



European
Commission

EC-OECD Forum – Making adult learning work for the future

Speaker biographies

EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL SKILLS WEEK



2018 | 8 November, 14:00 – 18:00

#DiscoverYourTalent

Employment
Social Affairs
and Inclusion

Opening and close

Dana BACHMANN



Dana Bachmann joined the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission in January 2015 as Head of unit in charge of Vocational Education and Training, Apprenticeships and Adult Learning. Together with her team, she is responsible for working with Member States, social partners and stakeholders for developing and implementing policies that help empower citizens with the skills they need, so they can play an active role in society. Successful initiatives like the Upskilling Pathways for Adults or the European Vocational Skills Week are few of the main achievements of our unit.

Prior to joining DG Employment, she served as head of unit in DG Education and Culture being responsible for the same policy areas.

Before joining the Commission in December 2011, she worked as a lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights and the European Court of Justice.

Manuela GELENG



Manuela Geleng works for the European Commission where she is currently the Director for “Skills” in the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. As Director, she is responsible for implementing the Commission’s Skills Agenda and the corresponding tools, such as the European Qualification Framework, as well as policy processes related to vocational and educational training (VET).

Since 2015, she has coordinated the Task Force on migrants and refugees in the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

Previously, Manuela Geleng has held several other managerial positions in the Commission, such as Acting Director for “Social Skills” and Head of Unit for the “Social Investment Strategy”.

Prior to joining the European Commission, she worked in the private sector as a management consultant and for the United Nations Development Programme. She holds an MSc in Financial Economics from the University of London and a Master in Public Administration and Management from the Solvay Business School. She completed her postgraduate studies at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna.

Mark KEESE



Mark Keese is the Head of the Skills and Employability Division in the Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs at the OECD. He is responsible for the OECD's work on employment and skill development policies to promote a more inclusive and resilient labour market. He is in charge of the OECD's Future of Work Initiative and also contributes to G20 work on employment issues. Mr. Keese has been at the OECD since 1985, covering both macro-economic and labour market issues. He was a member of the taskforce that developed the first OECD Jobs

Strategy in 1994 and was closely involved in the development of the OECD's international survey of adult skills (PIAAC).

His published works include articles on labour markets in transition countries, earnings inequality, minimum wages, and ageing and employment policies.

Keynote

Byron AUGUSTE



Byron Auguste is CEO of Opportunity@Work, a social enterprise that aims to re-wire the U.S. labor market by creating pathways for overlooked and underrepresented job seekers in the innovation economy. Before co-founding Opportunity@Work, Byron served as Deputy Director of the National Economic Council in the Obama administration. His portfolio included job creation, labor markets, research and development, innovation, capital investment, infrastructure, transportation, and goods movement. As a senior partner at McKinsey & Company, he led McKinsey's High Tech Services sector from 2002 to 2006, and its global Social

Sector from 2007 to 2012. Over his 20 years at McKinsey, Byron worked primarily in technology and communications, information and media, services-based businesses, education, economic development and innovation. Byron has served as board chairman of Hope Street Group, and on the boards of trustees of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Yale University.

Interactive foresight session

Duncan CASS-BEGGS



Duncan Cass-Beggs is the Counsellor for Strategic Foresight at the OECD with a mandate to help strengthen strategic foresight and new approaches across the OECD and bring a stronger future focus to global dialogue on key policy issues. This involves working closely with OECD staff, national governments and leading foresight practitioners worldwide to explore disruptive changes that could occur in the future – and their implications for policy decisions today. The aim is to challenge prevailing assumptions and stimulate ongoing dialogue on the most adaptive policies for a rapidly evolving and uncertain world. Before joining the OECD in December 2016, Duncan worked in the Government of Canada, most recently as Director of Strategic Foresight at Policy Horizons Canada. Duncan has a Master's Degree in Political Science from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and a BA in Economics and Political Science from McGill University in Montreal.

