



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ended 31st December 1997



THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



ESRI

THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997



THE COUNCIL

MR M.F. DOYLE, President

MR J.F. HARFORD, Chairman
Chief Executive, Yamanouchi Ireland
Company Ltd

PROFESSOR B.J. WHELAN, Director

MR G.T. P. CONLON, Chairman, ESRI
Fund-Raising Committee, 1995-2000

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Enterprise, Trade and Employment

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MR K.J. KELLY, Group General Manager – AIB
Bank, AIB Group plc

MR P. LYNCH, Chairman of the Institute,
1983-1988

The Council of the ESRI is the Institute's overall governing body and consists of 32 members appointed from the general members of the Institute. The Council meets four times a year.



MR E. McCUMISKEY, Chief Executive &
Secretary, Advertising Standards Authority
for Ireland

PROFESSOR A. MATTHEWS, Department of
Economics, Trinity College, Dublin

MR M.J. MEAGHER, Director, Bank of Ireland
International Finance

PROFESSOR S. MENNELL, Department of
Sociology, University College Dublin

MR J. MORAN, Former Chief Executive, Electricity
Supply Board

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Office

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Ireland

MS P. O'DONOVAN, Assistant General Secretary,
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MR J. O'DWYER, Secretary, Department of Health
and Children

DR R. SCHIERBEEK, Chairman, Northern Ireland
Economic Research Centre

MR E. SULLIVAN, Secretary, Department of Social
Community and Family Affairs

DR T.K. WHITAKER, President of the Institute,
1971-1987

THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Executive Committee is a sub-committee of the Council and meets at least every two months. It acts as the Institute's Board of Directors and, in association with the Director and staff, develops the Institute's programme of research for approval by Council.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



*Mr M.F. Doyle
President*



*Mr J.F. Harford
Chairman*

MR M.F. DOYLE, President

MR J.F. HARFORD, Chairman
Chief Executive, Yamanouchi Ireland
Company Ltd

PROFESSOR B.J. WHELAN, Director

PROFESSOR C. FANNING,
Department of Economics,
University College, Cork

DR E. McCARTHY,
Director, Woodchester Investments plc

MR P. MULLARKEY,
Secretary, Department of Finance

MR D. NEVIN,
Former General Secretary,
Irish Congress of Trade Unions

DR T.F. Ó COFAIGH,
President ESRI, 1987-1995

MS M. O'CONNOR, Partner, Craig Gardner/Price
Waterhouse

SIR W.G.H. QUIGLEY CB,
Chairman, Ulster Bank Limited

PROFESSOR N. SHEEHY,
Department of Psychology,
The Queen's University of Belfast

MR P.A. WHITE,
Chairman, Northside Partnership Limited



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-Ninth Annual General Meeting of The Economic and Social Research Institute (Limited Company registered in Dublin, Registration No. 18269), will be held at the Registered Office at 4 Burlington Road, Dublin 4, on Tuesday, 23rd June 1998 at 2.00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT
2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
3. ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997
4. REPORT OF THE COUNCIL TO THE MEMBERS
5. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE COUNCIL
6. FIXING THE AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

By order of the Council,

J. ROUGHAN
Secretary

Registered Office,
4 Burlington Road,
Dublin 4

2nd June 1998



THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Economic and Social Research Institute is a non-profit organisation which was founded in 1960 as the Economic Research Institute with the help of a grant from the Ford Foundation of New York. In 1966, following a report by a United Nations special adviser, the Institute assumed responsibility for social research and extended its title to The Economic and Social Research Institute.

The Institute is a private company, limited by guarantee, incorporated under the Companies Acts 1908-1990, and enjoys full academic independence. It is governed by a Council consisting of 30 members, in addition to the President and the Director, appointed from the general members of the Institute and representative of business, trade unions, government departments, state agencies, universities and other research institutes. A committee of the Council, the Executive Committee, carries out the functions of the Institute's Board of Directors.

The Institute receives an annual grant-in-aid from the Irish Government which, in 1997, covered approximately 34 per cent of total expenditure. The remainder of its income is generated from commissioned research projects, sponsorship of Institute activities by Irish business, membership subscriptions and sales of publications. The most important resource of the Institute is its high-quality staff with the requisite academic standards, training and expertise. The total number of full-time research staff at the Institute is 36. The results of the Institute's research have been included in over 500 published reports, in addition to the volumes of the *Quarterly Economic Commentary* and the *Medium-term Review of the Irish Economy*, as well as in numerous books, articles in academic journals, etc., published elsewhere.



ESRI

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

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The Audited Final Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 1997 are published separately.

The Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 1997 is supplemented by the *Review of ESRI Research in 1997* and by the *List of ESRI Publications* which are published separately.

The *Medium Term Review* published in April of 1997 emphasised the depth and speed of the transformation taking place in Ireland's economy and society. National income has grown at an exceptional rate since 1993 and seems set on an improved trajectory throughout the next decade. Growth is reasonably balanced and the prospects for a sustained reduction in unemployment appear good. A favourable demographic situation combined with this rapid income growth will allow a considerable reduction in the level of national debt. Entry into EMU will offer new opportunities but will also impose new disciplines and necessitate the re-thinking of old attitudes and patterns of behaviour.

