

Brendan Williams Short Biography (2 pages)

Brendan Williams lectures in Urban Development, Urban Economics and Comparative Planning Systems at the School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy, University College Dublin. He was Deputy Head of the School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy from 2007-2010. He is currently Director of the Urban Environment Research Project at University College Dublin and has taught and researched at a number of universities in North America and Europe. Dr. Williams is Affiliate Professor to the National Center for Smart Growth at University of Maryland U.S. since February 2015. In addition from February 2011-2015 Brendan was Visiting Professor and Visiting Scholar to the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University in Boston. He has published approximately 100 scientific papers and edited/co-authored 6 books on various aspects of planning and development in Ireland and internationally. In 2015 he was appointed as Evaluator/Reviewer for EU Joint Research Council Consolidator Grants in the areas of Environment, Space and Population.

His original doctoral research at Trinity College Dublin involved investigation of the impacts of fiscal incentives on Urban Regeneration in Dublin (examined by Univ. of Cambridge U.K.). He currently lectures at undergraduate and post graduate level and supervises a team of PhDs in related research areas. He has secured substantial funding from competitively won grants, to conduct research in the area of the urban environment. Total funding in university research projects as a Principal Investigator over the period 2006-2015 exceeds EU2 million and resulted in the receipt the Presidents prize for leadership in EU research in 2012.

His research interest on managing urban development and regeneration is pursued through several ongoing funded projects: Spatial Simulation for Social Sciences (Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences - IRCHSS); Enhancing the MOLAND Model of the Greater Dublin Region: From strengthening theoretical foundations to improving end-user functionality (Science Foundation Ireland - SFI); Fiscal incentives for urban development and housing studies (Society of Chartered Surveyors); Peri-Urban Land use Relationships (European Commission FP6); and Urban Environment Project (Environmental Protection Agency) that he has directed since 2009. He has extensive experience in professional consultancy and commercial research in urban development issues for a wide range of clients including the IMF, Government Agencies, Financial and Property companies. In addition he has designed and delivered Continuing Professional Development Programmes for professional and commercial organisations.

In 2015 he co-wrote a textbook in Urban and Regional Economics with Mc Graw Hill Publishers and in 2014 he wrote book chapters on the residential property crash in Dublin and the state rescue of the banking system in Ireland published by Macmillan. In 2015/2016 he is co-authoring a book on Economics and Property Markets in light of the financial crisis in European countries which builds upon a previous co-authored book publication Partnerships in Urban Property Development (Wiley Blackwell, Oxford).

Policy publications include the Urban Environment Project Synthesis report 2012, an integrated interdisciplinary report on Decision support tools for managing the urban environment in Ireland. Examples of journal publications include The Role of Property Tax Incentives in Urban Regeneration and Property Market Failure in Dublin. Journal of Property Tax Assessment & Administration in 2012 and Utilizing an Urban-Regional Model (MOLAND) for Testing the Planning and Provision of Wastewater Treatment Capacity in the Dublin Region 2006 - 2026, Planning Practice and Research,.2012.

Applied research inputs for the Dublin Regional Authority in urban and regional policy areas were completed in 2014. This includes three main strands under the direction of Dr Brendan Williams. The first piece of research examined the role that the Dublin city region has in the national context and its value to Ireland as a global city of scale. The process through which this was achieved was firstly by examining available data and then by using this data to produce a spatial analytical assessment of Dublin's role. Reports published 2012/3 are available on www.dra.ie. With international research partners we examined the relationship between city development and human talent resources with the positioning of Ireland as the 'Innovation Island', a hub for new cutting edge industries and a country with a talented well-educated workforce. The results and recommendations published in 2013 bring together a wide range of both national and international evidence to explain the importance of Dublin to national economic health in a global context.

In 2015 Dr Brendan Williams acted as Advisor to the Dublin City Council in the preparation of Local Economic and Community Development Plan. In addition Dr Brendan Williams was a member of the Dublin City Mayor Task force which in 2013 reported recommendations on a Vacant lands development levy to address the issue of long term derelict sites. This has led to the ongoing legislative reform and work and research on derelict sites with funded international research projects including EU and USA partners.

Examples of publications include; *Partnerships in Urban Property Development* (2009) Wiley Blackwell (book); *Planning and Sustainability: Metropolitan Planning, Housing and Land Policy* (in Housing Contemporary Ireland: Policy, Society and Shelter, Springer, 2007), (book chapter) *Blanchardstown, Suburban regeneration and renewal* (in Regenerating Older Suburbs, Urban Land Institute, Washington , 2007) (book chapter); *The Private Rented Sector in Dublin: Decline and Renewal* (in Housing Contemporary Ireland: Policy, Society and Shelter, Springer Press, 2007), and an article *Revisiting the Informational City Status Quo: Space of Flows, Polycentricity and the Geography of Knowledge-intensive Business Services in the Emerging Global City-Region of Dublin* (Regional Studies, 2008).

Dr. Williams is a Planning and development Surveyor and a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and was Chair from 2003-2005 of the Planning and Development Division of The Society of Chartered Surveyors in Ireland.