



# Broadcasting Authority of Ireland

## List of External Assessors for Sound & Vision Round 44

### **Agnes Cogan**

Agnes Cogan was a senior TV Producer with RTE (national & international award-winning) for fifteen years until she took early retirement in 2000, working on documentaries, Irish language programmes, Young People's, arts, music, current affairs, religious, agriculture and educational programmes. Subsequent to that Agnes worked as a free-lance TV producer and director on programming for RTE, TG4 and others, and also worked as originator, script-writer and presenter on radio programmes in Irish and English, principally for Lyric FM. Agnes started her career in RTE as a PA, subsequently becoming a film editor, then a TV director, a producer/director and finally a senior TV Producer.

### **Sheila De Courcy**

Sheila is an independent consultant and producer with over four decades of involvement with media, arts and cultural organisations in Ireland, Europe, USA and India. Previous experience includes almost six years working on conservation and exhibitions in the National Museum of Ireland following which she spent over 30 years in RTÉ. There she produced, directed and commissioned programmes for RTÉ Television and Radio across all genres including Arts, Drama, Irish language, Current Affairs, Music, Documentary, Children's and Entertainment. Sheila also led the launch of RTÉjr, RTÉ's third TV channel, across all platforms. An experienced teacher, mentor, board member and facilitator Sheila is currently working on a broad range of creative and practical projects.

### **Sean Geogahan**

Sean Geogahan trained in radio production (journalism), worked as a sound recordist for pop promos and broadcast video offline editor. Sean scripted, directed and produced via an independent video production company. He is a NFTS graduate of direction. He worked with BBC/HBO/TG4 and ITV as a director of television drama. He also worked as a BBC commissioned script writer and for Channel Four Films and independents as a script reader. He is an independent Film maker and prize winning short film maker of drama which has been broadcast Europe and US networks.

### **Jackie Neill**

Jackie Neill is a radio consultant and producer based in Northern Ireland. As a former Station Manager and Content Editor at BBC Radio Ulster, Jackie worked with some of the UK and Ireland's best presenters and award-winning production teams in comedy, music, magazine & documentary production. Now she is bringing my 30+ years of radio production and management experience to the freelance and independents world through her company Headgirl Media Ltd.

### **Francesca Lalor**

As Commissioning Editor and Series Producer of the multiple award-winning Documentary & Drama On Newstalk 106-108fm Series, Executive Producer Francesca Lalor was responsible for the development and delivery of a wide range of feature-length radio documentary and drama projects for a national commercial radio station, and related financial/contractual/editorial management. With a background in live radio production, Francesca has overseen the commissioning, funding, production and broadcast of upwards of



## Broadcasting Authority of Ireland

250 feature-length documentaries and radio dramas on Irish radio in the past decade, managing a large team of Independent producers both in Ireland and abroad. As an Award-winning Independent Producer, Francesca Lalor has produced 21 documentary/drama features and executive-produced many more. She also works as a Consultant to Independent production companies and training organisations, delivering training in the area of radio features production, sourcing funding, and broadcast best-practice. She is an Associate Lecturer in Radio Features Production at Masters level at DLIADT and Griffith College. Educated in Brussels, Francesca speaks fluent French.

### **Cóilín Ó Cearbhaill**

Cóilín is a graduate of Dublin City University and in addition has a postgraduate higher diploma in Applied Communications from NUI Galway. He has over 20 years television experience on over 50 productions across the genres of drama, documentary and lifestyle. He has worked as an online finisher on Irish productions such as 'Kings', 'Raw' and 'Single Handed' and as colourist on 'The Savage Eye' 'Dirty Old Towns' and 'Celebrity Apprentice' amongst others. His work in recent years has been concentrated in the main on editing on productions such as 'Dúshlán', 'Ask Rhod Gilbert', 'Monumental' and 'Hector USA'.

### **Julian Vignoles**

Julian Vignoles worked at RTÉ in both radio and television for thirty-three years, as producer and commissioning executive, beginning his career on Radio 2 in 1979. He moved to Radio 1 in 1985, became series producer of several daytime programmes and won three Jacobs Awards for his documentary work. In TV, he was involved in both producing and later commissioning successful Entertainment and Factual programming. He oversaw Ireland's Eurovision Song Contest involvement for several years and also served on the Contest's governing body. Since leaving RTÉ, he has published three books, the most recent being a biography of Rory Gallagher in 2018.

### **Niamh Farren**

Niamh has over twenty years of experience working in the community and voluntary sector in Ireland. Her background is in the community media sector where she worked as a volunteer, programme producer, manager and community outreach co-ordinator. She is a former member of the Board of Management of Dublin Community Television and a former Chair of Craol, the Community Radio Forum of Ireland. She holds a master's degree in Communications and Cultural Studies from Dublin City University. Over the past fifteen years she has worked as a communications specialist in the non-profit sector where her work has involved awareness campaigns, training and capacity building, digital content development, stakeholder engagement and advocacy.

### **Climate Specialists Assessors**

#### **Professor Hannah E. Daly University College Cork**

Hannah is a full Professor in Sustainable Energy and Energy Systems Modelling at [University College Cork](#). Her research and lecturing focus on modelling and developing sustainable pathways for the energy system, encompassing energy access, climate change and air pollution, and she engages extensively with policymakers, civil society and academia on those topics. As well as being a lead contributing author to several International Energy Agency World Energy Outlook reports, she has co-authored many peer-reviewed [journal articles](#) and several book chapters and other reports. She also writes a regular column - "[In a Time of Climate Crisis](#)" - for the Irish Times.



## Note to Authority

# Broadcasting Authority of Ireland

### **Professor Pat Brereton Dublin City University**

Pat is currently a Professor in the School, and alongside teaching a masters in Climate Change, he is a co-Director of the Climate and Society Research Centre. Worked as 'project Engineer' with Ericsson for 4 years - having left Ireland with an Arts Degree. Then moved fulltime into Education working at Northampton College and Luton University - before moving back home to DCU. Having progressed to Senior Lecturer and working as Associate Dean of Research for the Faculty, before becoming Head of School of Communications.

### **Professor Conor Murphy Maynooth University**

Conor is a Professor in the Department of Geography at Maynooth University. He was awarded his PhD from Maynooth University in 2007 under the inspiring supervision of Dr. Ro Charlton. His research interests are interdisciplinary and focus on Hydroclimatology, Historical Climatology and Adaptation to climate change. Conor has been awarded over €5 million in funding as PI or Co-I from National and European sources. His research engages closely with enterprise, public bodies and communities. Conor sits on the National Climate Change Adaptation Committee and has acted as expert reviewer for reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He also sits on the Climate Change and Environmental Sciences Committee of the Royal Irish Academy.

### **Professor Jane Stout Trinity College Dublin**

Jane is an internationally renowned expert on pollinator and pollination ecology and a prominent voice for biodiversity and its value. Her research seeks to understand how land management practices, including agriculture and urbanisation, affect ecological processes and the benefits of nature for humans. Jane works across disciplines and with a broad range of stakeholders in public and private organisations, to improve environmental policy and practice. She leads a large team of researchers in the Plant-Animal Interactions Research group in Botany in the School of Natural Sciences at Trinity. She is co-founder and Chair of the Board of the Irish Forum on Natural Capital [www.naturalcapitalireland.com](http://www.naturalcapitalireland.com), and co-founder and Deputy Chair of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan [www.pollinators.ie](http://www.pollinators.ie)