FOREWORD



Professor Brendan J.
Whelan, Director

In this context, ESRI research has focused on how the beneficial aspects of change can be fostered and possible dangers avoided. The *Quarterly Economic Commentary* continued to point out the shifts in attitudes needed to deal with the prolonged success of the Irish economy and the imminence of EMU in relation to issues such as inflation, wage determination and taxation. The *Medium Term Review* drew attention to the dangers posed by excessive expectations, congestion and inflexibility in the face of external economic shocks.

Environmental concerns are likely to be re-enforced in a period of rapid change. The Institute has in hand a number of projects devoted to this area. During 1997, ESRI staff produced a major book entitled *The Fiscal System and the Polluter Pays Principle* which demonstrates the potential of economic instruments (such as green taxes and subsidies) to effect environmental improvements. The critical policy choices involved in limiting greenhouse gas emissions and the likely costs were also analysed and formed the theme of a Conference.

The Irish labour market is also being transformed and policy must adapt accordingly. ESRI research in 1997 ranged across many aspects of the changing labour market. Trends in school leavers' employment experiences were documented. Detailed occupational forecasts were produced which analysed the nature of the changes taking place and identified the types of skill likely to be in high demand. Commissioner Flynn launched an important study on active labour market policy in the Institute in September. This study broke new ground by casting new light on why certain types of scheme worked while others did not. Work also proceeded on how the educational system can be made more effective in fulfilling its many objectives.

Improved growth also opens up possibilities to improve the situation of the disadvantaged. The Institute has a major programme of work based on on-going household surveys which examine in depth issues related to poverty, deprivation and unemployment. During 1997, major studies were completed in relation to low pay, income support and work incentives, the elderly and the welfare implications of demographic trends. A Conference was held in January 1997 at which estimates of poverty rates in the 1990s were presented together with an analysis of minimum adequate income levels. Work continued on SWITCH the microsimulation model which allows users to assess the implications of changes in tax and social welfare policies.

In order to pursue a work programme of this breadth and relevance, it is necessary for the Institute to pursue research at a number of different levels, ranging from basic developmental work to the analysis of urgent policy concerns. Some of this work can be funded through commissions. However, it is often difficult to find resources for research into the longer term and more strategic issues, even though such analysis is vital to a full understanding of the more immediate policy problems. For this reason, the Institute particularly appreciates the part played in our work by the Government grant-in-aid and by the untied contributions of those firms and organisations which subscribed to the recent fund-raising campaign.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

During 1997, eighteen substantive reports were published either by the Institute or by outside organisations, in addition to papers presented at conferences and seminars, working papers and journal articles. In addition, thirty six commissioned reports were completed and twelve surveys were undertaken for outside organisations.

Major research studies were completed during the year in the following areas:

- Economic forecasting: short- and medium-term;
- EU structural funds in Ireland;
- Industrial development including competitive advantage;
- Development of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in a European context;
- Compilation of regional GDP;
- Global warming and the costs of greenhouse gas abatement;
- The environment including the fiscal system and the polluter pays principle;
- European approaches to environmental issues;
- Water based leisure activities;
- Aspects of the economic and policy impacts of EMU including the case of Northern Ireland and exchange rates and interest rates;
- The effects of internationalisation of the EU Banking system on periphery countries;
- The effects of the Single European Market (SEM) on peripheral countries;
- Income distribution and social protection;
- Income support and work incentives;
- Pension arrangements in the Civil Service and the public sector;
- Low pay in Ireland;
- Occupational employment forecasts;

- Active Labour market policy;
- Economic status of school leavers;
- Review of graduate employment trends;
- Transitions in youth;
- Health issues including surgical audit in hospitals and hospital financing in the EU;
- Welfare implications of demographic trends;
- The elderly, the family and the state;
- Poverty, minimum adequate income and poor households;
- Roy Geary – his life and work.

Five very successful conferences/symposiums were organised by the Institute during 1997 as follows:

- ◆ A conference on “Poverty and Income Adequacy: First Results from the 1994 Living in Ireland Survey” (January, 1997) presented an overview of the survey, detailed the level of poverty in Ireland in the 1990s and reviewed and updated the Commission on Social Welfare’s recommendations on a Minimum Adequate Income.
- ◆ In January 1997 a symposium was organised by the Historical National Accounts Group at the ESRI. Papers were presented on prices, wages and living standards in Ireland 1700-1850, the development of national accounts methodology in Irish official statistical and monetary data and proxy GDP estimates for Ireland 1840-1921.
- ◆ A conference on “The Environment and EU Treaty Revisions: The IGC Review” (March 1997) was organised by the ESRI Environment Policy Research Centre in association with the Institute of European Affairs. The conference addressed the issues arising from the revision of the Treaty of Maastricht. Irish speakers at the conference described the amendments proposed in the Irish draft treaty particularly in regard to sustainable development and the problem of giving substance to the “polluter pays principle”. International speakers from the Netherlands and the UK discussed the proposed changes to the treaty. The lack of a firm legal basis was seen as the main problem in the treaty as well as the absence of reference to sustainable development and to the integration of environmental policy in all EU policies.
- ◆ A conference on “Public Service Pensions Policy Issues” (September 1997) was

organised by the Institute in association with the European Network for Research on Supplementary Pensions. Papers presented by an international panel of speakers covered issues on public service pension arrangements, demographic projections and population ageing and government regulation of public service pensions. The funding and reform of public service pensions, including the question of privatisation, were also considered.

