

Board of Directors May 2021 – May 2022

In line with the Constitution, paragraph 11 “The number of Directors shall not be less than seven (7) and unless and until determined by the Company in general meeting, not more than ten (10).”

Directors who wish to continue on the Board.

1. Aine McGuirk

Nominees: Monica Vaughn & Maria McGloughlin

2. Anette O’Callaghan

Nominees: Kate McCaffery & Niamh Finucane

3. Hilda Loughran

Nominees: Kerry Cuskelly & Muireann Ní Raghallaigh

4. Colletta Dalikeni

Nominees: Kenneth Ikponmwoosa & Washington Marovatsanga

5. Majella Hickey

Nominees: Sinead Twomey & Frank Browne

6. Gary Gartland

Nominees: Aisling Coffey & Donal O’Malley

7. Rachel McCormack

Nominees: Joe McCarthy & Ellen Sheehan

8. Vivian Geiran

Nominees: Sinead McGarry & Stephanie Holt

9. Bridin Murphy

Nominees: Michael O’Higgins & Aoife Galvin

Directors who wish to stand for election not currently on the Board.

10. Claire McGettrick

Nominees: Sinead McGarry & Amanda Casey

11. Washington Marovatsanga

Nominees: Kenneth Ikponmwoosa & Lulama Bikitsha

Directors who wish to retire

1. John Brennan

Directors who wish to stand for election for the role of Chair.

1. Vivian Geiran

Statement of Candidacy for position of Chair of the IASW

Since joining the IASW Board last year, I have been active in Board and Association activities and initiatives, including formal and informal meetings, sub-committees, and several specific projects. I have been to the fore in working with the Board, wider Association, and others, in responding to the Report on Mother and Baby Homes. I have had a number of ‘opinion’ articles published in the *Irish Examiner* newspaper, including one specifically on the impact of the pandemic on social work practice and on our service users. One significant contribution over the past few months has been as part of the Advocacy Strategy Group. I believe I am well qualified for the role of Chair and if elected to that position, I will use my relevant experience and skills to work towards advancing the strategic goals of the IASW, its members and the interests of the social work profession.

Vivian Geiran

SW000319

VIVIAN GEIRAN**Position: Director of the Board**

An IASW Board member since 2020, I was previously the Director of the Irish Probation Service and have many years' experience of senior leadership and practice development in criminal justice social work, nationally and internationally. A longstanding member of IASW, I have contributed to the Association in various ways, including on the *Irish Social Worker* journal committee, and presenting at IASW conferences. Over the past year, I have worked on the IASW's Advocacy Strategy Group and the 'Social Work During COVID-19' survey. I am a registered social worker and have championed the social work profession throughout my thirty-three years in Probation. This included introducing a requirement for new Probation Officers to be CORU-registered and leading on the Probation Service role as a key organisational sponsor of the World Social Work Conference 2018. If re-elected, I will continue to support the IASW's work in whatever ways I can.

AINE MCGUIRK**Position: Director of the Board**

I am applying to remain as a Director of the IASW for the coming year. I have been a member of the Board of Directors for the past five years and during that time I have been active as Treasurer for two years and Chair for three. I have a good record of attendance at meetings and assist the office and the membership in any way that I can.

In this role I have supported the office and contributed to all areas of IASW business and development.

I have been a signatory on the accounts with AIB for the past 5 years.

I deal with a significant number of member issues and interests. I have represented the organisation and the profession to the media, state agencies and politicians. As we head towards post pandemic times IASW will need strong leadership and direction.

My aim is to help the IASW become a more effective organisation representing Social Work and Social Workers in Ireland.

I seek your support as members to be elected to the Board for the coming year.

ANETTE O'CALLAGHAN**Position: Director of the Board**

I have been a member of the IASW since 2004. I have been a member of SIGA for several years. I have represented SIGA at IASW Board Meetings in 2008 – 2009.

