

## Biographies (in order of appearance on the agenda):

### **Professor Susan McVie**

Susan is Director of the Understanding Inequalities project. She is also Co-Director of the Administrative Data Research Centre in Scotland; Co-Director of the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime; and a founding member of the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research. From 2009-2017, she was Director of the Applied Quantitative Methods Network (AQMeN).

Susan is an expert in advanced quantitative methods and the bulk of her research involves using large-scale, crime and justice-related survey and administrative datasets. Her current interests include research into: crime patterns, trends and inequalities in the context of the crime drop in Scotland; youth crime and juvenile justice; criminal careers through the life-course; patterns of violence and homicide; youth gangs and knife crime; policing and crime reduction; stop and search; and police use of biometric data.

Susan received (with Professor Lesley McAra) the Howard League for Penal Reform Research Medal in 2013 and the University of Edinburgh's Chancellor's Award for Impact from HRH Princess Anne in 2016. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2014 and received an OBE for services to social science in the Queen's New Year's Honours List in 2016.

#### **Professor Carol Tannahill**

Carol is the Director of the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, having been involved in establishing the organisation and leading its development since 2004. She currently works part-time in the Scottish Government as Chief Social Policy Adviser, working with different teams and Directorates on the Scottish Government's approaches to supporting communities and tackling deep-rooted inequalities.

Carol has contributed to many international, national and local public health policy and strategy developments. She is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Academy of Social Sciences, a Trustee on the Board of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) and Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust (JRHT), and Honorary Professor with the University of Glasgow and Glasgow Caledonian University. Carol was appointed OBE for services to public health in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours list.

# **Professor Emer Smyth**

Emer Smyth is Head of the Social Research Division at the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) in Dublin and is adjunct Professor of Sociology at Trinity College, Dublin. She is Co-Principal Investigator of Growing Up in Ireland (GUI), a longitudinal study of children and young people. She has published extensively on her main research interests of education, school to work transitions, gender and comparative methodology.

Emer has conducted a number of studies looking at young people's experiences of the schooling system and the factors shaping their post-school transitions, publishing *Students' Experiences and Perspectives on Secondary Education* (Palgrave Macmillan) based on a decade-long mixed methods longitudinal study in 2016. A central theme of her work has been educational inequality and she has published a number of studies examining the school and individual factors influencing early school leaving and exam underperformance as well as evaluations of provision for young people living in

disadvantaged communities and those in second-chance education. She has used GUI data to write reports and journal articles on the transition into primary school, arts and cultural participation among children and young people, spatial variation in child outcomes and the effects of being in a multi-grade class, among other topics.

#### **Professor Susan Morton**

Susan Morton is an expert in life course epidemiology and a specialist in Public Health Medicine. She is the Director of the University of Auckland cross-faculty Centre for Longitudinal Research - He Ara ki Mua, and has been the Director (PI) of the contemporary longitudinal study of NZ children and families (Growing Up in New Zealand) since its inception in 2005. Her team engages with 16 government agencies to provide evidence to inform cross-sectoral policies to improve population wellbeing and solutions to reduce inequities in life course outcomes. Susan has a first class honours degree in pure mathematics and trained as a secondary teacher prior to undertaking her MBChB in Auckland. She was training in Paediatrics before being awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship to undertake a PhD in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Returning to NZ in 2003 she completed her Public Health advanced training and established the longitudinal study and cross-faculty University Centre to provide its academic home. Susan is passionate about child wellbeing and translating research to make a difference to life course health.

### **Dr Kath Murray**

Kath Murray is a criminal justice researcher, with interests in police power and accountability. Kath completed her PhD in 2014 at the University of Edinburgh, investigating the rise of stop and search in Scotland.

In 2016 she received the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Outstanding Early Career Impact prize for her doctoral research, which led to major legislative and policy reform. Since completing her PhD Kath has worked on a range of projects, including research on raising the age of criminal responsibility in Scotland, public confidence in policing, and most recently, on the proposed integration of the British Transport Police in Scotland into Police Scotland.

#### **Dr Louise Scott**

Louise Scott is Head of Children and Families Analysis in the Scottish Government, responsible for evidence and analysis relating to children's outcomes. She's held this role for the past 6 years and has managed evidence programmes for polices such as the Early Learning and Childcare expansion; the Child Protection Improvement Programme; Family Nurse Partnership Programme and the implementation of GIRFEC. She has worked in Scottish Government for 15 years. Prior to that she was a lecturer and Research Fellow in cultural geography at Loughborough University, leading a European Framework Programme project on family policy across Europe.

#### **Professor Yossi Shavit**

Yossi Shavit is Professor Emeritus and the Weinberg Professor of Sociology at Tel Aviv University. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1983). Shavit's research interests include educational stratification, school to work transitions and ethnic relations. He has published *Persistent Inequality* (with Blossfeld, Westview Press), *From School to Work* (with W. Müller, Clarendon Press), *Stratification in Higher Education* (with Arum and Gamoran, Stanford University Press) and several other volumes. Some of his many papers appeared in the *American Sociological Review*, *European Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology* and *Sociology of Education*. Currently, he is studying social relations between Arab and Jewish students who attend mixed schools in Israel and the consequences of poverty in early childhood in the later life-course. Shavit is a foreign associate member of the American National Academy of Education (NAEd) and of the Sociological Research Association (SRA) and president of RC28. In addition to his academic work Shavit has a strong interest in policy-oriented research. He directs the policy programs on educational and on early childhood at the Taub Center in Jerusalem, which produces evidence-based policy briefs that aim to inform social policy.