- ◆ In November 1997 a conference on “The Economic Implications of Greenhouse Gas Abatement” was held under the auspices of the ESRI Energy Policy Research Centre. The papers presented dealt with energy demand in Ireland, future emissions of greenhouse gases, the cost of abatement and the international approach to tackling global warming. During 1997, twenty seven new research projects were commenced by the staff of the Institute in the following areas:
 - (i) *Economic Forecasting*: Ireland’s regional GDP;
 - (ii) *Economic Growth*: impacts of European Monetary Union (EMU) on Northern Ireland; agricultural schemes and premia payments; preferences and attitudes to forest development; North-South economic co-operation;
 - (iii) *Environment*: impact of continuing transport growth; limitation and reduction of CO₂ and greenhouse gas emissions; compilation of satellite environmental accounts; energy efficiency investment programmes;
 - (iv) *International Environment*: structural change in transition economies; the role and impact of the CSF, objective 1 regions, the German experience;
 - (v) *Prices and Incomes*: low pay in Ireland;
 - (vi) *Demography and Labour*: returns to continuing vocational training; replacement rates; occupational forecasts; labour market transitions; employment in Gaeltacht areas;
 - (vii) *Social Policy*: distribution of income and earnings; women and poverty; living standards and household composition; child poverty; drug abuse; urban local authority housing estates;
 - (viii) *Education*: strategic plan for regional technical college; educational policy for disadvantaged children;
 - (ix) *Health*: health promotion and disease prevention; data quality of Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE).

By the end of 1997 fifty-two major research projects were in progress at the Institute. Further details of ESRI research, publications and new projects are given in a companion volume of the Annual Report entitled *Review of ESRI Research 1997*.

ESRI RESEARCH

After its establishment in 1960, the Institute soon became the dominant centre in Ireland for social science research. Over the years this dominance has moderated due to the considerable increase in the number of social science staff in the Irish universities and other third level institutions, as well as in other organisations in the public and private sectors. The Institute welcomed this growth in Irish social science research, and has, indeed, contributed substantially to it, not least through its fellowship scheme for post-graduate studies overseas in the areas of economics and the other social sciences. Of the beneficiaries of this scheme – over 130 fellowships to date – in excess of 70 per cent have returned to Ireland to take up positions in third level institutions, in the civil and public services, in the private sector and in the Institute itself.

In the light of this growth in national research effort, it is useful to re-state how the Institute sees its particular role. Social science research may be viewed as a spectrum running from the most abstract pure research through applied work to the provision of up-to-date management information. Pure research is focused on the development of the discipline and concentrates on theory and methodology. Its preferred publication medium is the international journal and its target audience is other specialists. At the other end of the continuum, management information emphasises the provision of quick and relevant results to policymakers, leaving little scope for in-depth analysis. The type of research carried out by the ESRI lies between these two extremes. It tries to balance the needs of users of research with the requirement to meet those needs at a high level of quality and objectivity. The Institute aims to apply the latest thinking in the social sciences to the current and prospective problems of Ireland's economy and society.

To achieve this, the research programme needs to encompass three interdependent types of work:

- ♦ the development of the methods, models and databases necessary to facilitate in-depth analysis of economic and social issues;

- ♦ strategic medium- to long-term studies essential for planning economic and social development;
- ♦ the application of methods and established knowledge to resolve shorter-term problems and to undertake current assessments and evaluations.

Basic Research: the long-term investment of resources in basic research (i.e., work on theoretical development, methodology and the creation of models and databases) forms the essential basis of the research programme. For instance, the sophisticated macro-economic models developed at the Institute over the past fifteen years have underpinned a variety of studies of the economy, including comparisons of the two economies of the island of Ireland and work on peripheral economies in the EU. Similarly, the major household surveys carried out in 1987 and in the years since 1994 have led to a stream of influential research on a wide variety of topics: unemployment and the labour market; work incentives; poverty and income distribution; taxation and social protection policies; the health services; education; pensions etc. They also permitted the development and updating of SWITCH, the ESRI's microsimulation model for the assessment of tax and welfare policies. Other basic initiatives include the creation, in collaboration with FÁS, of a system for projecting the national occupational structure and the compilation of extensive national databases related to health issues (the HIPE system).

