled separately on pages eight/nine.

MARTIN TANSEY MEMORIAL LECTURES

The ACJRD marks the contribution Martin Tansey made to criminal justice in Ireland, and to this association, with a memorial lecture each spring.

Information and papers from the lectures which have taken place since the inaugural event in 2008 can be found at:

www.acjrd.ie/publications

Pictured Right: Professor Shadd Maruna and Maura Butler, ACJRD Chairperson.

10th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture, 27th March, 2017

The 10th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture entitled "Desistance as a Social Movement" was delivered by Professor Shadd Maruna, Professor of Criminology in the School of Law, University of Manchester, at the Criminal Courts of Justice, Parkgate Street, Dublin.

As always this event was well attended and Professor Maruna's lecture was very well received.

ACJRD would like to thank the staff at the Criminal Court of Justice for their continued assistance in hosting this annual memorial lecture.



Launch of 2016 Annual Conference Report "Cybercrime"



An Tánaiste, Frances Fitzgerald, TD, Minister for Justice and Equality, launched the ACJRD Annual Conference Report 2016 "*Cybercrime*" on Monday 15th May, 2017. The event was hosted by the Department of Justice and Equality in The Atrium, 51 St. Stephens Green, Dublin 2.

The report includes the papers of the plenary speakers as well as the summaries of the eight workshops presented at the conference.

Pictured left. Maura Butler, Chairperson, ACJRD, with An Tánaiste, Frances Fitzgerald

4th Annual Irish Criminal Justice Agencies Conference, 4th July, 2017

Youth Justice Policy in Ireland - Where to next?

This one day conference was a collaboration of the Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS) (Lead Partner 2017), the Department of Justice and Equality, An Garda Síochána, The Probation Service, the Irish Prison Service and the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD). The lead partner for 2017 was the Irish Youth Justice Service. The conference theme was "*Youth Justice Policy in Ireland - Where to next?*".

Conference Speakers included: **Michelle Shannon**, Director, Irish Youth Justice Service; **David Stanton**, T.D., Minister of State for Justice, with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration; **Judge John O'Connor**, Children Court; Professor Geoffrey Shannon, Special Rapporteur on Child Protection; **Roxana Ungureanu**, West University Timisoara, Romania; **Julie Ahern**, Membership and Public Affairs Officer, Children's Rights Alliance; **Professor Ursula Kilkelly**, Professor and Dean of Law, University College Cork; and **Dr. Fergal Lynch**, Secretary General, Department of Children and Youth Affairs

The Conference also featured a number of workshops. Presentations were delivered by: **Patrick Gates**, Coordinator, Young People at Risk, (YPAR) North Inner City and **Frank Mulville**, Meitheal Services and Support Coordinator, YPAR; **Superintendent Colette Quinn**, Director of the Diversion Programme, An Garda Síochána with **Joan Cherry**, Director, The Northside Inter-Agency Project (NIAP); **Dr Etáin Quigley**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Applied Research for Connected Health (ARCH), UCD; **Inspector Lorraine Stack**, An Garda Síochána Victim Liaison Office, and **Dr Johnny Connolly**, Irish Research Council Scholar in the Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies, School of Law, University of Limerick; **Aoife McNickle** BL; **Miriam Ryan**, Area Manager Blanchardstown Youth Service, Foróige; **Eoin Carroll**, Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice and **Brian Santry**, Regional Manager, Young Persons Probation; **Eoin O'Meara Daly** and **Dr Catherine Naughton**, University of Limerick (Greentown Project) and **Rose Sweeney**, Assistant Principal Officer, An Garda Síochána (Youth Joint Agency Response to Crime (YJARC)); **Eimear Ryan** Senior Speech and Language Therapist, and **Sanna Cramnell** Social Worker, Assessment Consultation & Therapy Service (ACTS); **Margaret Mastriani**, Co-Ordinators, Limerick Children and Young People's Service Committee and **John Cole**, Policy Innovation Unit, Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

ACJRD 20th Annual Conference, 6th October 2017

The Brexit Impact on Criminal Justice Cooperation in Ireland

This one day conference featured distinguished speakers from Ireland, joined by speakers from England, Northern Ireland and Europe. The conference structure facilitated the presentation of plenary sessions supported by break-out groups, where delegates from the public and private sector shared their views, experiences and expertise. The Chatham House Rule was invoked as necessary, to facilitate free discussion.

