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## Editorial

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## Editorial

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to introduce the papers in the 26<sup>th</sup> edition of the ITB Journal, which is dedicated to Civic Engagement. There is both a diversity of contributions and contributors. Contributors from various Higher Education Institutions namely, IT Tralee with the University of Limerick, ITT Dublin, Letterkenny IT and IT Blanchardstown in addition to contributors from the Senior Sports Officer of Fingal County Council and the Chief Officer of the local Community Development Committee have submitted papers.

The various contributions illustrate the breadth of Civic Engagement as a subject area. The papers included in this issue focus on themes regarding:

- The nature of CE and how it can be embedded in a higher education institution;
- Engaging the staff, students and resources of ITB to teach computer coding to young people;
- A review of Civic Engagement from a societal perspective – in particular the sense of active citizenship in which youth engage;
- How student flourishing can be enabled through community and civic engagement;
- A review of a work experience programme involving four ITB students collaborating with a Fingal County Council Sports Office programme;
- The civic role of the university and the importance of prioritising community needs in the context of a new technological university for Dublin;
- A service learning project update regarding the development of an electronic menu system in association with James Connolly Memorial Hospital Catering Department;
- A project outline of an Outdoor Play initiative in the North West of Ireland;
- Developing and implementing civic engagement programmes in Dublin 15 – the perspective of a community partner;
- Reflections on the work of the International Fund for Ireland from 1986-2011 in developing community engagement across traditional community divides.

I would like to thank all the contributors for their willingness to contribute to this issue of the ITB Journal and for the effort they have invested in making this edition so diverse and thought provoking. Finally I would like to thank Dr. Brian Nolan, Editor of the ITB Journal for his interest in the topic of Civic Engagement and for making it possible to dedicate this edition of the ITB Journal to Civic Engagement.

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