



The Irish Institute

Boston College Center for Irish Programs

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The Irish Institute is a division of the Center for Irish Programs at Boston College. The mission of the Institute is to promote the peace and normalization process on the island of Ireland and to contribute to social, political, and economic stability through cross-border and cross-community cooperation. Professional development programming by the Institute introduces Irish and Northern Irish participants to successful models of best practices in the U.S., as well as offering an opportunity for cultural exchange that promotes mutual understanding among the U.S., Ireland, and Northern Ireland. Since its founding in 1997, more than 800 decision-makers from all sectors, including government, business, education, environment, policing, media, and nonprofits, have participated in over 100 Irish Institute programs. Programs balance classroom seminars led by Boston College faculty with site visits to innovative and effective industry leaders in Massachusetts and across the United States. The Irish Institute is regarded as an honest broker by all parties on the island of Ireland, and its reputation for delivering quality programming in an inclusive environment attracts leaders from all communities and from across the political spectrum.

The Irish Institute's 2009-2010 programming will address, among other issues; nonprofit management, executive leadership, positive political identity, effective civic governance, corporate social responsibility for small businesses, political

journalism, women's health & wellness, civic engagement among young people, and environmental policymaking.

The Institute receives annual funding from Boston College, the U.S. Congress through the U.S. Department of State, the Bureau of Cultural and Educational Affairs, as well as through external business partnerships.

Irish Institute Programs:

- Feature seminars with experts and university faculty in addition to site visits with industry and sector leaders
- Demonstrate a commitment to relationship-building across organizations, sectors, communities and borders
- Focus on creating and maintaining personal and professional links between Ireland, Northern Ireland, and the United States

2009-2010 Programming Initiatives:

- Political Identity
- Environmental Policymaking
- Education for Citizenship
- Civic Government
- Political Journalism
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Women's Health & Wellness
- Executive Leadership
- Social Enterprise Management
- Marketing for Tourism