Call for applications for a study visit entitled

**Joined-Up and Crosscutting Thinking in Policy Development**

**September 10th – 20th 2013**

**Boston, Massachusetts & Washington, D.C.**

Up to ten appropriate elected officials, civil servants, civil society and NGO actors, and private sector leaders from Ireland and Northern Ireland will travel to the United States to examine the process of joined-up and crosscutting thinking in policy development and implementation in a number of different policy areas. Participants will study and interact with organizations, municipalities, political parties, and other relevant policy actors that have collaborated to develop and implement joined-up and crosscutting policy to confront serious, complex economic, political, and social problems.

The program is sponsored by the Irish Institute at the Center for Irish Programs, Boston College, and the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Program-related costs including travel, accommodation, tuition, and the majority of meals are provided.

The program is not open to U.S. citizens, Green Card holders, or past participants of U.S. Government-funded Irish Institute programmes. **Short-listed applicants must be available for interview either in Dublin or Belfast on May 28th, 29th, or 30th.** Please note that the program is by necessity highly selective, and that consequently, not all applicants will be interviewed and not all interviewees will be invited to participate.

To apply: Visit our website at www.bc.edu/irishinstitute for an application. The completed form, in addition to a letter of interest, must be returned by email to Ms. Thea Gilien at gilien@bc.edu before 5 p.m. GMT on Thursday, **16th May**. The mandatory letter of interest should include: reason for application, your ability to contribute to the program, and potential for sharing your experience upon your return home. For further information, please visit our website or telephone (353) 1 614 7450.