

Michael O'Sullivan
Department of Arts
Spirituality in Society and the Professions Research Group
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Biography

Dr Michael O'Sullivan is Founding Director and the Treasurer of the Spirituality Institute for Research and Education (SpIRE - <https://spiritualityinstitute.ie/>), a Research Fellow at the University of the Free State, South Africa, a Fellow of the European Institute for Spirituality in Economics and Society, and a founding member of the Spirituality in Society and the Professions (SpirSoP) Research Group at South East Technological University (SETU). He has degrees in Social Science, Philosophy, and four degrees in theology up to PhD level. All his degrees before his PhD were achieved with first place and first class honours and his PhD was approved without modifications. He also has training and experience in spiritual accompaniment, counselling, and community development.

He worked as a Jesuit missionary priest in Chile during the reign of General Pinochet. For his story in those years go to **YouTube: 'A Jesuit with the People' (2018)**. He has also worked in Mexico, Central America, and East Africa and among socio-economically disadvantaged people in Dublin, Ireland.

Having worked originally as a specialist in liberation theology and feminist theology Dr O'Sullivan has dedicated himself since the early years of the millennium to the development of spirituality as an applied academic discipline. From 2005-2021 he was Programme Director or Programme Leader of the unique MA in Applied Spirituality which he did so much to design, develop and to lead through approval processes in different third level institutions, including SETU. He has served in many other leadership roles to do with the spread and development of the discipline and his current roles include serving on the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality (INSS - <https://spiritualitystudiesnetwork.org/>), the editorial boards of *Spiritus* and the *Journal for the Study of Spirituality*, two of the world's leading journals for the study of spirituality, and as President of the international Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality. He is the Links Coordinator for INSS with organisations engaged in spirituality study and research in a host of countries (<https://spiritualitystudiesnetwork.org/page-1075347>), and has lectured in many countries. See section at the end of the profile where testimonials are provided about Dr O'Sullivan's standing in the field of spirituality studies according to world leading scholars in the discipline

Qualifications

PhD, Kimmage Mission Institute
2000 → 2005
Award Date: 23 Oct 2005

Masters Degree, Regis College, Toronto Schools of Theology
Sep 1984 → Jul 1986
Award Date: 15 Oct 1986

Masters Degree, University of Toronto
Sep 1984 → Jul 1986
Award Date: 01 Oct 1986

Bachelors Degree, Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy, Dublin
Sep 1978 → Jun 1981
Award Date: 23 Oct 1981

Bachelors Degree, Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy, Dublin
Oct 1974 → Jun 1976
Award Date: 23 Oct 1976

Bachelors Degree, Social Science, University College Dublin
01 Oct 1971 → 15 Sep 1974
Award Date: 01 Oct 1974

Employment

Emeritus Lecturer

Department of Arts
Waterford Campus
11 Nov 2021 → present

Spirituality in Society and the Professions Research Group

Waterford Campus
11 Nov 2021 → present

Member of the Editorial Board

Journal for the Study of Spirituality
United Kingdom
01 Jan 2021 → present

External Examiner

University of St Andrews
Fife, United Kingdom
01 Jan 2021 → 01 Jan 2022

Links Coordinator on behalf of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality (INSS) with organisations engaged in spirituality studies around the world

01 Jan 2019 → present

Member of the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees

International Network for the Study of Spirituality (INSS)
United Kingdom
01 Jan 2016 → present

Founding Director

Spirituality Institute for Research and Education
Dublin, Ireland
01 Jan 2015 → present

Member of the Spirituality in Research and Innovation Group (SRIG)

Trinity College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland
01 Jan 2015 → present

Founding member of the International Relations Committee of the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality

01 Jan 2015 → 01 Dec 2021

Fellow, European Institute of Spirituality in Society and the Professions

Corvinus University of Budapest
Hungary
01 Jan 2014 → present

Research Associate

University of Hull
United Kingdom
01 Jan 2014 → present

Founding Leadership Board Member of the Centre for the Academic Study of Christian Spirituality