Strategic Research: a considerable portion of the Institute's programme of research, is devoted to strategic research to underpin the development of economic and social policy. The publication of the ESRI Medium Term Review (1997) is a prime example of this type of research as is the 1996 report on the Implications for Ireland of EMU. Other examples include the Institute's participation as the Irish representative in the European observatory for small and medium-sized enterprises, studies of industrial competitiveness, research on income distribution, social mobility and poverty and much of the research in hand in the areas of vocational training, labour market transitions and education.

Applied Research: The remainder of the Institute's resources is directed towards obtaining and publishing new knowledge on specific issues of direct policy relevance. Studies of this kind crop up in all areas of Institute's research programme. They include, for example, the

examination of current trends in the Irish economy, analyses of energy data and greenhouse gas emissions, the role and impact of the CSF, bank credit and bank resources, the impact of in-company training, investment in human capital, the effectiveness of the social welfare system, studies of the family, society and the state in Ireland etc.

The accelerating pace of change, and the growing globalisation of economic relationships, mean that research of the kind conducted by the ESRI is essential for rational policy making. In order to guarantee the relevance and effectiveness of its work, the Institute has increasingly engaged in various types of partnership arrangements at both national and international level. Such partnerships include collaboration with the public and the private sectors, and with both funding organisations and other research bodies.

Collaboration at National Level: the Institute sees its work as essential to the work of Government and State Agencies responsible for the development and implementation of policy. Working relationships have been developed with a number of such departments and agencies, most notably the Departments of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Education and Science, Health and Children, Social, Community and Family Affairs and the Central Statistics Office and agencies such as FÁS (The Training and Employment Authority), the National Economic and Social Council (NESC), the Combat Poverty Agency, Forbairt, Forfás and the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF).

The Institute has received considerable support from the Irish business community over the years expressed through corporate membership of the organisation, its response to the Institute's fund-raising campaigns and its direct support for research programmes in operation at the Institute. Irish business finds particular value in the detailed and independent analyses of the Irish economy provided by the Quarterly Economic Commentary, the Medium Term Review and the various studies in areas such as banking and finance, competitiveness of industry, energy, the environment and the labour market. Institute staff have also been readily available to members of the business world for debate and discussion on various issues. Business firms require in-depth evaluations of the economy in which they operate, how it is performing and its future prospects and they appreciate briefing by experts of established independence.

For a number of years, and particularly since 1991, the Institute has been engaged in major research projects on the two economies of Ireland

– North and South. Both economies have many similarities, not least in the difficulties which beset them for decades in regard to unemployment, emigration, public finances, the development of indigenous industry etc. The research has been undertaken under the aegis of the International Fund for Ireland (1992-1994), the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation (1995-1996), the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (1996), The Northern Ireland Economic Council (1997) and currently Co-operation North. Substantive issues investigated in association with the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre, the University of Ulster, the University of Strathclyde and the National Institute of Economic and Social Research include growth and development in the two economies, the long-term economic and social consequences of peace in the island, cross-border shopping and the economic and policy impacts of EMU. In the period since 1991, this programme of comparative research has not only been innovative but also strategic in view of the growing sense of co-operation between the two parts of the island of Ireland.

Collaboration at International Level: Since 1973, when Ireland joined the European Community, the Institute has undertaken a growing number of research projects and surveys on behalf of the Commission of the European Communities. Such direct involvement provides an EU dimension to the work of the Institute in the development of research activity and the evaluation of international trends. Areas in which the Institute has played a co-ordinating or participatory role include:

- the effects of the Single European Market (SEM) and the Community Support Framework (CSF) on the economies of Ireland and other peripheral countries, including the development of economic models for these countries;
- industrial policy in peripheral countries;
- the development of small and medium sized industries (SMEs) throughout the EU;
- the labour market, vocational training issues, transitions from education to work and the integration of young people;
- social policy issues such as income distribution and social protection, integration of the socially less favoured, minimum adequate income, the funding and administration of health services etc.

Increasingly, the research staff of the Institute are involved in European-wide networks organised under the aegis of the Commission. This direct

participation in the activities of the EU ensures a valuable two-way flow of information. On the one hand, this research is frequently drawn on by the EU in making future policy and it is very advantageous for Ireland to have an input at an early stage, so giving early expression to Irish concerns. On the other hand, participation in these studies provides a return flow to Ireland of detailed information about the EU and its future priorities.

The Institute has developed working relationships with other international organisations such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank. Substantial collaboration also occurs with leading universities and research institutes in other countries.

COUNCIL CHANGES

During 1998 Mr K. Bonner, Mr P. O'Reilly, Dr M. Somers and Mr C. Storm retired from the Council. Professor P. Geary, Mr P. Haran, Ms P. O'Donovan and Mr. E. Sullivan were elected to the Council.

FINAL ACCOUNTS 1997

The Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 1997 which have been audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General are published separately.

Member of Council:
J.F. Harford

Member of Council:
T.F. Ó Cofaigh

APPENDICES



CONTRIBUTORS TO THE ESRI FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN 1995-2000

The Institute wishes to acknowledge the very generous support it has received from the following who contributed to the Institute's fund-raising campaign.

