

Good morning Geographers,

I hope you are all keeping well. This week's newsletter focus is on the diversity of research going on in our Department. We have organised ourselves around some unifying themes and clusters of researchers. Over the years these research groups have been incredibly successful in securing funding for cutting edge research. This weeks highlights are followed by a few examples of current projects.

RESEARCH highlights

Natasha Keenaghan successfully defended her PhD thesis in February. Drawing from perspectives in geography and media studies Natasha's thesis (supervised by Kathy Reilly) examines the role of NGOs in changing public attitudes towards distant humanitarian crises. It looked at the kind of themes and critique that would even get a *Strictly Come Dancing* star in hot water, see

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comic-relief-donations-david-lammy-stacey-dooley-africa-colonial-a8828016.html> for a bit of 'celebrity' feuding for added entertainment.

Pat Collins together with his co-authors Prof James Cunningham (University of Northumbria) and Dr Majella Giblin (Management) have just finished their book, "The Evolution of Irish Industrial, Science and Technology Policy". It feeds into the national discourse of "*Future Jobs Ireland*" - see more on that

<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/Publications/Publication-files/Irelands-Industry-4-Strategy-2020-2025.pdf>

Kathy Reilly is currently in Melbourne, Australia where she has been hosted by the Centre for Urban Research, and the Centre for Global and Social Studies at RMIT University. Kathy's central research interests centre on geographies of children, young people and families; geographies of social justice; and participative field-based research practice.

RESEARCH project highlights

The AELCLIC Project (Environmental Change Cluster), targets site specific *Climate-Change Adaptation*, requiring the support of all the people and groups living, working & using a landscape. The Bertra Beach Working Group (outside Westport, Co Mayo) is currently working to develop pathways to future resilience for its communities and landscape - <https://aelcllicpathfinder.com/atlantic-alpine-europe>.

The *Geopolitics and Justice Research Cluster* is concerned with critiquing geopolitical, geo-economic and developmental forms of interventionism, a common concern lies in theorising and insisting upon *more humane, nuanced and critical human geographies*, and in considering the urgent issues of economic, environmental and social justice in our contemporary world.

The IMAJINE project (Rural Studies Cluster) looks at ways to more effectively address *territorial inequalities* within the European Union, and to imagine a future for European regions in which the distribution of resources is consistent with principles of social and spatial justice <http://imajine-project.eu/#home>.

The MOSES project (Planning and Sustainability Cluster) is examining the '*blue*' *growth* in major sectors of the Atlantic space. It is evaluating sectoral pressures on the marine environment, the vulnerability of coastal areas, and developing sustainable transition plans to blue growth. See their latest newsletter <http://mosesproject.eu/second-project-newsletter/>.