

# STRANMILLIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

## GOVERNING BODY

2022

### **MR EDGAR JARDINE, CB MSc BSc**

*Chair of the Governing Body*

Following an open competition and appointment by the Department for the Economy, Mr Edgar Jardine, who served as Vice-Chair of the SUC Governing Body from 1 August 2014, took up the position as Chair with effect from 1 January 2022.

Mr Jardine is a former Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. He has also served at senior level in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy first Minister, and in the former Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and as Interim Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Policing Board. He was awarded the CB in 2012 for public service.

Since his retirement from the Northern Ireland Civil Service Mr Jardine has served in a number of non-executive roles. He was a member of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland from 2012 to 2018 and of the Education Authority from 2015 - 2020. He joined the NI Policing Board as an Independent Member on 1 April 2020. He is also Chair of the Department of Finance's Statistics Advisory Committee and serves as an Education Authority representative on the Board of Governors of Dundonald High School.

### **DR ANDREW BROWN BEd (Hons), MSc, PhD, FCIEA, FCoIT, FRSA, FCCT (TEACHING STAFF REPRESENTATIVE)**

Dr Brown was a former Head of Drama at Ballymena Academy and is currently a Principal Lecturer in Teacher Education, Academic Head of Arts & Humanities, Head of the BEd Primary degree and a member of the Academic Leadership Team in Stranmillis University College. He has wide experience of strategic leadership and policy work and has been a representative on various bodies locally and nationally, including the Council of the NFER, the Executive Committee of the North of England Education Conference, the Council of the National Literacy Association, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, the TUC, and the Executive Committee of Unions 21.

As Student President, he was previously a Governor of Stranmillis University College and has sat on the Court of the University of Ulster, was Vice-Chair of the N. Ireland Teachers' Council and a member of the Department of Education's Strategic Advisory Group on post-primary schooling. As a member of the Teachers' Negotiating Committee and several high profile working groups, Dr Brown has co-authored various schemes for teachers. In 2007, he became the youngest N. Ireland President, and in 2010 the youngest National President in the 127-year history of the Association of Teachers & Lecturers. In 2019 he was awarded the organisation's highest honour, the ATL Order of Merit.

Dr Brown is active in the church and local community: he has sat on the Board of Antrim Borough Council's Local Strategy Partnership, on the Board of Directors of the Ulster Association of Youth Drama, and is Chair of the Board of Governors of Broughshane Primary School.

A committed Christian, he was thrilled in 2006 to have been ordained as a Ruling Elder in 2nd Broughshane Presbyterian Church and to have been a long-serving member of the Youth Board of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. He now sits on the PCI's Council for Public Affairs, holds the Chair of its State Education Committee and represents the denomination on the Executive of the Transferor Representatives' Council, being appointed in 2019 as its Vice-Chair.

In March 2017, Dr Brown was appointed as a Director of the newly-formed Controlled Schools' Support Council and, in May, as the Council's Vice-Chairperson. In June 2018 he was elected a Founding Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching.

Dr Brown was appointed to the Governing Body as Teaching Staff Representative from 4 November 2014 until 3 November 2018. He was re-appointed from 4 November 2018 until 3 November 2022 following re-election.

## **PROFESSOR JONATHAN HEGGARTY MBE, BSc, PhD, PGCFHE, MCGI**

*Principal, Stranmillis University College*

Professor Jonathan Heggarty was appointed as Principal & Chief Executive Officer on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Prior to his appointment at Stranmillis University College, Professor Heggarty was Director of Curriculum and Learner Success at Belfast Metropolitan College.

A graduate from Queen's University Belfast, Professor Heggarty started his career within the IT sector as a software engineer developing a range of products for multinational technology companies. In 2003, he became a lecturer within Further Education and has held several curriculum positions within the sector. In his role as Director of Curriculum and Learner Success, he led and managed the delivery of a wide range of full-time, part-time and work-based-learning further and higher education programmes to over 14,000 learners annually. He also led the development of a wide range of programmes designed to meet the needs of learners and employers.

Professor Heggarty is passionate about promoting the importance of education and was the founder of several initiatives including Coder Dojo Belfast which is the largest coding club for young people in Northern Ireland. Professor Heggarty was awarded the MBE in December 2017 for services to Further Education in Northern Ireland.

## **MISS MEABH MAGEE BEd Hons**

***Student Representative with effect from 1 June 2021***

Miss Magee is currently the Student Union President of Stranmillis University College and a 2021 graduate of the BEd Primary Education Degree programme. In 2017, Miss Magee started Stranmillis, where she chose her specialist subject of RE, which she completed for three years of her study. Additionally, she gained her Certificate in Religious Education by Distance Learning through the University of Glasgow in 2019. In July 2021, Miss Magee was awarded the Transferor Representatives' Council Award for the Primary student who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to creativity and innovation in Religious Education. Miss Magee also achieved the Gold Award Certificate in her Degree Enhancement through Stranmillis University College.