The Conference Plenary speakers included:

- **Charlie Flanagan**, T.D. Minister for Justice and Equality
- **Thérèse Blanchet**, Director, Justice and Home Affairs, Council Legal Service
- **Jimmy Martin**, Assistant Secretary, Department of Justice and Equality
- **Ray Briscoe**, Principal Prosecution Solicitor and Deputy Head of the Superior Courts Section, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

- **Gemma Davies**, Senior Lecturer, and **Adam Jackson**, Associate Professor and Deputy Director, The Northumbria Centre for Evidence and Criminal Justice Studies, University of Northumbria, Newcastle
- **Marie-Claire Maney**, Assistant Secretary/Revenue Solicitor and Head of Investigations and Prosecutions, Revenue Commissioners
- **Brian Gormally**, Director, Northern Ireland Committee on the Administration of Justice
- **HMA Robin Barnett**, CMG, British Ambassador to Ireland

The conference programme also featured a number of workshops presentations delivered by: **Hugh Dockry**, Chief State Solicitor's Office (CSSO); **Hugh Quigley**, The Wheel; **Gerry McNally**, Assistant Director, The Probation Service and President of the Confederation of European Probation (CEP); **Detective Inspector Michael Heffernan**, Head of the Garda International Counter-Terrorism Unit, An Garda Síochána; **Michael Gilligan**, Head of Central Investigations Branch and Director Customs Drug Law Enforcement, Revenue Commissioners, Investigations and Prosecution Division, and Executive Director, Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre - Narcotics, Portugal; **Jack Nea**, BL; **Dr. Ciara Smyth**, School of Law, NUI Galway; and **Professor Cathal McCall**, School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics, Queen's University Belfast.

ACJRD sincerely thanks the expert presenters and all who contributed during discussions to this year's conference and subsequently wrote a paper for this publication.



Pictured: Brian Gormally, Marie-Claire Maney, Maura Butler, Gemma Davies and Adam Jackson

3. Membership

Three categories of ACJRD membership per annum are on offer: Student €25, Individual €35 and Organisational Membership €155. Organisational Membership is based on a flat rate: this includes all members of that organisation, with up to five members able to attend any one ACJRD event at special rates.

Benefits to ACJRD members include; special rates for ACJRD conferences and seminars, publications on research and conference/seminar proceedings, priority bookings at all ACJRD events, circulation of the newsletter, the option to become involved in the ACJRD Working Groups and access to a range of peer networks.

Compared to 2016, membership rates for 2017 have increased in all types of membership.

4. ACJRD Working Groups



The ACJRD has established working groups through which members can input into the activities of the association. Current working groups include Addiction, Education, Juvenile Justice, Mental Health, Reintegration, Restorative Justice and White Collar Crime.

Working Groups activities for 2017 are detailed below. The association was facilitated in the delivery of these activities by the generosity of Council members who chaired each seminar.

White Collar Crime Seminar - 15th May, 2017

A White Collar Crime seminar was held on 15th May, 2017. This seminar was held immediately following the launch of the "Cybercrime" Report in The Atrium, Department of Justice and Equality, St. Stephen's Green. Brian Gageby BL, spoke on the new approaches to prosecuting white-collar crime in the US and Britain which are of interest from an Irish perspective.

Thanks to the Department of Justice and Equality which provided the venue and refreshments free of charge.

Employment with Conviction: Expo 2017 - Creating Opportunity through Education and Employer Engagement - 12th September, 2017

The ACJRD and its Education and Reintegration Working Groups hosted this seminar in the Carmichael Centre on 12th September, 2017. Paddy Richardson, Chief Executive of the Irish Association for the Social Integration of Offenders (IASIO) delivered a presentation on the recent 'Jobs and Opportunities Expo' which had been held in Mountjoy Prison and the education of prisoners in relation to securing employment.

Young People, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System: Time for a New Vision? - 30th November, 2017

The ACJRD and its Mental Health and Juvenile Justice Working Groups hosted the seminar '*Young People, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System: Time for a New Vision?*' on Thursday, 30th November, 2017, in the Green Theatre, The Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.

The seminar featured presentations from Dr. Etáin Quigley, Lecturer, School of Law, NUI Maynooth, and Dr. Blánaid Gavin, Associate Professor, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, School of Medicine, UCD.

Thanks to the Law Society who provided the venue for this event free of charge.

Networking Event and Addiction Seminar - 11th December, 2017.

The annual ACJRD Christmas Working Groups Networking Event took place in the Blue Room at the Law Society of Ireland on Monday, 11th December, 2017. The evening was an opportunity for ACJRD members and Working Groups to meet those with common interests, to renew acquaintances and share ideas.

An Addiction Working Group seminar also took place at this event. Phil Bowen, Director, Centre for Justice Innovation, London, spoke on "*Developments in Scottish Problem Solving Courts*" and Judge Patricia McNamara spoke on the Dublin Drug Treatment Court.

5. Student Engagement

ACJRD/DIT Criminology Prize

The ACJRD sponsors an annual prize for outstanding academic performance on a Youth Justice related thesis on the MA in Criminology at the Dublin Institute of Technology. Bronagh Fagan was awarded the 2017 prize for her dissertation entitled 'Investigating the Role of Alternative Education Provision in Supporting Pathways out of Crime for Young People'.