University of Zurich
Zurich, Switzerland
01 Jan 2014 → present

Research Fellow

University of The Free State
South Africa

01 Jan 2013 → present

Cluster Leader of PhD and MA by research in spirituality students

All Hallows College

Ireland

01 Jan 2012 → 01 Jan 2016

Member

Spiritual Directors International

United States

01 Jan 2012 → present

Member of the Editorial Board

Spiritus - A Journal of Christian Spirituality

United States

01 Jan 2011 → present

Founding Director of the MA in Applied Christian Spirituality and Spirituality Summer School

All Hallows College

Ireland

01 Jan 2010 → 01 Jan 2015

Head of Theological Studies

All Hallows College

Ireland

01 Jun 2009 → 01 Aug 2011

Senior Lecturer

All Hallows College

Ireland

01 Jan 2009 → 01 Jan 2015

International Referee for the appointment of a Professor of Spirituality at Harvard Divinity School

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA 02138, United States

01 Jan 2009 → 01 Jan 2009

Member of the Board of Directors of the international Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality

01 Nov 2006 → 01 Nov 2010

Member of the Steering Committee of the Christian Spirituality Study Unit of the American Academy of Religion

01 Nov 2006 → 01 Nov 2009

Member

Christian Spirituality Unit of the American Academy of Religion

United States

01 Jan 2006 → present

Director of the Higher Diploma and MA in Applied Christian Spirituality

Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy, Dublin

Ireland

01 May 2005 → 01 Oct 2011

Senior Lecturer

Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy, Dublin
Ireland
01 Jan 1997 → 01 Jan 2010

Researcher

Irish Commission for Justice and Peace
Ireland
01 Sep 1976 → 01 Aug 1977

Lecturer

National College of Industrial Relations
Ireland
01 Sep 1975 → 30 Jun 1976

Research outputs

Authentic Subjectivity as a Methodology for Studying Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M. F., 2024, *Studies in Spirituality*, Supplement, 38, p. 163-171 9 p.

Authentic Subjectivity and Spirituality in the University

O'Sullivan, M. F., 18 May 2023.

Authentic Subjectivity as a Methodology for Studying Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M. F., 2023, *Evolving Methodologies in the Study of Spirituality*. Cavazos-Gonzalez, G. & Zas Friz De Col, R. (eds.). Leuven: Peeters, p. 163-172 10 p.

The foundational influence of early spiritual experiences on adulthood

O'Sullivan, M. F., 20 Jun 2022, *Acta Theologica 2022 Supp 33: In the Divine presence. Essays in honour of Kees Waaijman on his 80th birthday*. South Africa: University of the Free State, South Africa, Vol. 33. p. 190-206 17 p. (*Acta Theologica*).

"Jesus' Spirituality of Authentic Subjectivity and COVID-19's Shadow Pandemic"

O'Sullivan, M., May 2021, In: *Spiritus*. 21, 1, p. 89-107 18 p.

Authentic Subjectivity as a Methodology for the Study of Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M. F., Dec 2019, *Mystērion*, p. 271-78 8 p.

Ignacio Ellacuria: Martyr of Liberation

O'Sullivan, M. F., Nov 2019.

Authentic Spirituality as a Methodology for the Study of Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M. F., 26 Sep 2019.

Spiritual Capital – Spirituality for Social and Planetary Wellbeing

O'Sullivan, M. F., 17 May 2019.

Spirituality and Education

Flanagan, B. & O'Sullivan, M. F., Jan 2019, *Routledge International Handbook of Spirituality in Society and the Professions*. Routledge, p. 435-444 10 p.

"Mysticism of Open Eyes: Ignacio Ellacuria (1930-1989)"

O'Sullivan, M., 2019, *Jesuit Lives at home in the world*.

"St Oscar Romero"

O'Sullivan, M., 25 Oct 2018

Children's Meditation - A silent revolution

O'Sullivan, M., Dec 2017

Praying without Ceasing and Ignatian Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M., 28 Jun 2017, *Proceedings of International Spirituality conference, Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality.*

A Review of 'Relational Ministry: Integrating Ministry and Psychotherapy'

O'Sullivan, M., May 2017, In: *Pastoral Review.* p. 32 37 p.