An outgoing individual, Miss Magee participated in a wide range of activities the College had to offer, joining the Creative and Backstage Teams, becoming Creative Director and

eventually Producer of the annual Stranmillis Pantomime. Miss Magee has also attended a range of events ran by the variety of clubs and societies in the College such as the CU Carol Service and 'Stran does Strictly.' Miss Magee has supported Stranmillis Student's Union and the College staff by aiding them with Open Days throughout her time as a student. Furthermore, Miss Magee became a Student Buddy where she assisted the

incoming International Students of that year. In 2019, Miss Magee aided the set-up of the recently developed Stran TV society and attended meetings as a member of the Student Representative Council. An advocate for equality and student welfare, Miss Magee volunteered to become Student Equality Advisor for the College, a role she held for two academic years. In 2020, Miss Magee became the International Secretary on the Stranmillis Students' Union, where she connected with a variety of International students online, as a consequence of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In 2020, Miss Magee studied abroad in Budapest, Hungary as part of the Erasmus programme, where she attended Eötvös Loránd University and studied in the Faculty of Primary and Pre-School Education. She thoroughly enjoyed her experience there, despite returning home early, again, due to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Miss Magee is currently completing her MEd in Pastoral Care and is the student representative for the 2021/22 academic year. She hopes to use her passion and determination to represent the student body of Stranmillis to the highest level.

She currently attends the Education Committee meetings as an Observer.

## **MR KEN NELSON MBE, BA MBA MSC FCMI CMGR**

Mr Nelson is currently the CEO of the Local Economic Development Company (LEDCOM) Ltd. In 2010 he was the sole Northern Ireland recipient of the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion.

In 2012 Mr Nelson was appointed to the Board of Invest NI. He was re appointed to the Board of Invest NI in April 2015 serving until March 2020.

He has been Chairman of InterTradeIreland since his appointment by the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) in December 2016. Previously he was Chairman of Enterprise Northern Ireland, a member of the governing body of the Northern Regional College and a parent governor of Ballymena Academy.

He brings detailed understanding of strategy development and monitoring and understands the crucial roles played by risk management and strong corporate governance.

Mr Nelson has extensive experience in business and economic development with an emphasis on entrepreneurship, employment and training initiatives.

Mr Nelson was awarded an MBE in the Queen's 2018 New Year's Honours List for services to local economic development and the community & voluntary sector.

He was appointed to the Stranmillis University College Governing Body on 29 March 2013 reappointed from 1 April 2020 to 28 March 2023 and currently chairs the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

### **MR DARREN FEELY**

***Support Staff Representative from 1 April 2021***

Mr Feely has been in the post of Academic Registry Manager in Stranmillis University College since September 2018. Previous to this he worked as Admissions and Systems Officer for Queen's University Belfast for almost 10 years, during which time he was seconded to the International Office as Senior International Officer. Mr Feely also worked as Project Manager for Craigavon Borough Council on a cross-border EU funded ICT project aimed at encouraging businesses and community groups embrace the uptake of technology.

Outside of work Mr Feely remains active on the family farm.

### **MR ROBERT THOMPSON, MA BA DASE Cert.ED**

Mr Thompson, a former student of Stranmillis College, served the last 32 years of his professional career as Principal of Doagh Primary School. He is a Member of the Board of Governors of Ballyclare Nursery school (Chair), Ballyclare High School and Ballyclare Secondary School (Chair).

He has also been a member of the North Eastern Education & Library Board and the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA, Chair of the Finance Committee). He has recently been appointed by the Education Authority as an External Adviser for Headteachers' Performance, Review and Staff development (PRSD).

Mr Thompson brings an understanding of strategic planning to the Governing Body. He was appointed to the Stranmillis University College Governing Body on 29 March 2013 and was reappointed from 1 April 2020 to 28 March 2023. He is currently a Member of the Education Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

### **DR ESMOND BIRNIE MA (Econ) and PhD (Econ)**

Dr Esmond Birnie has been Senior Economist at Ulster University since 3 October 2016. He was previously the Chief Economist with PwC in Northern Ireland since January 2010. He has 34 years of experience of macroeconomics, industrial, regional and environmental economics as well as of shaping policy inside government (as a former elected politician and Ministerial Special Adviser). In March 2021 he became one of the four members of the NI Fiscal Council.