APPENDIX A

ACC Bank plc
Aer Rianta
AIB Group
Association of Secondary Teachers, Ireland
Bank of Ireland
Banque Nationale de Paris
Barclays Bank plc
Bitech Engineering
Bord Gais Eireann
Bord na Móna
Cadbury Ireland Ltd
Cantrell & Cochrane Group Ltd
Cement Roadstone Holdings
Central Bank of Ireland
Citibank NA
Coillte Teoranta
Communications Workers Union
Craig Gardner
Custom House Docks Development Authority
Deloitte & Touche
Dresdner International Finance plc
Electricity Supply Board
Educational Building Society
First National Building Society
Gallagher (Dublin) Ltd
Golden Vale plc
Guinness Ireland Ltd
Hibernian Group plc
IAWS Group plc
ICC Bank plc
Irish Fertilizer Industries
Indecon Economic Consultants
ING Bank
Irish Biscuits Ltd
Irish Dairy Board
Irish Distillers Group plc
Irish Intercontinental Bank
Irish Life
Irish National Petroleum Corporation
Irish National Teachers' Organisation
Irish Nurses Organisation
Irish Pensions Trust Ltd
Irish Permanent plc
Irish Times Ltd
London Life and General Reinsurance Company Ltd
Merck Sharp & Dohme (Ireland)
MSF (Manufacturing, Science & Finance)
Murphy Brewery Ireland Ltd
Nestle Distribution Ireland
New Ireland Assurance Co plc
Novartis Agribusiness Ireland Ltd
Norwich Union
Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Production Corporation
An Post
Power Supermarkets Ltd
RTE - Radio Telefis Eireann
Ryan Irish Hotels
SIPTU Services Industrial Technical Union
Smurfit Ireland Ltd
Superquinn Ltd
TSB Bank
Teachers Union of Ireland
Telecom Eireann
Ulster Bank Trust Company
Voluntary Health Insurance Board
Woodchester Credit Lyonnais
Yamanouchi (Ireland) Company Ltd

STAFFING

APPENDIX B

STAFF AT 31 DECEMBER 1997

<i>Director</i>	B.J. Whelan
<i>Assistant Director (Administration) & Secretary</i>	J. Roughan
RESEARCH STAFF	
<i>Research Professors</i>	J. Bradley, T. Callan, D. Conniffe, J. Fitz Gerald, D. F. Hannan (Head of Sociology and Social Policy), P. Honohan, G. Hughes, K. A. Kennedy, B. Nolan, J. J. Sexton, C. T. Whelan
<i>Senior Research Officers</i>	T.J. Baker, T. Fahey, E. O'Malley, M.M. Wiley, J. Williams (Head of Survey Unit)
<i>Research Officers</i>	A. Barrett, I. Kearney, P.J. O'Connell, S. Scott, E. Smyth, D. Watson
<i>Assistant Research Officers</i>	D. Duffy, D. Frost, K. O'Higgins
<i>Research Assistants</i>	B. McCabe, F. Shortall
<i>Systems Analyst</i>	J. Walsh
TECHNICAL STAFF	
<i>Survey Unit</i>	S. Blackwell (Survey Processing Officer), M. Cagney (Field Operations), C. Collins (Surveys Executive), P. Needham (Coding & Data Preparation), E. Power (Field Operations), B. Ryan (Data Validation) <i>Coding & Data Entry:</i> G. Anderson, I. Condron, F. Rhatigan, C. Talbot <i>Contract Staff:</i> M. Clarke, F. Connaughton, I. Kavanagh, S. O'Reilly, C. Roche, E. Steffans
<i>Hospital In-Patient Enquiry</i>	A. Clifton (Systems Analyst), D. Murphy (Medical Coding Executive) <i>Medical Coding:</i> M. Glynn, N. Wall
<i>Computer Services</i>	R. MacCarthy (Data Processing), J. Ryan (Systems Administrator)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Executives and Clerical

P. Browne (Desk-top Publishing), P. Byrne (Assistant Director's Secretary), B. Clancy (Accounts), M. Cleary (General Office), P. Hopkins (Printing), R. Moore (Desk-top Publishing), C. O'Regan (Accounts), F. O'Sullivan (Director's Secretary)
Clerical: A. Curran, B. Forde, P. Hughes, A. O'Connell, D. Whitaker

General Services

Porters/Messengers: G. Garbutt (Head), T. Kelleher
Catering and Cleaning: R. Baker, P. Barry, A. Dent, M. Duffy, M. Heeney (Cleaning Supervisor), P. Hiney (Catering Supervisor), M. O'Reilly

Staff Members on Career Break/Secondment

R. Costello, M. Galvin

Post-graduate Fellowships (abroad)

