

Memoriam: Brendan Walsh

53rd President of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland (2001-2004)

Born: May 1942 (Dublin); Died: 20th May 2016 (Dublin)

Brendan Walsh was Professor of Applied Economics and National Economics at University College Dublin from 1980 until 2005 and then Professor Emeritus of the School of Economics following his retirement. Earlier in his career he was a research professor at the Economic and Social Research Institute (1969-1980) and before that he taught at Tufts University in the USA.

Brendan had a prolific publication record and exceptionally broad research interests. His research was primarily concentrated on topics that were highly relevant to Ireland – macroeconomics, labour markets and demography. His numerous seminal papers contributed greatly to the development of our understanding of the Irish economy and to the process of policy making in Ireland. His research output, --almost invariably anchored in statistical evidence—helped to modernize and professionalise Irish economic policy debate.

Brendan's contribution to Ireland was also found in two other ways. Firstly, he was an inspirational teacher and many of his former students have played key roles in Ireland's economic development. The importance he attached to students was evident in the numerous editions of his joint text book *The Macroeconomy of Ireland* (with Anthony Leddin). Secondly, he gave his time generously to the public good, serving on many policy bodies in Ireland, including membership of the National Planning Board of Ireland in 1984 and the Public Service Benchmarking Body (2006-2008), and Chair of the National Statistics Board (2004-2009) and the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA).

Brendan served as President of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society from 2001-2004 and his contributions to the Society are listed below. Further biographical details can be found at the Society's website (www.ssis.ie).

Those who were privileged to know him, as a professional colleague, teacher, public commentator and friend, miss him greatly for his wisdom, his company and his generosity of spirit.

Society Contributions:

Walsh, Brendan M. 'Recent trends in mortality and morbidity in Ireland: annual symposium - Wealthier and healthier: Ireland's demographic catch-up'. - Dublin: *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*, Vol.37, 2007/8 , pp.95-112

Walsh, Brendan M. 'The transformation of the Irish labour market: 1980-2003'. - Dublin: *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*, Vol. XXXIII, 2003/2004, pp83-115 – **Presidential Address**

Walsh, Brendan M. 'Symposium on the economic returns to education'. - Dublin: *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*, Vol. XXVII, Part V, 1997/1998, pp139-158

Walsh, Brendan M., and Whelan, B.J., 'The determinants of female labour force participation: an economic analysis of survey data'. - Dublin: *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*, Vol. XXIII, Part I, 1973/1974, pp1-33

Geary, P.T., and **Walsh, Brendan M.**, 'The economics of equal pay: symposium on the interim report on equal pay of the Commission on the Status of Women'. - Dublin: *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*, Vol. XXII, Part IV, 1971/1972, pp112-125

Walsh, Brendan M. 'Aspects of labour supply and demand, with special reference to the employment of women in Ireland'. - Dublin: *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland*, Vol. XXII, Part III, 1970/1971, pp88-123