Policy panel

Glenda QUINTINI



Glenda Quintini is a senior economist at OECD, overseeing the work on skills carried out by the Employment Labour and Social Affairs Directorate. Activities under her responsibility include: the Directorate's contribution to the rolling out, further development and analysis of the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC); a project on how countries assess and respond to existing and future skill needs; work on the financial incentives to steer education provision and participation towards areas in high demand; and the Directorate's contribution to the follow-up to the OECD Skills Strategy. As part of the research programme on skills, Ms. Quintini has devoted a lot of attention to issues of skills mismatch, skills use at work and work-based learning. In previous roles at the

OECD, she has done extensive work on youth and contributed to the Jobs for Youth series focusing on school-to-work transitions and the difficulties faced by youth in the labour market in 16 OECD countries. She has also worked on the link between labour market institutions and employment outcomes and on make work pay policies. Before joining the OECD, Ms. Quintini worked at Credit Suisse First Boston and at the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP) of the London School of Economics. Ms. Quintini holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Oxford and an MA in Economics from the University of Essex.

Cher Pong NG



Mr Ng Cher Pong is the Chief Executive of the newly-created SkillsFuture Singapore since 3 October 2016 and also concurrently holds the appointment as Deputy Secretary (SkillsFuture) in the Ministry of Education. He is responsible for driving the implementation of the national skills strategy known as SkillsFuture, in order to enhance the employability and competitiveness of Singapore's workforce.

Iarla FLYNN



Iarla Flynn is Director of Public Policy and Government Relations with Google for Northern Europe. In this role he engages with governments and other stakeholders to maintain an open internet for the benefit of users. He started his career in Ireland's telecommunications sector, spending 12 years in senior roles in government and industry, building a policy and regulatory framework to deliver more competition and better choices for consumers. He joined the newly-formed Google public policy team in 2007 as European Public Policy Manager, before moving to Sydney, where he spent five years as Head of Public

Policy for Australia and New Zealand. He holds degrees in Business and Computer Science from University College Cork and a Masters in Economics from Trinity College Dublin. He lives in Dublin with his wife Natasha and their 3 boys.

Joyce BLACK



Joyce has extensive experience of post 16 learning and skills which includes over 20 years as a qualified teacher and senior leader in a Further Education College coupled with 20 years' experience working in research and development across a range of adult learning and skills policy areas.

This also includes acting as lead for L&W's role as the UK National Coordinator for the European Union's Agenda for Adult Learning, co-funded by the European Commission and the UK Department for Education since 2012.

Joyce is Chair of the Executive Board of the European Basic Skills Network (EBSN) and is Vice-President of the European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA).

Selma MAHFOUZ



Selma Mahfouz is director of Research, Studies and Statistics at the French Ministry of Labour. She first worked on macro-econometric models and economic studies at the French Institute for statistics (INSEE). She joined the International Monetary Fund, where she spent five years as an economist working on various countries in the Fiscal Affairs department. She then headed the department "Social and Labour market policies" of the Treasury in the French Ministry of Finance. She also worked intensively on pension reform, at the Pensions

advisory council and as advisor for pension reform and social affairs to the French minister of Social Affairs and Health. She was also deputy director of France Stratégie, a public think tank attached to the PM office. She co-authored a book with Jean Pisani-Ferry on economic policy errors: "A qui la faute".

Tom OGLETREE



Tom Ogletree is Director of Social Impact at General Assembly, a global educational company on a mission to empower a global community to pursue work they love. At General Assembly, Tom leads social impact programs that enable affordable and accessible education, contribute to a diverse tech talent pipeline, and promote social mobility through careers in tech. Prior to General Assembly, he served as Director of Operations at

the Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation. He received his A.B. in English from Yale University and his M.P.A in Public & Nonprofit Management and Policy from NY University. He serves on the board of the Ali Forney Center, the largest agency dedicated to LGBTQ homeless youth in the US. General Assembly was founded 8 years ago. It started with helping mostly college educated millennials to break into emerging industries/the digital economy.

Jörg ZIMMERMANN



Graduated in History at the University of Liege, Jörg has been working for the cooperative SMart since 2011, currently in the role of project supervisor and consultant. Originally from the German-speaking community of Belgium, he is responsible for the territorial development of the cooperative. Part is of his role is to organise conferences and training for the members of the cooperative. SMart is a non-profit organisation created in Belgium in 1998, which is now active in 9 European countries. SMart is a shared structure that strives to empower freelance workers through mutualisation. SMart is the emancipation of workers from various sectors, who join together, in a cooperative with a social purpose, who borrow its legal person, to equip themselves with the means to develop their own economic

activities in complete autonomy and to obtain socialized and taxed incomes.