Rutilio Grande, SJ

O'Sullivan, M., May 2017, *Jesuit Lives through the Ages: With Christ in Service.*

Spirituality in Contemporary Ireland: Manifesting Indigeneity: Manifesting indigeneity

Flanagan, B. & O'Sullivan, M., 01 Sep 2016, In: *Spiritus.* 16, 2A, p. 55-73 19 p., 4.

Spirituality of Authenticity and Social Transformation

O'Sullivan, M., 24 May 2016, *Proceedings of 4th international conference of the British Association for the Study of Spirituality.*

Developing agreed and accepted understandings of spirituality and spiritual care concepts among members of an innovative spirituality interest group in the republic of Ireland

Timmins, F., Murphy, M., Caldeira, S., Ging, E., King, C., Brady, V., Whelan, J., O'Boyle, C., Kelly, J., Neill, F., Hynes, G., Neenan, K., Pujol, N., Fitzgerald, L., Hayden, D., Sweeney, B., Threadgold, M., O'Sullivan, M., Flanagan, B., Weathers, E., & 11 others Larkin, P., Meehan, T., Ward, K., Chew, H., Minford, E., Lee, M., Mulchaire, M., McAuliffe, A., Boyle, P. J., Keating, N. & Nolan, B., 15 Mar 2016, In: *Religions.* 7, 3, 30.

Authentic Subjectivity and Social Transformation

O'Sullivan, M., 2016, In: *HTS Theologiese Studies / Theological Studies .*

Holistic Health Care and Spiritual Self-Presence

O'Sullivan, M., 2016, In: *Religions.*

Spiritual Capital and Authentic Subjectivity

O'Sullivan, M. F., 2016, *Sacrality and Materiality.* Gottingen: Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht, p. 45-53 9 p.

Reading John 7:53-8:11 as a Narrative against Male Violence against Women: Festschrift, Acta Theologica

O'Sullivan, M., 14 Aug 2015, In: *HTS Theologiese Studies / Theological Studies.*

Holistic Healthcare and Spiritual Self-Presence

O'Sullivan, M., 25 Jun 2015, *Opening keynote address, international conference on Spirituality and Healthcare, Trinity College Dublin.*

Authentic Subjectivity and Social Transformation

O'Sullivan, M., May 2015, *Keynote paper, international conference on 'Holiness', University of the Free State, Johannesburg, South Africa.*

Serenity spirituality sessions: A descriptive qualitative exploration of a christian resource designed to foster spiritual well-being among older people in nursing homes in Ireland

Timmins, F., Kelly, S., Threadgold, M., O'Sullivan, M. & Flanagan, B., 26 Mar 2015, In: *Religions*. 6, 2, p. 299-316 18 p.

Oscar Romero, Martyr

O'Sullivan, M., Mar 2015, In: *Spirituality* .

The Jesuit Spirituality of Pope Francis

O'Sullivan, M., Sep 2014, In: *Spirituality*.

On Pope Francis

O'Sullivan, M., 16 Apr 2014

Spiritual Capital and Authentic Subjectivity

O'Sullivan, M., Jan 2014, *Proceedings of the international conference on 'Materiality and Sacrality' the first international conference of the European Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality*.

The Spirituality of Authentic Interiority and the Option for the Economically Poor

O'Sullivan, M., Jan 2014, In: *Vinayasadhana - Journal of Psych-Spiritual Formation*.

Male Violence against Women and the Pastoral Response of Jesus

O'Sullivan, M. F., 2014, *The Bloomsbury Guide to Pastoral Care*. London & NY: Bloomsbury, p. 80-93 14 p.

Spirituality, Religious Socialisation, Power, and Childhood – A Narrative Approach

O'Sullivan, M., 10 Jul 2013, *International conference, Catholic University of Leuven*.

The Mystagogical Practice of Authentic Interiority

O'Sullivan, M., 05 Jul 2013, *International Conference, Dublin City University*.

The Spiritual Practice of Authentic Interiority

O'Sullivan, M., 30 Jun 2012, *International Conference, St. Mary's University College, London*.