Prior to joining PwC he was a Senior Lecturer in Economics at Queen's University Belfast (1989-98), Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly (1998-2007, including Chair of the DEL Committee, 1999-2002) and a Ministerial Special Adviser (Department for Employment and Learning, 2007-10). He has contributed to a number of PwC thought leadership publications including the *Government*

*Futures* series. He is co- author of six books and a dozen academic journal articles on aspects of economic performance and policy (especially inter-regional comparisons across western and Eastern Europe). He was appointed to the Stranmillis University College Governing Body from 1 August 2014 and was reappointed for a second Term from 1 April 2020 to 31 July 2022. Dr Birnie is also a member of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

### **MR WILLIAM PATTERSON BA (Hons) MBA MA FCIPD**

Mr Patterson has held various posts in the area of employment relations. From 1978- 1980 he held the post of Industrial Relations Officer with British Aluminium. From 1980-1990 he worked in Personnel for the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. From 1990-1993 he was Director

(Administration and Personnel) with the Northern Health & Social Services Board (Loughside). He was employed by the Belfast City Council from 1993 to 1996 as Head of Human Resources.

Mr Patterson joined the Labour Relations Agency in 1996 as Chief Executive and retired from his position on 13 March 2015.

He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.

He was appointed to the Stranmillis University College Governing Body on 1 August 2014 and was reappointed from 1 April 2020 to 31 July 2022.

He is currently Chair of the HR and Remuneration Committee.

### **MRS CLAIRE MOORE BA (Hons) Mathematics, FCA**

Mrs Moore is currently Bursar and Secretary to the Governing Body of the Royal Belfast Academical Institution (RBAI).

Mrs Moore was formerly the Director of Finance and Corporate Development for the Northern Regional College. She has worked in the Education and Training sectors for 20 years. Previously she worked in the Audit and Economic & Social Policy Departments of Deloitte from 1991 to 1999.

Mrs Moore is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland. She was appointed to the Stranmillis University College Governing Body on 1 August 2014 and was reappointed from 1 April 2020 to 31 July 2022. She is currently Chair of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

### **MR PETER WEIL**

Peter has extensive experience of broadcasting, marketing and education at a senior level. His roles have included head of BBC Radio Ulster, head of network television, BBC North; senior vice-president, Discovery Networks International and chief executive, CTVC (part of the Rank Foundation).

His broadcasting career has spanned more than four decades. He has produced programmes with Sir David Frost, Paul Clark, Jeremy Paxman, Dame Esther Rantzen, Emma Barnett and Gloria Hunniford.

Peter was head of youth programmes at BBC Northern Ireland in the mid-eighties and was subsequently appointed the editor of BBC 1's "Wogan". He launched "First Edition with Jon Snow", a schools' current affairs programme for 9-13 year olds, in 1994. It ran for eight years. He also pioneered TrueTube, an online channel which specialises in religious education and citizenship. The channel won the BAFTA award for Children's Channel of the Year in 2017. During his period as CEO of CTVC, the company won an RTS award for best edited documentary ("Welcome to Mayfair") as well as three nominations for a Grierson documentary award.

In 2000 he was invited to become a fellow of the Royal Television Society and in 2002, while working in the USA, he was appointed an alternate director for the Emmys committee. He is currently the chief executive of Politics in Action, a shared education initiative which involves 23 schools across Northern Ireland working with students from different backgrounds as they try to find solutions to the issues which matter to them. He is also a Board member of Northern Ireland Screen, where he chairs both the Investment Committee and the Archive Committee.

He was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023. He is also a member of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and the HR & Remuneration Committee.

## **MS MAJELLA CORRIGAN**

Majella Corrigan is Director of Planning and Schools Provision in the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS).

She has over 20 years' experience working in education starting her career as a post-primary teacher before moving to the Northern Ireland Assembly to establish the Assembly Education Service. She then undertook the role of English Subject Officer in the Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), subsequently moving to work with the Northern Ireland Qualifications Regulator which included the role of Programme Manager on the Ministerial Review of GCSEs and A levels, before returning to the CCEA Awarding Body as Service Improvement and STEM Programme Manager. She has a BA in English, MBA, PGCE and PGDip in Educational Multimedia.

As of 3 March 2021, Majella has been appointed as a Member of the Board of CCEA. She has also been appointed as a Member of the Board of Governors of the South Eastern Regional College from 1 April 2021.

She was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023. She is also a member of the Education Committee.

## **HEATHER MILLER, MBA, BA, PGDE, PG Dip Law, SFHEA**

Heather Miller is a graduate of both Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University. She has over 25 years' experience in further education initially as a Lecturer in Business and Management and then as a Principal Lecturer in Business and Creative Studies.

Following the reorganisation of the further education sector in 2007, she was appointed to the College Management Team of South Eastern Regional College and until 2021 was the Head of Quality, Excellence and Development with a specific responsibility for the quality improvement of higher education within further education. Heather is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA).