A. Canny, S. McCoy, S.F. McGinnity, B. Merriman, N. O'Donnell, C. O'Donoghue, C. O'Reardon, N. Sheridan

OTHER STAFF COMMITMENTS

A number of staff continued to perform a limited amount of teaching in the universities and in other forums of professional or adult education. The staff of the Institute also participated in a number of national and international conferences.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|---|
| A. BARRETT | (i) | Research Affiliate, Centre for Economic Policy Research, London. |
| | (ii) | Member, The Royal Irish Academy National Committee for the Study of International Affairs. |
| J. BRADLEY | (i) | Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Economic Modelling. |
| T. CALLAN | (i) | Member, Working Group on Poverty and Welfare in Ireland, Combat Poverty Agency, Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. |
| | (ii) | Member, Commission on the Family. |
| | (iii) | Member, Steering Group, Long-term Unemployed Project, Northside Partnership. |
| D. CONNIFFE | (i) | Council, Economic and Social Studies. |
| D. DUFFY | (i) | Member, Groupeuro - EU panel of speakers on a single currency. |
| T. FAHEY | (i) | Chairperson, Trócaire Research Advisory Group. |
| | (ii) | Associate Editor (Production), <i>European Sociological Review</i> . |
| | (iii) | Member, Irish Aid Advisory Committee. |
| | (iv) | Member, Women's Health Council. |
| | (v) | Member, International Steering Committee of the 1999 European Values Survey. |
| D.F. HANNAN | (i) | Council, Economic and Social Studies. |
| | (ii) | Member of R.I.A. Social Sciences Committee. |
| | (iii) | Member, Policy Advisory Committee on Educational Disadvantage, Combat Poverty Agency. |
| | (iv) | Member, Focus Ireland Research Fund Trust. |
| P. HONOHAN | (i) | Member, National Economic and Social Council. |
| | (ii) | Research Fellow, Centre for Economic Policy Research, London. |
| | (iii) | Vice President, Irish Economic Association. |
| | (iv) | Member, Projects Committee, Foundation for Fiscal Studies. |
| | (v) | Member, Steering Group for Industrial Development, Evaluation Unit, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. |

- G. HUGHES
- (i) Associate Editor of *International Contributions to Labour Studies*.
 - (ii) Visiting Professor, University College Cork, Department of Economics.
 - (iii) Member of CIRETOQ Network for Co-operation in Research on Trends in the Development of Occupations & Qualifications in European Union.
- K.A. KENNEDY
- (i) Council, Economic and Social Studies.
 - (ii) Vice-President, Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland.
 - (iii) National Delegate to the Targeted Socio-economic Research Programme Management Committee, under the EU Fourth Framework Programme 1994-1998.
 - (iv) Member, Humanities Research Committee of the Royal Irish Academy.
 - (v) Visiting Professor, University College Cork.
 - (vi) Member of the Advisory Committee on the Assessment of Candidates for Membership of the Royal Irish Academy.
 - (vii) Convenor, Historical National Accounts Group for Ireland.
 - (viii) Member, Committee of Management of the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre.
- B. NOLAN
- (i) Council, Economic and Social Studies.
 - (ii) Member, Working Group on Poverty & Welfare in Ireland, Combat Poverty Agency and Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.
 - (iii) National Committee for Economics and Social Sciences – Royal Irish Academy.
 - (iv) Social Science Research Council.
- K. O'HIGGINS
- (i) Council, Economic and Social Studies.
 - (ii) Committee on Family Research, International Sociological Association.
 - (iii) Member, Council for Social Welfare.
- P. O'CONNELL
- (i) Member, Technical Working Group, and Steering Group on Funding of Second-Level Schools, Department of Education & Science.
 - (ii) Member, Management Board, and Chair, Research Sub-Committee, the Bridge Project – Intensive Probation Supervision Initiative administered by the Probation and Welfare Service, the Irish Youth Foundation, and City of Dublin V.E.C.
 - (iii) Member of the editorial boards of *Youth Studies* and the *Irish Journal of Sociology and Work, Employment and Society*.
 - (iv) Member, Policy Advisory Group on Long-term Unemployment and Educational Disadvantage, The Combat Poverty Agency.
- E. O'MALLEY
- (i) Member, Research Advisory Group, Trócaire.
 - (ii) Member, Board of Combat Poverty Agency.
 - (iii) Member, Steering Group of the Industry Evaluation Unit.
- J. ROUGHAN
- (i) Member, Board of Cerebral Palsy Ireland.
- S. SCOTT
- (i) Supervisor of post-graduate thesis.
 - (ii) Member of the Board of Nitrigin Éireann Teoranta
 - (iii) Member, Steering Committee on Environmental Policy for the Institute for European Affairs.
 - (iv) Member, Central Statistics Office Group on National Accounting & Environment (NAMEA)
 - (v) Member of the Economics Working Group on the State of the Environment Report of the Environmental Protection Agency
- J.J. SEXTON
- (i) Vice-President, Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland.
 - (ii) Irish Correspondent, EU (DGV) Information System Employment (SYSDM).
 - (iii) Irish Correspondent to SOPEMI, the OECD International Reporting System on Migration.
 - (iv) Member, Board of Management, St Vincent's Hospital, Fairview.
- B.J. WHELAN
- (i) Member, Working Group on Poverty and Welfare in Ireland, Combat Poverty Agency and Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

- (ii) Member, Research and Methodology Committee of the European Community Household Panel, Eurostat.
- (iii) Council, Economic and Social Studies
- (iv) Member of the Council of European Centre for Analysis in the Social Sciences (ECASS)
- (v) Member, Council of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland.
- (vi) Member, Technical and Evaluation Committee of Central Fisheries Board Tourism Angling Measure (TAM).

