

# The Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland:

## AGM & Presidential Address

### Hybrid Meeting

*Queen's Business School, Riddel Hall, Queen's University Belfast*

*Thursday, 29 May 2025*

*5:30 PM – 8:30 PM (AGM 5.30pm; Presidential Address 6.15pm)*

The Statistical & Social Inquiry Society of Ireland invites you to attend its AGM and Presidential Address.

### Title

## *Advancing Public Policy in Ireland: A Vision for Collaboration, Integrity, and Innovation*

**Speaker:** Professor Patrick Paul Walsh

- Full Professor of Global Affairs and Sustainable Futures, School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin (UCD)
- Vice President of Education, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
- Director, SDG Academy
- Programme Director (Online), MSc in Sustainable Development – SDG Academy, UCD

## Abstract

Founded in 1847 amid a time of acute societal crisis, the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland (SSISI) has historically championed a whole-of-society approach to inform public policy, guided by its mission to pursue truth and improve society – ‘Our Pole Star is Truth.’. Today, SSISI continues to address contemporary challenges in Ireland by fostering stakeholder collaboration that focuses on: strengthening the bureaucratic side of Government to enhance legislative impact, promoting the use of official statistics for robust policy analysis, leveraging digital tools to improve the science-policy interface, adopting All-Island approaches to public policy, and empowering young public servants in economic, social, and environmental domains. The Society aims to connect academia with government, and other stakeholders, to bolster policymaking that prioritizes public welfare. Additionally, SSISI emphasises information integrity, advocating for trust in official data and peer-reviewed research amid rising disinformation. It underscores the need for public

sector capacity to manage digital assets and develop human capital, promoting state ownership and innovation for the global public good.

**Keywords:** Partnerships · Public Policy Actors · Official Statistics · Science–Policy Interface · All-Island Approaches · Capacity Building

**Hosted by:** CEPH at Queen’s University Belfast


**Sponsored by:** IBEC

The meeting will have a hybrid format, with an opportunity to attend physically at Queen’s Business School or online. The physical meeting will be held in Room 0G.013, Riddel Hall, Belfast.

As ever, non-members are welcome to attend and participate in the discussion and we hope that you would circulate to others who may be interested so that they may also register their interest and attend on the day.


## Event Schedule:

### Registration & Council Gathering

 5:30 PM – 6:15 PM

- Registration & Welcome: Room 0G.025A
- SSISI Council Meeting (*Council members only*): School Boardroom

### SSISI Public Lecture & Respondents

 6:15 PM – 8:00 PM

 Lecture Venue: Room 0G.013

- Welcome Remarks
- Keynote Lecture – 6:20 PM to 7:00 PM (*40 minutes*)
- Respondent 1 – 7:00 PM to 7:20 PM
- Respondent 2 – 7:20 PM to 7:40 PM
- Audience Q&A & Discussion – 7:40 PM to 8:30PM