## **Dr Abigail Fagan**

Abigail A. Fagan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, Criminology & Law at the University of Florida. Dr. Fagan's research focuses on the etiology and prevention of adolescent substance use, delinquency, and violence, with an emphasis on examining the ways in which scientific advances can be successfully translated into effective crime and delinquency prevention practices. Her research has been funded by the National Institute of Justice and National Institute on Drug Abuse and focuses on the effects of gender, family processes (e.g., parenting practices and sibling relationships), victimization, and community factors on juvenile offending. Her prevention-related research includes work on the Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development initiative and the Community Youth Development Study, both of which assisted community agencies and practitioners in identifying effective crime prevention and health promotion interventions and implementing these strategies with fidelity. She has published two books and nearly 100 peer reviewed articles, book chapters, and/or reports. She has served on the Board of Directions of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR), is an Associate Editor of Prevention Science, and is a member of the Blueprints for Healthy Development Advisory Board.

# **Dr Lauren Supplee**

Lauren H. Supplee is deputy chief operating officer and a senior program area director for early childhood research for Child Trends, a non-profit, non-partisan research organization in the United States. As deputy chief operating officer, she is responsible for the organisation's quality control, data security and management, professional development and staff support, and research ethics compliance. In her role as a scientist she is committed to conducting research and evaluation that can contribute to program improvement and improved outcomes for children and families. Her research focuses on evidence-based policy, social-emotional development in early childhood, parenting, prevention and intervention programs for children at-risk, and implementation research. Dr. Supplee leads many of Child Trends' projects related to early childhood home visiting.

Prior to joining Child Trends, Lauren worked for the US government's Administration for Children and Families in the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation for 10 years, with the last four of those as the director of the Division of Family Strengthening. This office conducted all of the program evaluation and research on the majority of the human services and anti-poverty programs for the federal government.

#### **Professor Cristina Iannelli**

Cristina Iannelli is Professor of Education and Social Stratification in the Moray House School of Education at the University of Edinburgh and Research Lead in the Institute for Education, Community & Society in the same School.

She is Co-Director of the *Understanding Inequalities* project. From 2013 to 2017 she was Co-director of the ESRC-funded centre AQMeN (Applied Quantitative Methods Network) at the University of Edinburgh and within the centre she led the 'Education and Social Stratification' research strand which involved collaborators from Scotland, Ireland, Germany and the US.

Her main research interests are: social inequalities in education, social mobility, youth transitions, cross-country comparative analysis and advanced quantitative research methods. Cristina has extensive research experience as leader and co-investigator of several national and international research projects. She was the principal investigator of the ESRC project *Education and Social Mobility in Scotland in the 20th Century* which provided an up-to-date picture of social mobility patterns in Scotland. After this study she was awarded a three-year ESRC Research Fellowship on *The Role of Educational Structure and Content in the Process of Social Mobility* and more recently funding from the Scottish Funding Council for the project *Beyond access to HE: Widening Access Initiatives and Student Retention*.

# Dr Tara McGee

Associate Professor Tara Renae McGee joined the Griffith University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice in 2010. From 2012-2015 she was a Research Fellow funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC) for her Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) titled Offending across the life-course: Testing developmental and life-course theories of crime. During this time, Dr McGee travelled to the University of Cambridge to continue her collaborations with David Farrington. Their most recent collaboration is a book due to be published by Springer in late 2019. Dr McGee has worked with the Australian Mater University Study of Pregnancy (MUSP), a large scale longitudinal study, for twenty years. The team was funded (2016-2018) by an ARC Discovery to collect data on a third generation of participants. Dr McGee is the current President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology (2017-2019) and Vice-Chairperson of the ASC Division of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology and she was the Secretary and Treasurer of this Division (2012-2017). In 2015 she also established (with co-editor Paul Mazerolle) the Division's Journal of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology (Springer). Dr McGee has co-edited two books and authored or co-authored 54 book chapters, refereed papers and official publications.

#### **Professor Leon Feinstein**

Leon leads work on evidence, measurement, and analysis. He has extensive experience in academia and Government. He was Professor of Education and Social Policy at the Institute of Education, investigating intergenerational transmission of advantage and disadvantage in terms of social structure, education and income. From 2008-2013 he worked in the Treasury and Cabinet Office on policy implementation and performance policy. Leon was also Director of Evidence at the Early Intervention Foundation. He is Visiting Professor of Practice at LSE's Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion.

## **Professor Adam Gamoran**

Adam Gamoran is president of the William T. Grant Foundation, a charitable organization that supports research to improve the lives of young people. Two research priorities guide the Foundation's grant-making: identifying ways to reduce inequality in youth outcomes, and improving the use of evidence from research in policy and practice. Previously, he held the John D. MacArthur Chair in Sociology and Educational Policy Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he spent three decades engaged in research on educational inequality and school reform. He is the author or editor of 5 books and numerous articles including "The future of higher education is social impact" (*Stanford Social Innovation Review*, 2018). He has been honoured for lifetime contributions to research by the American Educational Research Association, the Association of Public Policy and Management, and the Sociology of Education Section of the American Sociological Association. He is an elected member of the U.S. National Academy of Education (which he currently serves as vice president) and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and was twice appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the National Board for Education Sciences.