She was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023. She is also a member of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

## **PROFESSOR DAVID JONES BSc, BA, PhD, DSc, FEng, FIAE, FIMMM, FRSC, FRSS**

Professor Jones is Professor of Biomaterial Science and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Students) at Queen's University Belfast.

A graduate from QUB (1985, 1988, 2006) and the Open University (2015), he has been employed as a lecturer in Pharmaceutics at the University of Otago (Dunedin, New Zealand) and as the Head of Formulations at Norbrook Industries Limited (NI) before returning to QUB in 1994 as a lecturer in the School of Pharmacy. He was subsequently promoted to a personal chair in 1999.

He is a Chartered Engineer, a Chartered Statistician and a Chartered Chemist and is internationally recognised for his research concerning the application of materials

science/engineering to address the industrial and clinical issues associated with implants and pharmaceutical dosage forms. It has resulted in David being elected to Fellowships in the Royal Academy of Engineering, Irish Academy of Engineering, Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, Royal Society of Chemistry, Royal Statistical Society, Pharmaceutical Society (NI) and an Eminent Fellowship of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

He is the author of three textbooks, 12 patents and over 400 research papers/communications and the recipient of several awards including, the British Pharmaceutical Conference Science Medal Award, the Lilly Prize for Pharmaceutical Excellence, the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences Innovation Award and the Griffith Medal of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining.

He is currently the Co-Founder of a drug delivery company, Re-Vana Therapeutics, a spin-out company from Queen's University Belfast that is focused on the treatment of eye diseases.

He is a Non-Executive Director of the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (annual remuneration £8283), a member of the Board of Governors of St. Mary's University College, Belfast, Glenwood Primary School and the Belfast Girls Model School (all no remuneration).

He was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023.

He is also a member of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

## **DR LAVINIA BOYCE BEM**

Dr Boyce is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and the Open University (OU). Her degrees are: BA, BSc (2.1 Hons), MSSC, PhD and Diploma in Personnel Management. She was a Civil Servant for 20 years before transferring to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI). She served 17 years in Human Resources Management and did contract work as an Associate Assessor for the National Police College, Harrogate. After retiring, she was employed as a Teaching Assistant in the QUB School of Management.

Dr Boyce is a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CMCIPD) and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Management (MCMI). She was a Member of the British Academy of Management (MBAM) and served on the BAM Council as the UK part-time Doctoral Representative. She chaired tracks at the BAM International Conferences and was a Special Interest Group, Treasurer.

She was appointed as a Governor at Andrews Memorial Primary School in 2009 and continues to serve in this role. In 2014 she was appointed by the Department of Education as a Governor at Bloomfield Collegiate School where she served as vice-Chair and Chair of the Board. She resigned in October 2019.

She has been involved in voluntary work for several years, comprising the QUB Graduates' Associations and Convocation. She served on the Committees and was President of the Queen's Women Graduates in 2007. Other voluntary work she has done includes The Royal British Legion, casework; the RUC GC Foundation, Guide; Treasurer of the Police Historical Society and fund raising for the Belfast City Hospital.

She was awarded the BEM in the 2017 New Year's Honours List for services to the community in Northern Ireland. She set up a postgraduate research scholarship in the QUB School of Medicine, in memory of her late parents. The scholarship is open to postgraduate students in the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine.

Dr Boyce was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 July 2020 for a period of 4 years to 30 June 2024. She is also a member of the HR & Remuneration Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

She does not hold any other public appointments.



## **DR MAUREEN BENNETT**

Dr Bennett has almost 13 years teaching experience in the post -primary sector, seven of which were as Head of English and Drama. She has also 25 years' experience within the Education and Training Inspectorate, working across all sections of education from pre-school to tertiary level education and holding the position of Assistant Chief Inspector (ACI) for six of those years. As ACI she sat on the Board of the then Department for Employment and Learning and subsequently, the Board of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure.

Following retirement, she held a short term consultancy post on *Improvement in Pre-school Education in Serbia* as a *Senior Self-evaluation Expert* and was also a part-time *Support Officer for Research, Evaluation and Curriculum on the Special Needs Literacy Project* at Stranmillis University College.

She holds a BA in English, a Masters Degree in Education and a PhD also in Education. Her current responsibilities include membership of the Board of Belfast Bible College and chairperson of its Education Committee, membership of the Board of the C.S.Lewis Institute (Belfast) and deputy Clerk of Session in West Church, Bangor - all of which are voluntary and unremunerated positions with charitable organisations.

Dr Bennett was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 July 2020 for a period of 4 years to 30 June 2024. She chairs the Education Committee.

**Secretary to the Governing Body**  
**MS KAREN ROBINSON MSc Dip IoD**