C.T. WHELAN

- (i) Member, Working Group on Poverty and Welfare in Ireland, Combat Poverty Agency and Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.
- (ii) Member, Editorial Board of *European Sociological Review*
- (iii) Member of Council, Economic and Social Studies.
- (iv) Member, Combat Poverty Agency Working Group on Community Development

M.M. WILEY

- (i) Member, Health Research Board and Chairperson, Health Services Research Committee, Health Research Board.
- (ii) Member, Research Committee, St. Michael's House (Dublin).
- (iii) Member, Foundation Projects Committee, Irish College of General Practitioners.
- (iv) Member, Council of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland.

RESEARCH PROJECTS IN PROGRESS AT 31 DECEMBER 1997

APPENDIX C

Researchers	Projects	Present Stage	Next Stage
I ECONOMIC FORECASTING AND MODELLING			
T.J. Baker, D. Duffy, F. Shortall	Study of current trends in the Irish economy.	Continuous.	Published as QEC. Next issue: April 1998.
J. Bradley	Macroeconomics and structural change in transition economies: Common themes in CEE and EU periphery countries.	Initial meeting at ESRI, October (Romania, Slovenia, Czech Republic).	Interim Report: April 1998.
J. Fitz Gerald, I. Kearney, F. Shortall	Co-operation with D/Finance on medium-term model: data bank model updating and model use.	Continuous.	
J. Fitz Gerald, I. Kearney, F. Shortall	Medium-term economic review and outlook for Ireland.	MTR No. 6 published, April 1997.	Revision of MTR model and updating of databank.
II ECONOMIC GROWTH			
<i>Energy Policy Research Centre Projects:</i>			
D. Conniffe	a) Econometric and statistical analyses of energy data.	Continuous.	
S. Scott, J. Fitz Gerald F. Shortall	b) Development of an energy data base.	Co-ordination with D/TEC on their involvement in this task.	Available to give advice.
S. Scott, J. Fitz Gerald	c) Energy conservation spin-offs (i) energy conservation and low income households; and (ii) energy conservation and market failure.	Continuous.	

Researchers	Projects	Present Stage	Next Stage
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Environmental Policy Research Centre Projects:

S. Scott, A. Barrett, E.W. Henry, F. Shortall	a) Compilation of satellite environmental accounts (for CSO).	Interim report submitted to CSO, December 1997.	Final report: March 1998.
S. Scott	b) Limitation of greenhouse gas emissions (for ERM).	Interim report submitted July 1997.	Revisions in light of comments.
A. Barrett, S. Scott	c) Environmental impact of continuing transport growth and the scope for ameliorative measures.	Research in progress.	First draft report: March 1998.
S. Scott	d) Agriculture schemes and premia payments: Are they targeted to households that need them.	Research in progress.	Draft report: February 1998.
S. Scott, H. Greer (NRL)	e) Employment impacts of energy efficiency investment programmes (for DG XVII - SAVEII Programme)	Research in progress.	Final report: Summer 1999.
J. Williams, S. Scott	f) National study of preferences and attitudes concerning forest development in Ireland.	Research in progress.	First draft report: August 1998.

Industrial Development Research Centre Project:

E. O'Malley	Determinants of competitive advantage in selected Irish sectors.	Sector case studies published by NESC, November 1997.	Publication of conclusions in NESC Conference Proceedings.
J. Bradley, J. McCartan	Economic and monetary union (EMU) and Northern Ireland: Economic and policy impacts.	Revised report completed.	Publication by NIEC.
E. O'Malley	European observatory for small and medium-size enterprises.	Fifth Annual Report published, October 1997.	Tendering for next report.

III THE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Banking Research Centre Project:

P. Honohan, J. Kelly	Bank credit and bank resources.	Project completed.	
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IV REGIONAL ISSUES

