

Lecturer Profiles

MSc in Design and Innovation

Dr Gabriel J Costello BE, Dip QA, MEng, PhD



Gabriel is a Lecturer in Engineering at the Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology since 2001. Prior to this, he worked for twenty years in the telecommunications industry where he held engineering, supply chain and product management positions.

In 2010, he completed a PhD in Management Information Systems at the J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics, National University of Ireland, Galway in the area of information systems innovation. This research involved a two-year action research study based in an Irish Multinational Subsidiary. His 2004 Masters by Research (MEng) examined the diffusion of energy management practices in Ireland's SME sector and was supported by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

His teaching includes modules in the "Product Design" stream of the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering and involves project work in collaboration with the iHUB innovation centre in GMIT, as well as with a number of local enterprises. Gabriel holds the title of Chartered Engineer (CEng MIEI) from Engineers Ireland.

Gabriel has over 70 peer-reviewed publications and in May 2020 published a book with Springer: "The Teaching of Design and Innovation: Principles and Practices"

Dr Rory Mooney, PhD



Dr Rory Mooney holds multiple awards in the field of Innovation and Design. In 2011 he was the winner of the Inaugural Enterprise Ireland Cleveland Clinic, Clinical Innovation awards. He won the Irish Laboratory Awards, Innovation of the Year in 2018 and the Munster Seedcorn Investor Readiness competition in 2019.

Rory holds three granted patents as lead inventor, with eight further patent applications. He has authored and co-authored in excess of ten peer reviewed journal publications in Biomedical Engineering.

Rory was awarded a PhD in Tissue Engineering and an MSc in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Limerick, a BE in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Huddersfield, a National Diploma in Tool Design and a National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering from Sligo Institute of Technology, and a Certificate in Medical Science from the Royal College of Surgeons.

Dr Mooney has held senior engineering roles with two large medical devices companies over the last 25 years, initially as a principal engineer at Lake Region Medical, Integer Corporation, Ireland. In 2006 he joined Stryker Innovation, EMEA for four years as an Innovation Project Engineer managing development projects of special instruments and commercialising new technologies, gaining vast experience.

Rory setup and ran his own medical device product development and commercialisation consultancy, Ideas BioTech Ltd., for nine years, until becoming co-founder of Class Medical Ltd. Class Medical is a start-up medical device company spun out of the University of Limerick in 2015, where he was founding CEO and lead inventor of their safe valve technology. Last year having brought the company through the start-up phase, Rory switched his focus over to become the Chief Technical Officer.

Dr Mooney also works as an academic in Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering, joining GMIT's team in 2017. He previously lectured at the University of Limerick, specialising in Creative Design, Mechanical and Medical Device Design. Rory's main areas of interests lie in creative design, human physiology, and entrepreneurship.

Emer Cahill, MBA



Emer began her career as a Design Engineer with Northern Telecom, later Nortel Networks. During her time with Northern Telecom she completed an MBA.

Further pursuing her interest in design, the subject of her dissertation investigated the development of creativity in engineering students.

Emer spent three years as a lecturer with Athlone IT before joining the staff of the Electronic Engineering Department in GMIT where she established and teaches an Enterprise & Innovation module to final year engineering students.

She also has extensive experience guiding and mentoring Electronic Engineering students' design projects. Emer believes that new MSc in Design & Innovation will unlock innovative potential in our prospective students, bringing benefits to them as individuals & to their companies.

Dr Martin Taggart, PhD



Martin is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building, and a Chartered Construction Manager. He is also a Fellow Chartered Building Engineer, with the Chartered Association of Building Engineers.

Dr Taggart has worked in the construction and built environment sector for over 40 years. For the past 13 years, he has worked as a lecturer in Building and Civil Engineering at Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. His specialist teaching areas include innovation and enterprise, project management and construction technology.

Earlier in his career, Martin worked as a senior project manager for the John Laing construction group and also ran his own successful project management consultancy company. He has worked extensively in the United Kingdom and Ireland. He now lives in Connemara and is a very active member of the built environment community in the west of Ireland and nationally, and the wider Lean improvement community.

Martin is an active researcher and has published internationally on several themes including Construction Defects, Building Information Modelling, Lean Construction and Action Orientated Research Methodologies.

Martin has a great interest in improving operational processes. He is the organiser and chair of the International Construction Management Day Conference, which has been running successfully for the past decade in GMIT Galway.