



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, Q1 2023

WELCOME

Dear all,

Welcome to the second ISWE newsletter. 2023 is shaping up to be a busy year.

We held four tailored Media Training workshops designed to increase the voice of women economists across different media platforms in Ireland.

We also launched our four part Podcast series in collaboration with 'At the Margin'.

We hope you were able to participate in the wide range of International Women's Day events held across different organisations. Some of our Committee members took part in a park run to mark the day.

This edition of the newsletter kicks off our Spotlight series. This provides an introduction to a woman economist working in Ireland. The first profile is of our Executive Committee member Dr. Alejandra Ramos.

End 2022 was the deadline for organisations with more than 250 employees to begin reporting on their gender pay gap. The Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021 requires organisations to report on their hourly gender pay gap across a range of metrics. Check out the ISWE podcast on the Gender Pay Gap for discussion and analysis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us for an ISWE event at:

Irish Economics Association (IEA) Conference

4-5th May, Athlone. Check programme for details.

<https://www.iea.ie/iea-annual-conference/>

ISWE is a platform seeking to inspire, empower and increase women's visibility in economics in Ireland to ensure that the role of economists in public debates, policy decisions, and education is more representative of Irish society.

Contact Us /

Connect with Us

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ISWE'S MEDIA TRAINING

What happened?

Last year, the Irish Society for Women in Economics received funding through the HEA Gender Equality Enhancement Fund to conduct a project on increasing the voice of women economists in the media.

The funding was provided to UCD as the lead institution, in partnership with TCD, UCC, UL and TU Dublin.

As part of this project, ISWE have had the opportunity to provide training to professional economists on topics such as identifying the right audience,

understanding media channels, and moving from an expert space into broadly accessible communications.

When and where did the training take place?

Four Media Training Workshops were held in February. Around 40 professional economists in academic and non-academic institutions attended a 3 hour workshop.

The workshops took place in UCC, UCD, TU Dublin and TCD.

Who provided the training?

The training was provided by Clear Eye – a leadership and communications consultancy that has been working with women professionals in economics, academia, science, engineering, politics, culture and the media since 2006. The sessions were facilitated by Margaret E. Ward, founder of Women on Air.

Is this it?

No, a follow-up “in-studio” training will also be provided for up to twenty economists. Check the next newsletter for more details on Stage Two of the media training!



PUBLIC REGISTRY

A public registry of women economists is available on our website. This is a helpful resource to highlight the breadth of work and experience of women economists in Ireland. If you would like to update your details or to join the registry please contact us.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY PARK RUN

To celebrate International Women's Day, ISWE's members met at **Marlay Parkrun on Saturday 11th March**. You may already know that Parkrun is a great initiative that brings together people of all ages and abilities for a weekly free 5km event in parks in Ireland and across the world.

Despite the cold it was a thoroughly enjoyable event, and we managed to get to the cafe before the worst weather hit. Keep an eye out for an invite to our next Parkrun meet up.



PODCAST SERIES

ISWE has teamed up with the economic podcast *At the Margin* to produce a series of 4 shows.

- Episode 46 is a conversation with Dr. Karina Doorley (ESRI) & Prof. Donal O'Neill (Maynooth University) on the gender wage gap in Ireland.
- Episode 47 is a discussion with Lucie Martin (PhD candidate at University College Dublin) on the economic consequences of administrative burden.
- Episode 48 is an interview with Dr. Kate Laffan (London School of Economics) on the environment and wellbeing.
- Episode 49 is a panel discussion with Dr. Margaret Samahita (University College Dublin), Dr. Kevin Devereux (Peking University) and Míde Griffin (PhD candidate, European University Institute) on gender diversity in the Irish Economics Profession.

Thanks to Niall Farrell and all the guests for helping to produce this insightful series.

Link to podcasts: <https://shows.acast.com/the-irish-economics-podcast>



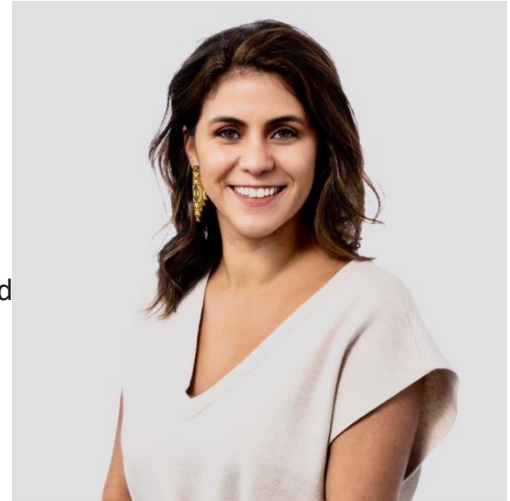
Spotlight On – Dr Alejandra Ramos Assistant Professor in Economics, TCD

Could you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I am a Latina using economics to draw causal links between what society thinks is okay for women and men to do and what we effectively choose. I thrive when making meaningful connections and embracing diversity in every aspect of my life.

Why did you choose Economics?

I chose economics because I have a profound social motivation and desire to use my quantitative skills to improve the well-being of those who didn't have access to the same opportunities I had as a kid. Growing up in Colombia during the 90s, I was surrounded by violence and inequality. Thus, breaking the cycle has always been a moral obligation to me.



Could you tell us about your research?

My research revolves around two topics. One is the ability of gender norms to induce suboptimal decisions. The second one is how to attract and retain talented workers. These days, I focus more on the first topic, so let me give additional details about it.

My point of departure is that -beyond the obvious human rights dimension- violence within a couple is a poor decision for everyone involved. From a purely economics perspective, one can potentially shift things around so that the couple is in exactly the same position as they are after the violence occur, but without having violence. So why is it that there is violence?

But not everything is about violence. In a new paper, my coauthors and I study the effects of telenovelas (Latin American soap operas) with LGBTQ+ characters on the general public opinion towards the LGBTQ+ community.

Could you tell us about a piece of research that has inspired you?

There are several papers that have inspired me. Two that come to my mind are [Melissa Dell's *mita mining paper*](#) and [Alessandra Voena's "*Mine, yours or ours*"](#).