



Governing Authority Election 2026: Candidate Profile – Professional Support Staff



Sinead Wynne
Human Resources

Candidate Biographical Details / Sonraí Beathaisnéise an Iarrthóra

I am Sinead Wynne, I have been working in the University of Galway since 2019, prior to that I worked for the HSE, and Clare Disability Services. A proud Clare woman, mother of 3, and grandmother of 4, and avid bridge player. All of my working career has been committed to supporting colleagues and serving the community. Whether through my engagement on various committees or boards locally or nationally I have served with a commitment to serving others. Having worked in the Public Services most of my career, I am committed to continuous improvement of the services and supporting those who work in the services.

I am a qualified mediator and counsellor skills that I use throughout my career.

Candidate Statement / Ráiteas an Iarrthóra

I am seeking election to the Governing Authority of the University of Galway out of a strong commitment to its long-term success and sustainability. I value the opportunity to contribute to governance in a way that supports the delivery of the University's strategy across education, research, and the experience of staff and students.

Through my work within the University, I have developed a clear understanding of how governance decisions influence day-to-day operations and the wider organisational environment. I would bring a constructive, balanced, and collegial approach, informed by experience in policy development, organisational planning, and working within complex regulatory frameworks.

My background includes engaging with diverse stakeholders and supporting sound, fair decision-making, often in complex or sensitive contexts. This has given me a strong appreciation of the importance of transparency, consistency, and trust, as well as the practical realities of implementing decisions across an organisation.

If elected, I would focus on supporting strong governance practices, delivery of strategy, financial sustainability, and a positive organisational culture. I am particularly committed to ensuring that equality, inclusion, and wellbeing remain central, and that governance decisions are mindful of their impact on staff and students during a period of change in higher education. I value listening and engagement and would seek to ensure that a range of perspectives are considered, while respecting the confidentiality and collective responsibility required in governance roles. I would approach the role with integrity, sound judgment, and a collaborative



mindset, and I am committed to dedicating the time and preparation needed to contribute effectively.

Candidate Outline of Relevant Competencies / Cur síos an Iarrthóra ar Inniúlachtaí Ábhartha

I have worked in the Public Sector for over 30 years, spanning the areas of intellectual disabilities, Health services, and Education. I have work at a management level in Human Resources for the past 20 years, as well as a trade union official for 5 years.

I have been involved in policy development from the perspective of a managers and a trade union official. I have lead negotiations of successful complex change programmes across the public sector both as a HR leader and a Union official.

I have been involved in complex national negotiations under the public sector pay discussions, job evaluation scheme agreement for the health sector, the establishment of Tusla.

I have been involved in many boards including Citizens Information Services, Clare County Council Environment Strategic Policy Committee (SPC), I am currently on the Board of Directors of the Congress Information & Opportunity Centre which includes Community Employment Scheme & Job Initiative/Traveler Scheme.

I am able to work under pressure in complex situations including negotiations, and am committed to ensure the values of the organisation and respect for staff and service users are not lost in any negotiations.

I am able to listen to all sides of the debate and give everyone a chance to be heard ensuring that people feel they are heard.

Finding solutions is key to how I operative ensuring a positive outcome for all parties.