Call for applications for a study visit entitled

Social Enterprise and Overcoming Long-Term Unemployment

May 6th – 16th 2013
Boston, Massachusetts & Detroit, Michigan

Ten relevant policy makers, politicians, business development professionals, educators, and workforce development advocates from Ireland and Northern Ireland will be invited to examine social enterprise and its role in overcoming long-term unemployment. The exchange will address long-term unemployment through social enterprise initiatives such as philanthropic organizations, foundations, and other for-profit and non-profit socially focused entities. Over the course of the program, participants will study state and local policy, education programs, workforce retraining and skills development, social inclusion, and business and private capital development and incentives.

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 programs. Short-listed applicants must be available for interview either 6th March in Dublin or 7th March in Belfast. 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, 21st February. 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.