

MEET THE SPEAKERS

Louise O Sullivan

2025 IAFA Conference Chair & Panel Moderator

Louise O Sullivan is a Lecturer in Accounting and Taxation at Technological University Dublin and a PhD researcher at Warwick Business School in England. Her research sits at the intersection of artificial intelligence, sustainability, and taxation.

A Chartered Accountant and experienced tax consultant, Louise brings a practical, systems-aware perspective to her academic work. She writes regularly for RTÉ Brainstorm and completed podcast episodes, where she simplifies complex financial issues for a broad audience. Louise is passionate about combining rigorous academic research with real-world impact. She is also the organiser of the 2025 Irish Accounting and Finance Association Conference.



Dr Stuart Henderson

Irish Accounting and Finance Association (IAFA) 2025 Chairperson

Stuart Henderson is Chair of the Irish Accounting and Finance Association and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics at Ulster University. His research focuses on socio-economic development – especially its inclusionary/exclusionary dynamics – in areas from finance to agriculture and social policy. His recent work includes exploring how “multiple insecurities” affect wellbeing and place-based inequalities, and various perspectives on enabling sustainable transitions in agriculture (e.g. succession, pro-environmental behavioural change, and enabling a just transition).



Christine Nangle

Head of Accounting Discipline at TU Dublin & Panel Discussant

Christine Nangle is Head of the Discipline of Accounting at TU Dublin and a Chartered Accountant (FCA) with over 20 years teaching experience in Auditing and Financial Reporting. She is currently undertaking a PhD at Dublin City University, researching professional scepticism and judgement in junior auditors, and is the author of the ICAI External Auditing and Assurance, Student Textbook.

Christine trained with Deloitte and has extensive industry experience, including eight years at Coca-Cola Hellenic as Head of Internal Audit and later Commercial Finance Manager. She is an executive committee member of the BAFA Auditing Special Interest Group, actively contributing to developments in audit research and education.





Professor Greg Stoner

Conference Keynote Speaker & Panel Discussant

Professor Greg Stoner is a leading researcher in accounting education, accounting education and technology, and accounting history. Based at the University of Glasgow, his research explores the evolution of accounting education and the accounting profession and the educational impact and utilisation of technologies in accounting practice and accounting in higher education.

Professor Greg Stoner has contributed significantly to advancing accounting education, for which he has recently been awarded the BAFA Outstanding Contribution to Accounting Education Award, and his paper “A critical review of AI in accounting education: Threat and opportunity” (Ballantine, Boyce and Stoner, 2024) is currently the most downloaded paper in Critical Perspectives on Accounting.



Professor Angela Pettinicchio

European Accounting Association (EAA) Keynote Speaker

Angela Pettinicchio is Full Professor of Business Administration at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and Affiliate Professor of Financial Reporting at SDA Bocconi School of Management. Angela currently serves as an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Auditing and is a member of the Editorial Boards of the European Accounting Review, Accounting in Europe, Accounting Forum, International Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Taxation, and the Journal of Management and Governance.

Angela is actively involved in the academic community as a member of the Management Committee of the European Accounting Association (EAA) and the Scientific Committee of EARNET (European Auditing Research Network). She also serves on both the Organizational and Scientific Committees for the EIASM Workshop on Audit Quality and has been part of the EAA Auditing Section’s Scientific Committee since 2017.



Caroline Curtis

Panel Discussant – Industry Expert – Microsoft

Caroline is a highly accomplished finance executive with a career that spans multinational corporations and high-growth organisations. Holding an MBA from Trinity College Dublin and recognised as a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA), as well as being a Member of the Institute of Directors, Caroline combines strategic insight, governance expertise, and operational excellence gained through her extensive experience in the Technology, Banking, and Public sectors.

Caroline serves as Director of Process Excellence for the Microsoft Global Accounting Operations team, where she spearheads initiatives to drive operational optimisation, automation, and transformative strategies. Her work focuses on leveraging AI agent technology to boost efficiency, improve decision-making capabilities, and foster innovation across worldwide accounting operations.





Colin Melody

Panel Discussant - Technology & Transformation AI & Data Expert

Colin is a Director within Deloitte Ireland's Artificial Intelligence and Data team with over 12 years of experience in providing strategic advice on large data and AI transformation programmes. Colin has significant experience managing analytic teams, coordinating deliverables and helping organisations, understand their strategic analytics and AI objectives.

Colin draws on his computational and data analysis expertise along with his technical understanding of systems and processes to identify workable solutions which meet client needs.



Professor Joan Ballantine

Doctoral Colloquium Organiser

Joan is an accounting graduate and Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA). After working in industry and gaining her professional qualification, she moved into academia: working at Warwick Business School (where she gained a PhD) and Queen's University Belfast. She is currently a Professor of Accounting, Ulster University (since 2008). She has experience of teaching a range of subjects, including strategic management accounting, at both undergraduate and Masters level.

Joan is an active researcher and is passionate about accounting education and gender equality (including gender budgeting and gender in senior management). She is actively involved in organising the Irish Accounting and Finance Association Doctoral Colloquium and is the joint convenor of the annual British Accounting and Finance Association (BAFA) Doctoral Masterclasses. Joan recently won the BAFA Outstanding Contribution to Accounting & Finance Education Award (2023) and was appointed Vice-President of BAFA in April 2024.



Professor Martin Messner

Doctoral Colloquium Keynote Speaker

Professor Martin Messner is a globally recognised management accounting and control scholar. Based at the University of Innsbruck, his research explores accountability, organisational decision-making, and the intersection of accounting with broader social and institutional structures.

Martin's work is frequently published in top-tier accounting journals, including the *European Accounting Review*; *Accounting, Organizations and Society*; or *Contemporary Accounting Research*. He has been an Editor-in-Chief of *Accounting, Organizations and Society* since 2021 and was Associate Editor of *Management Accounting Research* between 2015-2019. Martin has extensive experience mentoring early-career researchers. His keynote talk will address the question of what we mean when characterizing research papers as more or less "interesting" – interesting to whom, by which standards, and in which respect?