I qualified in Denmark in 2004. Since then, I have worked in Ireland in a medical setting in a variety of roles. I have a particular interest in older people and the ethical challenges involved with their care. Advocacy is another aspect of the social work role which I am passionate about. I also feel strongly about the importance about good transparent governance.

If re-elected, I intend to be an active member of the Board supporting the Board in working towards improving the systems in which social workers work, to the benefit of both social workers and their clients. I believe the IASW needs to act as the collective voice of its members to the best of its abilities.

HILDA LOUGHRAN**Position: Director of the Board**

I am a long-standing membership of IASW and see the organisation as having an important role in supporting professional development for social workers. I have served as a Board member for the past 4 years. My specific area of responsibility on the Board is working as part of the Continuing Professional Development subcommittee. The IASW plays an important role in representing the profession and working towards supporting the highest standards of practice, helping to build professional networks, and supporting a sustainable profession. I think I have the experience and enthusiasm to contribute to that mission. Over the past year I was responsible, with Cliona Murphy CPD Officer, for setting up the IASW peer discussion group Talk Time. I have also been engaged in supporting the IASW Anti-Racist Strategic Planning Forum.

DR. COLLETTA DALIKENI**Position: Director of the Board**

I have been a member of the IASW for the past 10 years and a Board member for the past 3 years. During my time as an IASW member I participated in the Migration and Research Special interest groups. I have also been a member of the Irish Social Worker editorial committee. In recent times I lead the development of the anti-racism strategy by the Antiracism Advisory group. Over the past 3 years which I have been on the

IASW Board I have thoroughly enjoyed contributing to the development of the social work profession and hope I will be able to continue to do so. Given the changing demographic profile in Ireland and within the social work profession, I can contribute to development of intercultural and culturally sensitive social work which I believe is much needed within our profession. If re-elected I would like to dedicate my time to supporting the implementation of the Anti-Racism Strategy. This is an initiative which social work colleagues are very excited about given that it is the first time we are addressing issues pertaining to racism in the profession. I would also like to strengthen the IASW's network with the Irish Network Against Racism and other organisations working in the area of Racism and Interculturalism. I am also committed to continuing as a member of the Social Work Journal committee and to supporting the implementation of the membership strategy.

MAJELLA HICKEY

Position: Director of the Board

My name is Majella Hickey, and I am running for the board of Directors with IASW. I have a master's in social work and a Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Fieldwork Practice and Supervision from University College Cork. I have a diverse range of experience working over fifteen years with involuntary and voluntary clients in homelessness, addiction, and criminal justice settings. My experience has enhanced my confidence in the areas of addiction, mental health, relationships, stress, and trauma. My current role as occupational social worker with the Irish Defence Forces has afforded me the opportunity to work therapeutically with adults and families within a military setting.

In 2014, I contributed to an RTE documentary and media interviews on the work of the Probation Service. I was a finalist in the Practice Teacher of the Year at the IASW Awards in 2015. I presented at the 11th International Practice Teaching and Field Education Conference in Belfast and at the Irish Foster Care Association Conference in 2016.

In recent years, I have played an active role in the IASW where I have gained first-hand knowledge of the specific issues that affect and inform social work practice. In 2015, I joined the editorial committee of the 'Irish Social Worker' where I am passionate about advancing practitioner-based research. In 2015 -2016 I

was treasurer of the Social Workers in Probation Special Interest Group. The opportunity to work in both positions within IASW has enabled me to gain insight into practice issues, changing legislation and policy issues that are important to our members.

I am interested in the position of director as I care about advancing the knowledge base of social work, the standards of our profession and in the power of advocacy. My goal would be to use my networking skills to work closely with the committees of IASW and to provide education on the value and benefits of being a member. I would be honoured to serve as a director of the board and would bring experience, passion, and knowledge to the role.