Spirituality and Theology

O'Sullivan, M., 11 Feb 2012, *International conference on the study of Vincentian spirituality, All Hallows College, Dublin*.

Spirituality and Social Concern

O'Sullivan, M., 03 Feb 2012, *International conference on the study of Vincentian spirituality, All Hallows College, Dublin*.

Spiritual capital: Spirituality in practice in christian perspective

O'Sullivan, M. & Flanagan, B., 2012, Farnham: Taylor and Francis. 212 p.

Spiritual Capital and the Turn to Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M., 2012, *Spiritual Capital*.

Embodied Transformation and the Hermeneutics of the Imagination

O'Sullivan, M., Aug 2011, *European Catholic Theology Congress, University of Vienna*.

Incest and Spiritual Journey

O'Sullivan, M., Jun 2011, *International conference on Mental Health, Practical Theology and Spirituality, All Hallows College, Dublin*.

Invited Presentation to the first Evangelical Christian international conference on 'Contemporary Research in Spirituality'

O'Sullivan, M., May 2011, *First Evangelical Christian international conference on 'Contemporary Research in Spirituality'*.

Spiritual Experience in Childhood as Foundational in a Life

O'Sullivan, M., May 2011

How Roman Catholic Theology Can Transform Male Violence Against Women: Explaining the Role of Religion in Cultural Assumptions about Gender

O'Sullivan, M., Dec 2010, Lewiston, New York: Mellon Press. 408 p.

Spirituality and Incest: Negotiating Boundaries

O'Sullivan, M., Jun 2010, *International conference on 'Spirituality and Education', Dublin City University.*

Spirituality and Social Justice

O'Sullivan, M., May 2010, *Inaugural international conference on 'Spirituality in a Changing World,' organised by the British Association for the Study of Spirituality (BASS) in Windsor, England.*

Anniversary Tribute to Archbishop Oscar Romero

O'Sullivan, M., Apr 2010, In: *Spirituality.*

"Reflexive and Transformative Subjectivity: Authentic Spirituality and a Journey with Incest"

O'Sullivan, M., Jan 2010, *Sources of Transformation: Revitalising Christian Spirituality.*

Authentic Spirituality and a Journey with Incest

O'Sullivan, M., Jul 2009, *Second European Conference on the academic study of spirituality, in St. Mary's University College, London.*

Spirituality: A New Academic Discipline

O'Sullivan, M., 2009, In: *Melita Theologica .*

The Human Spirit and the Option for the Economically Poor

O'Sullivan, M. F., 2008, *With Wisdom Seeking God: The Academic Study of Spirituality.* p. 222-33 12 p.

Reflections on the Notification by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith Concerning Writings by Jon Sobrino

O'Sullivan, M., Mar 2007, AMDG - Online Newsletter of the Irish Jesuits.

Sin and Salvation in Relation to Male Violence Against Women: A Perspective of Liberation and Feminist Theologies

O'Sullivan, M., Oct 2004, *Faithful Witness: Glimpses of the Kingdom.*

The Case of Safiya Hussaini in Nigeria

O'Sullivan, M., Feb 2002, In: *America.*

A Theological Perspective on the 'Male' Jesus and Violence Against 'Women'

O'Sullivan, M., May 2001

The Situation of Women: A Theological Challenge to Christianity

O'Sullivan, M., 11 May 2000

La Vida Cristiana Y La Situacion De La Mujer

O'Sullivan, M., Oct 1999, In: *Presencia (Chile).*

Women, Poverty and Christianity in Relation to Africa

O'Sullivan, M., Feb 1999, In: *Milltown Studies.*

Sin and Liberation

O'Sullivan, M., Nov 1997

Journeying in the Awareness of the Vocation of Women to the Priesthood on the Part of Ordained Men

O'Sullivan, M., 1995, *Women: Sharing Fully in the Ministry of Christ?*. Blackwater Press

Salvadoran Woman

O'Sullivan, M., 1995, Latin America Press.

A Liberation Image of God

O'Sullivan, M. F., Feb 1990, *Doctrine and Life*, 40, 2, p. 65-68 4 p.

Tribute to a Latin American Martyr - Luis Espinal, S.J.

