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Institiúid
Teicneolaíochta
Leitir Ceannainn

Letterkenny
Institute
of Technology

President's Research Bursaries

Supervisor Profile	
Name	Dr Deirdre McClay
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Current Research Interests	Academic writing practice, teaching and learning
Career Profile (Education and Employment)	Deirdre McClay is a Senior Lecturer and works in the Faculty of Business, LYIT. She has a background in education, law and accounting and has taught in LYIT since 2004. She holds a doctorate in education (2017) and an LLB (1987) from Queen's University Belfast and a PG Diploma in Higher Education Practice (2009) from Ulster University. She also trained with KPMG Dublin as a Chartered Accountant (1991) and completed the Irish Tax Institute professional examinations (1992) before working as a lecturer in both Queen's University Belfast and Letterkenny I.T. In LYIT, she lectures on education, business and law programmes and has extensive experience from level 6 through to level 9 including dissertation supervision on taught and research master's programmes. She is also the programme coordinator for the MA in Learning & Teaching which is offered to lecturers and teachers across education sectors, and she has worked with and has developed the LYIT Communications Learning Centre (CLC) which offers a suite of student skills development initiatives across disciplines. She was recently appointed as a Senior Lecturer in Teaching Learning and Student Engagement.
Key Achievements	Deirdre McClay's main research interests are in writing pedagogy in higher education and teaching and learning in higher education; these fit within the LYIT School of Business research focus area of Learning & Skills Futures and the Innovation/Change area of Social Change and Transformation. She has presented widely at national and international teaching and learning conferences and successfully applied for nationally funded seminars and a collaborative project under the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning. She was the LYIT coordinator for the ATLAS 2016 nationally funded project which explored mapping of five level 9 Teaching and Learning programmes to the 'Professional Development Framework for All Staff Who Teach in Higher Education'. Since 2015, she has been co-director of the annual week-long Summer Writing Institute for Teachers (SWIFT) at Maynooth University along with Dr. Alison Farrell. As the Senior Lecturer in Teaching Learning and Student Engagement, she is currently team lead on all LYIT National Forum funded projects and joint team lead on one CUA TU Transformation Fund project.