GARY GARTLAND

Position: Commercial Director of the Board

I am a retired Senior Military Officer with over 35 years of leadership and managerial experience within a large-scale organisation. I have a master's in leadership management and Defence Studies and was the Personnel Support Services (PSS) Coordinator for the Irish Air Corps for over 20 years. The PSS is a confidential information, education, support, and referral service designed to give Defence Forces personnel access to information and services. This provided me with first-hand knowledge and experience dealing with serving members and their families providing a range of services from psychosocial support to practical advice and information on issues such as family and relationships, coping with deployments, health concerns including alcohol and mental health, work, and financial problems. I am currently working as the Procurement Manager for the Rehab group.

I am aware of the challenges that currently face the IASW and the need to engage with social workers and the government to address areas of concern. If elected, I will actively support the Board in the continued development of social workers and assist in raising the profile of the valuable role social workers make in promoting well-being of service users.

RACHEL MCCORMACK

Position: Director of the Board

My name is Rachel McCormack. I qualified with an MSW from UCC in 2005. I have been a member of the IASW since 2005. I am founding member (2005) of the Southern Branch SIG which continues to date. I am also founding member of the National Child Protection Biannual Conference (SWCONFUCC), we have

successfully organised and hosted 7 conferences to date, I continue to represent the IASW on this organising committee.

I was elected to the BOD in May 2019 and have completed my first year on the Board. I have represented the BOD on the Children's advisory committee to HIQA. I am also involved in other projects within the association and hope to continue the board for the year 2020-21.

I have been employed in Children Protection and Welfare Services (TUSLA) as a both Social Worker and Team leader from (2005- 2015 SW) & (2016-2019 SWTL). From 2015-2016, I was employed part time in YK Area Based Childhood Programme and part-time in UCC as a tutor and assistant lecturer on the MSW course. I am currently employed by Tusla, within Workforce Development as a Training Development Officer.

I have special interest in the professional development of Social Work Practice and in the progression and protection of the profession. I believe in the need to advocate for the voice and the value of social work and social justice within the societal challenges and changes we face.

BRIDIN MURPHY

Position: Director of the Board

My name is Bridin Murphy, and I am running for the board of Directors with IASW. I am due to graduate with a master's in social work from University College Dublin in June 2020.

I am an elected representative in Co. Wexford, this has given me direct exposure to how political decisions directly affect the provision of quality social work services. I am chair of the Co. Wexford mental health committee which brings the shareholders of all relevant mental health services together to discuss how these services can collaborate and support each other. I am also on the board of the Healthy Wexford Committee, which seeks to explore how the local authority can assist in creating a healthy county.

I am interested in the position of director as I am passionate about representing the interests of both student and newly qualified social workers. I would be honoured to serve as a director on the board and would bring enthusiasm, passion, and experience to the role.

CLAIRE MCGETTRICK

Position: Commercial Director of the Board

I am an Irish Research Council postgraduate scholar at the School of Sociology at University College Dublin. I am also an adopted person and an advocate with two decades of experience campaigning in this area. My research interests focus on adoption, 'historical' abuses, and related injustices in twentieth-century Ireland. I am co-founder of JFM Research and Adoption Rights Alliance (ARA), and co-director of the multi-award winning Clann Project. As Ireland begins to address the legacy of closed, secret adoption and forced family separation, the IASW has an opportunity to show professional leadership in this area and actively support its members in challenging social injustices and upholding human rights. I warmly welcome the opportunity to use my personal and professional experience to advise and assist the IASW in its response to the issues arising from the publication of the Report of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation.

WASHINGTON MAROVATSANGA

Position: Director of the Board

Since becoming an IASW member, I have influenced a considerable number of young ethnic minorities who want to see positive changes in Irish social work become members. This is on account that they know first-hand the seriousness with which I apply myself to any cause that I decide to commit to. My coming to the IASW board would signal to many sceptics that IASW is now serious about real transformative change beyond tokenism and perhaps willing to consider more radical alternatives to the status quo in navigating issues of Race Racism and cultural differences. I bring certain experiences and perspectives from three continents that may not be easily available to some of my colleagues but would add to authentic voices that command credibility in the wider society -on issues of racial justice --without which *social justice* is just cheap talk. If IASW is ready for that real change, then I am the candidate!