Pictured: Maura Butler, ACJRD Chairperson presenting Bronagh Fagan's Mother with Bronagh's prize at the 2017 prize giving ceremony.

ACJRD Academic Sponsorship in National University of Ireland Maynooth



Megan McGovern was the winner of the ACJRD award for the Best Essay in Criminal Law 2016/17 in the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Following the receipt of her award Megan volunteered as a rapporteur at the ACJRD Annual Conference in October 2017.

Pictured: Megan McGovern with Professor Shadd Maruna, the Keynote Speaker at the award ceremony in September 2017.

6. Newsletter

The ACJRD Newsletter is delivered via email to members and interested parties of the Association and is also available on the ACJRD website. The newsletter keeps members informed about current and forthcoming events and includes news from our members and developments in other agencies and relevant organisations.

As well as promoting the ACJRD, the Newsletter is designed to attract and encourage new members. This service is produced in-house and there are no printing or postage costs. It promotes the creation and development of an online community for the ACJRD.

Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter newsletters were produced in 2017.

7. Commitment to Achieve Change

ACJRD makes appropriate submissions in satisfaction of its mission and vision in areas where there is relevant expertise and interest. All submissions made by the ACJRD are available on our website www.acjrd.ie.

The views expressed in ACJRD submissions are those of ACJRD in its independent capacity and are not those of the ACJRD members' organisations or their employers.

In October 2017, ACJRD made a submission to the Law Reform Commission on Suspended Sentences. ACJRD was assisted in this submission by Tom Conlon, Office of the DPP, in a personal capacity as a supporter of ACJRD, and by the Final Year Dissertation of Rebecca Martin, DCU, and by ACJRD members.

8. Governance

In 2017 the ACJRD Council included representatives from: The Department of Justice and Equality, The Probation Service, the Irish Prison Service, the Office of the DPP, An Garda Síochána, the Garda Síochána Inspectorate, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, the Revenue Commissioners, Dublin City University, University of Limerick, the Policing Authority and the Law Society of Ireland.

The following ACJRD Council meetings took place during 2017:

17th January, 2017, in the Office of the Policing Authority, 90 North King Street, Dublin 7.

28th February, 2017, in the O'Mahony Room, The Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.

25th April, 2017, in the Irish Prison Service Phibsborough Office, North Circular Road, Dublin 7.

30th May, 2017, in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, North King Street, Dublin 7.

11th July, 2017, in the Office of the Policing Authority, 90 North King Street, Dublin 7.

5th September, 2017, in the Office of the Garda Síochána Inspectorate, St. Stephen's Green, D. 2.

24th October, 2017, in the Education Centre, Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.

5th December, 2017, in the Office of the Garda Síochána Inspectorate, St. Stephen's Green, D. 2

Council representation

The ACJRD Council members have represented the Association at a number of events during the year. These have included:

- NCP National Conference "Improving outcomes for families from new communities and professionals in child protection interventions in Ireland" in Dublin Castle on 30th March, 2017, attended by Maura Butler
- Launch of the Evaluation of Le Chéile Mentoring: "Reducing Youth Crime in Ireland" at the Probation Service's Head Office, Haymarket, on 30th March, 2017, attended by Danelle Hannan
- Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) Conference at Dublin City Council Civic Offices on 5th April, 2017 "Oberstown: Building the Future" on 29th May, 2017, in Smock Alley Theatre, attended by Maura Butler

- “Oberstown: Building the Future” on 29th May, 2017, in Smock Alley Theatre, attended by Maura Butler
- Maura Butler facilitated the inaugural “UK-Ireland Criminal Justice Cooperation Network” meeting on 6th June, 2017
- Launch of the Bail Supervision Scheme on 12th June, 2017, at Government Buildings, attended by Maura Butler
- “Brexit and Criminal Law” talk on Tuesday, 22nd August in Trinity College Law School, attended by Maura Butler

9. AGM 2017

The ACJRD Annual General Meeting was held at the Spencer Hotel on Friday 6th October, 2017, following the close of our annual conference. At this meeting of ACJRD members the association’s Auditors, Browne Murphy and Hughes presented the ACJRD audited accounts 2016 for adoption by members.

10. Associations and Memberships

The Children’s Rights Alliance

The Children’s Rights Alliance is a coalition of over 90 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working to secure the rights and needs of children in Ireland, by campaigning for the full implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It aims to improve the lives of all children under 18, through securing the necessary changes in Ireland’s laws (strengthening children’s rights in the Constitution), policies and services. The ACJRD maintained its membership of the Children’s Rights Alliance in 2017.

The Wheel

The Wheel is a support and representative body connecting community and voluntary organisations and charities across Ireland. Established in 1999, The Wheel has evolved to become a resource centre and forum for the community and voluntary sector. The ACJRD maintained its membership of the Wheel in 2017.