

# Irish Committee for Mathematics Education Update

August 2024

**Members:** Ann O'Shea (Chair), Julie Crowley, Ronan Flatley, Jim Grannell, Mary Hanley, Kirsten Pfeiffer, Rachel Quinlan.

The committee has been working on the following topics:

**Online Webinars on Teaching and Learning in Higher Education:** Julie Crowley organised two webinars so far this year.

- 13th of Feb 2024 Dr Catherine Palmer and Dr Maryna Lishchynska from Munster Technological University presented their *paper Is motivation the key? Factors impacting performance in first year service mathematics modules*, Lishchynska, M., Palmer, C., Lacey, S., & O'Connor, D. (2023). *European Journal of Science and Mathematics Education*, 11(1), 146-166. <https://doi.org/10.30935/scimath/12529> There were 22 people in attendance from 10 Universities.
- 30th of April 2024 Dr Damien Raferty of South East Technological University his paper *Will ChatGPT pass the online quizzes? Adapting an assessment strategy in the age of generative AI*. *Irish Journal of Technology Enhanced Learning* 7(1) <https://doi.org/10.22554/ijtel.v7i1.114> There were 23 people in attendance from 12 Universities.

**Textbook quality assurance:** The group which was formed to study the quality of second level mathematics textbooks ( Mary Hanley, Ronan Flatley and Jim Grannell) have finalised their reports on a large selection of textbooks. The ICME have yet to discuss the final reports but will do so in September. We will then contact authors and publishers as a first step.

**Leaving Certificate Mathematics Higher Level Paper 2023:** Following requests from IMS members, we set up a subcommittee (consisting of Rachel Quinlan, Julie Crowley, and Kirsten Pfeiffer) to look at the exam papers. The subcommittee has written a report. Once this is approved by ICME we will send their report to the SEC.

**International Congree on Mathematics Education:** This took place in Sydney in July 2024. It began with a one-day meeting of the General Assembly of ICMI. The Chair of our committee was unable to attend but Dr Aishling Twohill of DCU attended the meeting in her place. She reported that ICMI are building a database of information on the educational systems of countries. Dr Twohill and Ann O'Shea will work on developing the Irish entry.

The committee welcomes feedback on these ideas as well as suggestions of other areas where we could be of help.

Ann O'Shea

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