
Issue 8 - Winter 2018

From the Editor

We have lots of interesting articles for your Christmas reading! Starting with the student voice and measuring and engaging students, followed by some updates on inclusive education. We have some articles relating to specific impairments and end up with two very different approaches to employment!

New format

We are delighted to announce that the AHEAD Journal has moved to a new fully web-based format. The new format has many benefits for our readers and our authors. We can now harness the power of embedded multimedia to allow our authors to deliver their message in a variety of formats and to embed related content like videos, podcasts and interactive media directly into their Journal articles. Whereas before all Journal articles were contained in a single PDF file, now they all have their own individual web pages making it easy to share single articles with colleagues and friends and we've made it as simple as possible to post directly from the Journal to your social channels by featuring a handy share bar in the navigation pane at the side of each article. Additionally, the responsive, accessible design will fit any web browser on any device making it ideal for reading on the go or in the office.

We hope you enjoy it. Please share your thoughts on the new format on twitter by using #AHEADjournal and tagging [@aheadireland](https://twitter.com/aheadireland). We would love to hear what you think!

(Thanks to Dara Ryder, AHEAD Digital Media & ELearning Manager for creating this new format for us.)

Barbara Waters

Editor, AHEAD Journal

[Get the thoughts of our Director Ann Heelan](#)



Barbara Waters

Journal Editor, AHEAD

Barbara Waters is the Project Lead on the Reasonable Accommodations, Professional Placements (RAPP) Project, Barbara was Chief Executive of Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities, UK. 1996- 2010. Barbara represented Skill nationally on policy issues in education and disability related to post 16 education, training and employment. Since 2010 Barbara has worked as a researcher on further and higher education and disability. She was part of the LINK European network concerned with disabled students in higher education and has undertaken research on competence standards and learning outcomes in higher education for the Equality Challenge Unit, UK, published in 2015, looking particularly at Nursing, Teaching, Foreign Languages and STEM subjects. She was the evaluator of the Erasmus + programme on Universal Design for Learning completed in October 2016, and rapporteur for AHEAD Ireland in the MappED access programme with the Erasmus Student Network in 2017. Currently, she is the editor of the peer to peer Journal for AHEAD Ireland. She has an MA in Business and Public Sector Strategy and received an honorary doctorate from the Open University, UK.

This article appeared in the AHEAD Journal. Visit www.ahead.ie/journal for more information
