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Annual Christmas Working Groups Networking Event



The ACJRD Working Groups Christmas Networking Event took place in the Blue Room of the Law Society of Ireland on Wednesday, 5th December, 2018. This event featured a Restorative Justice Working Group Seminar and was followed by a seasonal networking reception.

[Dr. Ian Marder](#), (pictured) National University of Ireland, Maynooth, spoke on the **Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)8 concerning Restorative Justice in Criminal Matters**.

To view a copy of Dr. Marder's presentation please click [here](#)

Juvenile Justice Seminar

On Thursday, 29th November, 2018, the ACJRD and the ACJRD Juvenile Justice Working Group held the seminar '**Child Defendants and Child Witnesses in Court - Contemporary Challenges for Juvenile Justice**' at the Education Centre, Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.

This event was Chaired by **Professor Ursula Kilkelly** and featured the following speakers:

Judge John O'Connor who spoke on "[Challenges in Adjudicating Capacity for Children to Participate in Court Proceedings - Theory and Practice](#)' ©

Vivienne Foley who spoke on '[Recognising Speech and Language Difficulties and Appropriate Supports](#)' ©

Professor Michael Fitzgerald who spoke on '[Challenges for Children on the Autism Spectrum](#)' ©



To view the presentations from this event, please click on the titles of the presentations above.

Pictured (L-R): Prof. Ursula Kilkelly, Judge John O'Connor, Vivienne Foley and Prof. Michael Fitzgerald

ACJRD Annual Conference “Unlocking the Power of Data for Criminal Justice Research, Policy-Making and Practice”



Pictured (L-R) Aidan O’Driscoll, Dept. of Justice and Equality, Gurchand Singh, Dept. of Justice and Equality, Claire Loftus, Director of Public Prosecutions, Marcelo Aebi, University of Lausanne and Maura Butler, ACJRD Chairperson,

The 21st Annual Conference of the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development “*Unlocking the Power of Data for Criminal Justice Research, Policy-Making and Practice*” took place on Friday, 5th October, 2018, at the Hilton Kilmainham Dublin.

A programme of plenary speakers and workshop presenters included national and international representatives from the criminal justice sector.

A report containing plenary papers and workshop summaries is currently being prepared and will be launched in Spring 2019. All those on the ACJRD mailing list will be notified as soon as the details for the launch are confirmed.



Pictured (L-R) Dr. Seán Redmond, University of Limerick, Prof. Betsy Stanko OBE, Chair of the Data, Evidence and Science Board for the UK Ministry of Justice and Michael O’Neill, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

The Yard Crew - Solas Project

ACJRD presented the speakers at our Annual Conference with a small gift to thank them for participating. This year's gifts were wooden pens which were crafted by The Yard Crew at the Solas Project.

The Yard Crew is made up of young adults aged 16-24 who are not currently in employment, education or training. The aim of this programme is to equip young people with the practical skills and personal development needed to gain employment. The crew's hard work has resulted in a collection of beautifully crafted wood products. All proceeds go back into the programme, further enabling Solas Project to equip participants to embrace their futures with confidence.



The Solas Skills Development Programme is a mentoring environment that builds and strengthens participants' abilities with the ultimate goal of increasing opportunity for employment. Projects in The Yard improve skills and awareness by demonstrating the benefits of teamwork. For further information, please see <https://solasproject.com>.

Pictured: Karl and Anne from the Solas Project delivering the Yard wooden pens to the ACJRD office

Season's Greetings



The ACJRD would like to thank you for all your support in 2018.

The success of all our events comes in no small part from the participation of all of you in attendance, so we thank you for your contributions this year.

We are looking forward to another fruitful year in 2019 starting with our 21st Annual Conference Report launch. We hope you will be able to join us for this event in Spring and we will forward further details in the New Year.

A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
 and Happy New Year!