

Foreward

We are delighted to introduce our first issue of the Irish Journal of Management with De Gruyter publishing. The move to an open access journal has been several years in the making and involved negotiations with numerous international publishers. We chose De Gruyter to host the journal, and we very much look forward to a fruitful partnership with them in the years to come.

The move to open access is important, as it means that our research becomes freely available to a wider and more global audience. This means that for contributors to the journal, articles will be easier to access and read, which will ultimately convert to an increased number of citations. This will provide researchers with increased visibility not only within academia but across the wider business community. This will enhance both the impact of our research and our engagement with, and contributions to, industry and wider society.

We are delighted that the new platform for the journal is launched as we celebrate maintaining our '1' ranking on the Chartered Association of Business School's journal quality list. This reflects our international standing and the quality of the scholarship of our contributors. It is also the culmination of the commitment and efforts of former editors of the journal: David Collings, James Cunningham, Kathy Monks, Patrick Gunnigle, Bill Roche, Aidan Kelly and the late Teresa Brannick.

This inaugural open access issue owes much to many people. Thanks are due first to the Council of the Irish Academy of Management for supporting the transition to an open access platform so wholeheartedly. We also thank the guest editors of this first issue and the contributors to forthcoming issues for their unwavering patience as we made this transition and endured various teething problems. The issue coincides with the appointment of a new editorial board comprising eminent national and international scholars across various management disciplines. We are delighted to welcome the new board, and we express our sincere gratitude to the outgoing board members for their tremendous guidance and support during their term. Our sincere thanks to Cáit Hammersley, University of Limerick, for her superb assistance with the administration of the journal. Thanks are also due to our reviewers, who give so generously of their time and expertise. Finally, we want to express a sincere thank you to Gerard O'Connor and Eileen O'Brien of Blackhall Publishing who worked with us for so many years and helped to establish where we now are today.

This special issue is aptly themed around management research in Ireland. The introduction by the three guest editors – David Collings, James Cunningham and Geoffrey Wood – demonstrates how diverse the interests of our research community have become and charts the progress of our scholarship. The issue concludes with a review by Joe MacDonagh of the book 'Strategic HRM: Research and practice in Ireland' edited by Brian Harney and Kathy Monks, which again reinforces the significant progress that has been made by management scholars in this particular field. We hope you enjoy reading this special issue and that the insights it provides contribute to the success of your own scholarship.

Edel Conway and Jonathan Lavelle
Editors