

Editorial



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This special edition of the *Irish Journal of Management* consists of a selection of the best papers presented at the thirteenth Irish Academy of Management annual conference hosted in Cork Institute of Technology. The 'Renewing the Management Research Mandate' theme of the conference was very relevant in the context of the recent worldwide economic downturn. Many of the papers presented timely evidence and ideas to address management issues in turbulent times.

Approximately 140 delegates from academic institutions in Ireland, Britain, France, Iceland, Switzerland, Australia and the United States attended the conference. The large number of papers presented by academics and postgraduate students were arranged into a number of parallel sessions, including human resource management, organisational behaviour, tourism, teaching and learning, marketing, industrial relations, retailing and wholesaling, strategic management, technology management, accountancy and finance, and healthcare management. Prizes were awarded for the best paper in each of the parallel tracks.

I would like to acknowledge the valuable comments from the various reviewers who contributed to the double-blind refereeing of the papers included in this special edition. I wish to thank Ms Valerie Parker, National University of Ireland, Galway, for her administrative help in compiling this special edition. Valerie's willingness to engage with authors and reviewers and her excellent attention to detail is much appreciated.

Thanks also to Dr David Collings and Dr James Cunningham, editors of the *Irish Journal of Management*, for suggesting this special edition of the journal based on the conference proceedings. Their ongoing work on the production of the journal is to be commended.

I thank my fellow Irish Academy of Management Council members for their support, friendship and camaraderie leading up to and during the conference.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the help and encouragement from my colleagues in CIT. In particular, I would like to thank Dr Brendan Murphy, president; Mr Damien Courtney, head of faculty, Business and Humanities; Mr Gerard O'Donovan, head, School of Business; Ms Shirley Kingston, administrator; Mr Shane Cronin, multimedia developer, and our postgraduate students who ensured the smooth running of the conference. It was our pleasure to host the conference and to welcome so many delegates to CIT and to Cork.

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