O'Sullivan, M., Jan 1989, In: *America* .

Liberation Spirituality

O'Sullivan, M. F., Oct 1988, *The Furrow*, 39, 10, p. 649-652 4 p.

The Feminist Hermeneutics of Elizabeth Schüssler Fiorenza

O'Sullivan, M., Apr 1988, In: *Milltown Studies*.

Gustavo Gutierrez: Theologian of the Church

O'Sullivan, M. F., Dec 1987, *Doctrine and Life*, 37, 10, p. 568-572 5 p.

The Tribes of Yahweh: A Sociology of Liberated Israel

O'Sullivan, M., Nov 1986, In: *Milltown Studies* .

Chilean Reaction to Expulsion of Missionaries

O'Sullivan, M. F., May 1983, *Doctrine and Life*, 33, 5, p. 299-308 10 p.

Freedom for Irish Christianity

O'Sullivan, M. F., Mar 1982, *The Furrow*, 33, 3, p. 152-157 6 p.

The Philippine Connection: Why the ESB Should Pull Out

O'Sullivan, M. F., May 1980, *Doctrine and Life*, 30, 5, p. 227-235 9 p.

The Irish Church: The Shifting Sands - A Comment

O'Sullivan, M. F., Jan 1978, *Doctrine and Life*, 28, 1, p. 37-40 4 p.

Theology of Liberation and the Irish Context

O'Sullivan, M. F., May 1977, *Doctrine and Life*, 27, 5, p. 65-67 3 p.

Activities

Diverse manifestations of Jesus's spirituality of authenticity in and in relation to the situation of women in his time and for ours

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

05 Jul 2023 → 07 Jul 2023

Authentic Subjectivity and Spirituality in the University

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

18 May 2023

Spirituality in the University

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

09 Jun 2022

Authentic Subjectivity and Social Transformation

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

04 Jun 2016

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

2006

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

2006

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1999

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1999

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1998

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1998

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1997

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

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Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1997 → 1999

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1997

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1997 → 1999

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1997 → 1999

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1992

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option against Violence against Women

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1992

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1992

Theological and Spiritual Aspects of Christianity and the Option for the Poor

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1992

Lonergan and Liberation Theology

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1989

Lectures to university students in Canada about the situation in Chile during the military dictatorship

Michael O'Sullivan (Speaker)

1985

Press/Media

Irish Jesuit Honoured in US

Michael O'Sullivan

07/12/2023

1 Media contribution

International conference on 'Spirituality, Critical Reflection, and Professional Practice in an Uncertain World'

Michael O'Sullivan

31/05/2023

1 Media contribution

New Leader of Christian Spirituality

Michael O'Sullivan

07/11/2022

1 Media contribution

Spiritual Capital & Authentic Subjectivity

Michael O'Sullivan

13/11/2021

1 Media contribution

Milltown Memories - Pope Francis in Ireland in 1980

Michael O'Sullivan

25/08/2018

1 Media contribution

A Jesuit with the People

Michael O'Sullivan
10/05/2018
1 Media contribution

Authentic Interiority and the Study of Spirituality

Michael O'Sullivan
15/02/2018
1 Media contribution

Interview about the Pope in Chile 2018

Michael O'Sullivan
02/01/2018
1 Media contribution

MA in Applied Spirituality

Michael O'Sullivan
27/04/2017
1 Media contribution

Searching for Life's Meaning: Interview with Dr Michael O'Sullivan, SJ

Michael O'Sullivan
15/03/2017
1 item of Media coverage

Why did the Jesuits elect Arturo Sosa?

