



PRESS RELEASE

International Society of Travel and Tourism Educators (ISTTE) conference – Dublin October 2008.

The International Society of Travel and Tourism Educators annual conference was recently held at Clontarf Castle in Dublin, Ireland.

The historic conference-the first in the Society's history to be held in Europe and the second only outside the US and Canada- was a great success and well attended by the educators and tourism industry members from all over the world.

The Society's membership is comprised of leading travel and tourism educators, policymakers, industry professionals and researchers. The conference theme was 'The Future of Tourism: New Directions, Challenges and Opportunities'. The conference program represented over a year's work of planning and included a number of diverse streams including tourism research papers, workshops on educational issues, and roundtable discussions. There was a strong emphasis on developing collaboration between institutions and members at this year's conference.

Keynote speakers included Mr. Dermot Mannion, Chief Executive of Aer Lingus who spoke on the future of the aviation industry; Dr. Paul Epstein of Harvard University's Centre for Health and the Global Environment who spoke on the impact of climate change on travel and tourism; and Mr. Peter Ward Chairman of Bord Bia's Taste Council who spoke on Food Tourism. There were a number of special workshops also on issues such as international collaboration in Higher Education, E-learning in Travel and Tourism, Tourism and the Environment, and one on Food Tourism which was chaired by Faculty of Tourism and Food Director, Dr. Michael Mulvey.

The guest of honour at the ISTTE Board of Directors annual Dinner was former Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Mr. Bertie Ahern T. D.



ISTTE Board Members and the Honourable
Mr. Bertie Ahern T.D., former Prime Minister of Ireland.

This year's conference was supported by DIT's School of Hospitality Management and Tourism and its Tourism Research Centre of Dublin.

Dr. Dominic Dillane of DIT's Faculty of Tourism and Food was Conference Chair and is also the current Vice-President of ISTTE.

For full details and pictures from the conference, please visit www.istte.org.

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