



***Honorary Secretary's Report
Proceedings of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland
One Hundred and Seventy-Fourth Session: 2020/2021***

First Meeting

The first ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 4.30pm on Thursday 22nd October 2020, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair. Tim Callan and Karina Doorley presented a paper entitled 'Top Incomes in Ireland: Reconciling Evidence from Tax Records and Household Survey Data.' Aedin Doris and Robert Sweeney led the subsequent discussion, with further contributions from Jean Acheson, Brendan P Ryan, Brendan O'Dowd, Barra Roantree, Chris Sibley and Patrick Honohan. Following the discussion and responses from the authors, the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting to a close.

Second Meeting

The second ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 4.30pm on Thursday 26th November 2020, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair, for a Symposium with the theme 'Jurisprudence and its impact upon Public Policy'. Papers were delivered by Paul Gallagher SC, Margaret Gray SC QC, and Michael McDowell SC. During the subsequent discussion, questions and contributions were made by Sean Barrett, Donal O'Brolchain, Eoin Flaherty, Ronan Lyons, Paul Walsh and John Flanagan. Following the discussion and responses from the authors, the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting to a close.

Third Meeting

The third ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 5pm on Thursday 21st January 2021, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings, with the assistance of Trinity Research in Social Sciences. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair, for this year's Barrington Lecture. The lecture was by Dr Niall Farrell of Queen's University Belfast and entitled 'Has fuel poverty changed and how should policy respond? Charting fuel poverty in Ireland from 1987 to 2015.' During the subsequent discussion, questions and contributions were made by Sean Lyons, Gerry Brady, Barra Roantree, Dorothy Watson, Siobhan Carey and Daire McCoy. Following the discussion and response from the author, the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting to a close.

Fourth Meeting

The fourth ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 5pm on Thursday 25th March 2021, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings, with the assistance of Trinity Research in Social Sciences. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair, for a paper entitled 'Income Volatility on Dairy Farms in Ireland', by Jason Loughrey (Teagasc), Declan O'Connor (MTU), Trevor Donnellan (Teagasc), Thia Hennessy (UCC) and Fiona Thorne (Teagasc). The proposal of the vote of thanks was made by Tadhg Buckley (IFA) and seconded by Paul Caskie (Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute of Northern Ireland), while there were contributions from the floor by John Fitzgerald, Mary Keeney, Thomas Conefrey, Michael D'Arcy, and Joe Treacy. Following the discussion and response from the author, the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting to a close.

Fifth Meeting

The fifth ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 5pm on Thursday 29th April 2021, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings, with assistance from Trinity Research in Social Sciences. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair, for a Symposium with the theme 'International Trade and Investment Agreements: Fit for Future Purpose.'

Papers were delivered by Chris Barton (Director General of Trade Negotiations, UK Department for International Trade), H.E. Ailish Campbell (Canada's Ambassador to the EU), and Dr Martina Lawless (Research Professor, Economic and Social Research Institute). During the subsequent discussion, questions and contributions were made by Frances Ruane, Sean Barrett, Donal O'Brolchain, Eoin Flaherty, Ronan Lyons, Paul Walsh and John Flanagan. Following the discussion and responses from the authors, the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting to a close.

Sixth Meeting

The sixth ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 4.30pm on Thursday, 27th May 2021, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings, with assistance from Trinity Research in Social Sciences. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair, for a paper entitled 'A high frequency model of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ireland and its trading partners during 2020', by Donal Smith (Department of Finance), Luke Rehill (Department of Finance) and Haicheng Shu (Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, China). The proposal of the vote of thanks was made by David Higgins (Carraighill), while there were contributions from the floor by Danny McCoy, Ronan Lyons, Michael D'Arcy, and Alan de Bromhead. Following the discussion and response from the author, the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting to a close.

Seventh Meeting

The seventh and final ordinary meeting of the 174th session of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland was held at 4.30pm on Thursday 17th June 2021, online due to the covid19 pandemic and associated restrictions on physical meetings, with assistance from Trinity Research in Social Sciences. The meeting opened with society business, including reports from its Officers and the election of Council. The President, Danny McCoy, was in the Chair, for a paper entitled 'A review of fifteen years of Ireland's corporation tax returns', written by Jean Acheson and Donough Lawlor (Revenue Commissioners). The proposal of the vote of thanks was made by Aisling Donohue (Anderson Ireland), while there were contributions from the floor by John FitzGerald, Paul Sweeney, Patrick Honohan and Eddie Casey. Following the discussion and responses from the author and from Keith Walsh (Revenue Commissioners), the President thanked those who had contributed, and brought the meeting and the 174th session to a close.