

The Schools' Business Partnership Team Bios 2014

Germaine Noonan MBS, B. Comm, H Dip in Ed.

Programme Manager

Germaine joined BITCI in 2003 and is seconded to manage The Schools' Business Partnership Programme from Pobalscoil Rosmini in Drumcondra. Germaine has overseen the growth of the initiative from 15 schools to today's level of 200. She has assisted the Czech Republic replicated the initiative in 2011. Germaine has presented the Schools' Business Partnership as a model of best practice at a number of EU Conferences and during EU Presidencies. Germaine spent almost 20 years teaching business subjects in Dublin, Clare and New York in the second level sector. She has also managed European education partnerships.



Dr. Eleanor Walsh, Ph.D. (Mathematics)

Assistant Manager and Regional Coordinator – Clare/Limerick

Eleanor joined in 2008 as a regional coordinator and retains that role alongside the role of assistant manager, which she was appointed to in July 2010. Her background is mainly in the education sector, but she has also worked as a computer programmer. She has research and publications in the area of Linear Algebra, and has lectured in many third level institutions including Limerick IT, Dundalk IT, St. Patrick's College (Drumcondra) and NUI Maynooth. She has a strong interest in STEM related topics.



Kate Horton,

Regional Co-ordinator - North East Region.

Kate is with us since March 2005. Her background is in Customer Services with over 10 years in the Pharmaceutical Industry. She has also worked in a number of customer orientated companies both semi-state and private in both Ireland and the USA which is of benefit in her current role.



Margaret Kelly

Regional coordinator – South East of Ireland.

Margaret joined in March 2005 and brought extensive experience of the business sector to the team. She worked for many years as part of the Branch Management Team with First Active. Margaret is currently dividing her time between our programme and ALP where she tutors adult learners.



Breda O’Sullivan, B.Sc. (Marketing), Dip. Adult Ed.

Regional Co-ordinator – Dublin

Breda joined in 2005. Her background is predominantly in the IT training sector having worked with Cyber House Computer Training for a number of years before setting up her own computer applications training business. She also provided computer training on the VTOS programme for City of Dublin VEC, working with adults returning to work.



Eileen Fitzgerald

Regional Co-ordinator - Kerry

Eileen has experience in customer services and human resources in the financial sector having worked for six years with International Fund Managers in the IFSC in Dublin. She also worked with a number of leading multinational companies in both the USA and Ireland. Her background and experience in business lends itself to the role of SBP Co-ordinator which Eileen took up in October 2006.



Celine McGrath, MA, Politics & Social Policy

Regional Coordinator - Cork

Celine has been a regional co-ordinator in Cork since 2006. Her background is in publishing, journalism and media relations. Prior to joining the SBP team Celine was a Senior Press Officer in the UK Government's Cabinet Office for several years.



Elaine McFadden, BSc. Dip. Rural Development

Regional Coordinator - Donegal

Elaine joined in February 2007, having spent eleven years as an engineer with Babcock Energy Limited, in Scotland. Elaine relocated to Donegal where she has most recently, been working in the community development and educational sectors in a managerial capacity. She is also a part-time tutor for a women's cross border education programme (OWL) with the WEA.



Alison Norman, BA Hons, P Grad. Dip. Bus. Studies

Regional Co-ordinator – Dublin

Alison has a strong commercial background having worked for the past 13 years in consumer marketing roles in the pharmaceutical, FMCG and telecoms sectors. Her experience in business lends itself to the role of SBP co-ordinator which Alison took up in September 2007.



Diane Beckingham

Regional Coordinator – Cork

Diane joined in October 2007 and brings a strong business background to her role, having worked for over 15 years in human resources, training and development and as a business consultant to companies both in Ireland and in the UK. Diane has extensive experience of project management, coaching and facilitation.



Fania Ellison M.A. Postgraduate School of Law, Bar Finals

Regional Coordinator - Mayo

Fania joined in January 2008. Her background is in the legal and financial service sectors. She previously practised at the Bar in London, specialising in employment, personal injury, criminal and public law. More recently she was the Operations Director of Massow Financial Services, a leading independent financial advisers.



Fedelma O' Farrell

Regional Coordinator – Dublin

Fedelma joined in 2008 as regional coordinator in Dublin. She has brought extensive experience of business sector having worked for many years as a Manager in Bank of Ireland, International Banking and set up a Training & Development section there. She was also involved in Skillnets project Training Trainers and with a Scottish Company providing online HR and Training Resources



Enda McCloskey

Regional Coordinator - Sligo

Enda joined in July 2009. He has worked in the technology industry for over 15 years with top multinational companies Hewlett Packard (HP), Computer Science Corporation (CSC) and Delco Remy. In 2007 he started his own training business specialising in technology and personal development training.



Nuala Greenan

Regional Co-ordinator – Galway

Nuala joined in 2011. Her background is in general and project management with over 16 years in senior roles in multinationals and SMEs in Ireland and overseas. She has worked in the construction, telecommunications and children's play provision industries, most recently as Managing Director of a playground provider. Nuala is currently dividing her time between us and NG Management Services which she set up in 2010.



Patricia Reilly

Regional Coordinator – Midlands

Patricia joined the team in 2011, and has extensive experience in both the business and educational sectors. She commenced her career within high quality pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing environments, working in technical and quality management positions. More recently she has worked in recruitment and in various roles in the educational sector, including Guidance Counsellor and Programme Facilitator.

Miriam Kenny, RGN, BMus H.Dip Ed

Regional Co-ordinator – Dublin

Miriam commenced with us in 2011 and previously worked as a senior manager in the health service for nearly ten years and has an in depth knowledge of procurement, supply chain and the medical device industry. She has also worked as a nurse in both Ireland and England, has a Bachelor of Music and a Higher Diploma in Education. She has taught at second level preparing students for state examinations, developed an eclectic transition year music programme and also taught social personal and health education.



Clodagh Gormon MBA, BBS, Cert Training & Education, MIITD, MMBAAI

Regional Co-ordinator - Kildare/Laois/Offaly

Clodagh brings over 20 years' experience to her role within the SBP based across the private, public and third sectors. The early part of her career concentrated on SME development including the assessment of projects for government grant aid and the development of bespoke soft supports for SME's. The latter part of her career straddles the private & third sectors through a deep commitment to Corporate Responsibility and volunteering, and the opportunities this presents for partnership in the form of shared impacts and economies of scale, across the private and community sectors.



Cliona Fitzsimons

Regional Co-ordinator – Dublin

Cliona was one of the first SBP team members and worked with us from late 2003 to 2007. We welcomed her back to BITC in 2012. Her background is in customer services and HR, with over 12 years' experience in US multinationals. She has worked in the telecommunications and relocation industries, as well as teaching German at secondary level in Ireland. Cliona currently divides her time between BITC and her relocation business, which was set up in 2012.



Louise Casey

Waterford Regional Coordinator

Louise started in her role in October 2013 in the South East Region. She holds a Degree in Business Studies and is a Cost and Management Accountant by profession. She started out in Industry, though now working in the area of Local Development over 20 years. She has a genuine interest in reducing levels of school-leaving in Ireland and currently doing further study in this area as part of a Master Degree and is currently working part-time as a financial accountant in a Local Development Company in Waterford as well as her role with SBP.

