



# 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 reconciliation process on the island of Ireland and to contribute to social, political, and economic stability through cross-community and cross-border cooperation. Professional development programming by the Irish Institute introduces Irish and Northern Irish participants to successful models of U.S. practices, as well as offering an opportunity for cultural and professional exchange that promotes mutual understanding among the U.S., Ireland, and Northern Ireland. Since its founding in 1997, more than 1,200 decision-makers from all social, economic, and political sectors—including business, education, environment, government, media, nonprofits, and policing—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 2012-2013 programming will address, among other subjects: social enterprise, executive leadership, innovation in marine economies and renewable energy, political leadership,

access for the disabled, and business development.

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

### **2012-2013 Programming Initiatives:**

- The Arts and Business
- Developing the Marine Economy
- Political Leadership
- Biomass: Renewable Energies in Agriculture
- Disabilities and Access
- Social Enterprise and Overcoming Long-Term Unemployment
- Joined-up and crosscutting thinking in policy development
- Executive Leadership
- Global Management Strategy