J. Bradley, M.D'Arcy (DSA), M. Morrissey (UU), A. Smyth (UU)	Border crossings project: study of barriers to, and benefits of, North-South economic co-operation.	Research in progress.	Interim reports: April 1998.
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Researchers	Projects	Present Stage	Next Stage
V THE PUBLIC SECTOR			
T. Callan, J. Walsh	Microsimulation Forum.	New model completed.	Introductory meeting, January 1998.
VI PRICES AND INCOMES			
J. Fitz Gerald, I. Kearney	Pricing and competitiveness in the non-tradable sector.	First draft completed.	Second draft: Spring 1998.
VII DEMOGRAPHY AND LABOUR			
<i>Joint FÁS/ESRI Manpower Forecasting Programme:</i>			
D. Frost, G. Hughes, J.J. Sexton	Implications of occupational forecasts for 2003 for educational qualifications, self-employment and part-time employment.	Research in progress.	First draft: Spring 1998.
A. Barrett	Exploring the returns to continuing vocational training (for CEDEFOP).	Research in progress.	First draft: February 1998.
A. Barrett, P.J. O'Connell	Youth unemployment in Northern Europe.	Research in progress.	Interim report: April 1998.
D. Hannan, B. McCabe	Competition between levels of education in the Irish labour market: The issue of over-qualification.	External refereeing in progress.	Revision in light of external referee's comments.
D. Hannan, E. Smyth	Vocational training and labour market transitions (Leonardo project).	Interim report submitted to DG XXII, December 1997.	Final report: December 1998.
G. Hughes, P.J. O'Connell	The Ph.D. labour market and career patterns of Ph.D. graduates	Final draft submitted to Forbairt, January 1995.	Updating of draft for publication by Forfás.
P.J. O'Connell, A. Barrett	Survey of the impact of in-company training.	Research in progress.	Final draft report: February 1998.
P.J. O'Connell, F. McGinnity	Social integration by transitional labour markets: New pathways of labour market policy: (a) Training and human capital investment. (b) Households and working time flexibility.	Second interim report in preparation. Second interim report in preparation.	Third interim report: July 1998. Third interim report: July 1998.
E. Smyth	School effectiveness and school improvement: A research study.	Second draft report sent to Department of Education & Science, December 1997. Internal reading of first draft of ESRI paper in progress.	Revision in light of comments received.

Researchers	Projects	Present Stage	Next Stage
K.A. Kennedy <i>et al.</i>	Strategic plan for new Blanchardstown RTC.	Report submitted to Minister for Education & Science, December 1997.	Consideration of report by Minister
D. Watson, T. Fahey, K.A. Kennedy, B.J. Whelan	Study of employment needs in Gaeltacht areas (for Údarás na Gaeltachta).	First draft report submitted, November 1997.	Preparation of final report: Spring 1998.

VIII SOCIAL POLICY



<i>Social Welfare Research Programme for Dept of Social, Community and Family Affairs and Combat Poverty Agency:</i>			
T. Callan, B. Nolan, B.J. Whelan, C.T. Whelan, D. Watson, J. Williams, J. Walsh	a) Tax-benefit modelling.	Report submitted and model software delivered.	Revision in light of comments.
	b) Assessment of policy changes 1987-1994.	Comments on first draft report received.	Redrafting report for publication.
	c) Contexts of poverty.	Final draft sent to CPA.	Publication by Combat Poverty: Early 1998.
	d) Poverty and social exclusion: Analysing cumulative disadvantage.	Research in progress.	First draft: January 1998.
	e) Women and poverty.	Interim report submitted to Combat Poverty.	Project to be completed by Spring 1998.
	f) Child poverty in Ireland.	Research in progress.	First draft report: mid-1998.
And D. O'Neill, O. Sweetman	g) Distribution of income and earnings in Ireland.	Interim report submitted to Combat Poverty.	Project to be completed by mid-1998.
<i>Health Policy Research Centre Projects:</i>			
D. Conniffe	a) Updating of data and statistical analyses of relevance to Centre projects.	Continuous	
M.M. Wiley, A. Clifton, D. Murphy, J. Bourke, C. Mitchell, N. Wall, M. Glynn	b) Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE).	Continuous	
M.M. Wiley, A. Clifton, D. Murphy	c) Audit of HIPE data quality.	Data collection completed. Analysis in progress.	First draft report: early 1998.
M. M. Wiley	d) Economics of health promotion and disease prevention.	Research in progress.	First report: July 1998.
T. Callan, B. Nolan	Estimation and monitoring of replacement rates.	Report submitted to Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, December 1997.	Consideration of report by Department.

Researchers	Projects	Present Stage	Next Stage
T. Callan, B. Nolan, D. Watson, B.J. Whelan, C.T. Whelan, J. Williams	European Community household panel in Ireland.	Data processing Wave 4.	Longitudinal checks.
D. Conniffe, B. Nolan, C.T. Whelan	Living standards and household composition.	Research in progress.	First draft report: March 1998.
T. Fahey, K. O'Higgins	Community dimension of drug abuse in Ireland (Combat Poverty).	Research in progress.	Interim report: June 1998.
T. Fahey, K. O'Higgins, <i>et al.</i>	Building better communities: strategies to improve quality of life in urban local authority housing estates (Howard Foundation and Combat Poverty).	Research in progress.	Interim report: February 1998.
B. Nolan	Low pay in Ireland.	Report submitted to Minimum Wage Commission, November 1997.	Consideration of report by Commission.
B. Nolan, C.T. Whelan	Employment precarity, unemployment and social exclusion.	One working paper drafted. Material for others supplied to participants.	Finalisation of working paper: January 1998.
K. O'Higgins, T. Fahey	Review of literature and policy on links between poverty and drug abuse.	Report submitted to Combat Poverty, December 1997.	Consideration of report by Combat Poverty.
E. Smyth, B. McCabe	Educational policy for disadvantaged children.	Research in progress.	Interim report: January 1998.

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APPENDIX D

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