

---

Volume 20

Issue 2 *Special Issue on CORU Standards of Proficiency for Social Care Work. Guest Editors: Dr Áine de Róiste, Dr Majella Mulkeen and Dr Aoife Johnson.*

---

2020-11-24

## From the Start to Now: The Journey of a Journal

Ashling Jackson

*Athlone Institute of Technology*, [ajackson@ait.ie](mailto:ajackson@ait.ie)

Colm O'Doherty

*Institute of Technology Tralee*, [colmodoherty4@gmail.com](mailto:colmodoherty4@gmail.com)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://arrow.tudublin.ie/ijass>

---

### Recommended Citation

Jackson, Ashling and O'Doherty, Colm (2020) "From the Start to Now: The Journey of a Journal," *Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies*: Vol. 20: Iss. 2, Article 1.

Available at: <https://arrow.tudublin.ie/ijass/vol20/iss2/1>

## **From the Start to Now: The Journey of a Journal**

Dr Ashling Jackson, Athlone Institute of Technology, [ajackson@ait.ie](mailto:ajackson@ait.ie)

Dr Colm O'Doherty, Institute of Technology Tralee, [Colm.ODoherty@staff.ittralee.ie](mailto:Colm.ODoherty@staff.ittralee.ie)

© Copyright Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies ISSN 1393-7022

Vol. 20(2), 2020, 1.

This edition of IJASS is a special issue entitled *CORU Standards of Proficiency for Social Care Work*. We warmly welcome Dr Áine deRóiste (Cork Institute of Technology), Dr Majella Mulkeen (Institute of Technology Sligo) and Dr Aoife Johnson (Cork Institute of Technology) as guest editors. As with our standard IJASS editions, each article in this collection has been put through the regular IJASS refereeing process. We would like to acknowledge all special issue article external reviewers for the generous sharing of their time and expertise in completing their reviews.

This special issue will make an essential contribution to social care academic discourse for a number of reasons. Firstly, it provides critical analysis and reflection on the *Standards of Proficiency for Social Care Work*, a key component of the statutory regulation of social care work in Ireland. Launched by the Social Care Workers Registration Board (through CORU, Ireland's multi-professional regulator) in 2017, the *Standards of Proficiency for Social Care Work* are the threshold standards for entry to the social care register. When the Social Care Workers Registration Board opens its register, being on this register will be an essential prerequisite for work as a social care worker in Ireland. In line with a progressive paradigm shift in Irish society towards safeguarding the public, these standards will ensure high standards of professional education, training, competence and conduct for social care workers. The articles in this collection examine the implications for both education and practice to provide readers with a well-informed and clear guide to the application of professional regulation to the profession of social care.

Secondly, the timing of this special issue is very important. While it captures the opportunities and challenges associated with ensuring compliance to statutory regulation, it does so at a particular point in time. This particular point of time is early on in the process of the social care sector adjusting to its new educational and practice reality of compliance. Thus, this issue will provide a basis for future comparative work to assess how this process plays out over time.

Thirdly, IJASS was established in 1998 to promote scholarship in social care. It is one of the official journals of Social Care Ireland. Over the decades, it has expanded significantly in scope, to also publish topical articles across a range of Social Science disciplines. Now a member of the Directory of Open Access Journals, it has both a national and international readership base. This special issue, however, reverts back to the original purpose of IJASS. It does this by consolidating and sharing emerging social care scholarship on the statutory regulation of the profession, one of the most significant developments in the evolution of social care as a professional academic and practice discipline.

We trust that you will find the collection engaging, critically informative and insightful.