Michael O'Sullivan
19/10/2016
1 Media contribution

Church and Society

Michael O'Sullivan
21/04/2016
1 Media contribution

Studying Spirituality

Michael O'Sullivan
14/04/2016
1 Media contribution

SpIRE and a new MA in Applied Spirituality

Michael O'Sullivan
10/03/2016
1 Media contribution

SpIRE goes from strength to strength

Michael O'Sullivan
05/01/2016
1 Media contribution

Excommunicating the Mafia

Michael O'Sullivan
26/06/2014
1 Media contribution

Spiritual Capital

Michael O'Sullivan
10/07/2013
1 Media contribution

Being Present

Michael O'Sullivan
06/06/2013 → 27/06/2013
2 Media contributions

Spirituality in Children

Michael O'Sullivan
13/06/2013
1 Media contribution

Spiritual Capital

Michael O'Sullivan
01/06/2013 → 06/06/2013
2 Media contributions

Liberation Theology

Michael O'Sullivan
25/04/2013
1 Media contribution

Applied Spirituality

Michael O'Sullivan
12/04/2012
1 Media contribution

Podcasts with Michael O'Sullivan

Michael O'Sullivan
15/10/2010
1 Media contribution

Fear and Loving in Chile

Michael O'Sullivan
20/06/2006
1 Media contribution

Courses**MA in Applied Spirituality**

Bernadette Flanagan & Michael O'Sullivan
15/08/2016 → ...

Research Interests

Dr O'Sullivan is a founding member of SpirSoP. He runs the spirituality research book club of SpirSoP. Through study of books in the field of spirituality and the professions members get to share with each other about such literature, to develop their own thinking and research on the subjects, and to grow into a community of co-learners with each other. Through his many international leadership roles in the field of spirituality studies Dr O'Sullivan is making linkages between SpirSoP and organisations and colleagues in the field of spirituality studies around the world. For example, he was the Conference Chair for the 7th biennial conference of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality which was held in SETU in May 2023. He was also a member of the organising committee for the two previous international conferences in the field of

spirituality studies and research held at SETU (2018 and 2019). His own research interests include the academic study of spirituality, spirituality and social concern, spirituality and childhood, spirituality and the situation of women, and spiritual care.

Courses created or developed

Co-author with Dr Richard Hayes of the MA in Applied Spirituality (WIT); Co-author with Dr Bernadette Flanagan of the MA in Applied Christian Spirituality and the MA in Christian Spirituality, All Hallows College, Dublin City University;

Curriculum development of the MA in Applied Spirituality (WIT); Curriculum development of the MA in Christian Spirituality and of the Higher Diploma and MA in Applied Christian Spirituality, Milltown Institute (National University of Ireland), 2007-08 and 2004-05, and preparation of programmes for accreditation by the National University of Ireland, 2006, the Higher Education and Training Accreditation Council, 2005, and the National Council for Education Awards, 2001.

A member of the accreditation process team for awards by Milltown Institute for programmes run in New Jersey, Myanmar, England, Marino Institute of Education, Dublin, An Chroi, Co Meath, Galway, Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Dublin, and Milltown Institute, Dublin.

Consultancy

University of the Free State, South Africa, Contemplative Leadership Centre, Princeton, NJ, Centre for the Academic Study of Christian Spirituality, University of Zurich, Spiritual Capital and Moral Injury Institute, Madrid and New York, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas, Gregorian University, Rome, Titus Brandsma Institute, Nijmegen, Spirituality in Research and Innovation Group, Trinity College Dublin..

Mass Media

Numerous contributions since 1977 on television, radio, in national and international newspapers, podcasts, and YouTube communications, about issues of faith and justice, including liberation theology, violence against women, the study of spirituality, spiritual capital, and Pope Francis. See, for example, <https://spiritualityinstitute.ie/podcasts/>, <https://spiritualityinstitute.ie/videos/>, and <https://soundcloud.com/user-159567777>

Testimonies from International Colleagues

The following testimonies from international colleagues are examples of Michael's high international standing in the field of spirituality studies.

•“Dr. O’Sullivan has made a substantial and notable contribution to the development of the academic field of spirituality in its varied forms, particularly in the English-speaking world”.

Professor Philip Sheldrake, Senior Research Fellow, Cambridge Theological Federation, and Director of the Institute of Contemporary Spirituality, Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, Texas.

•“Through his work as a Board member of the international Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, his energetic leadership of the academic study of Christian spirituality in Europe, and his own scholarship, Professor O’Sullivan has proven himself a crucial international leader in the field of Christian spirituality. He has a rare ability to bring the resources of the academic study of spirituality to bear on issues facing human communities around the world”.

Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Houghton Professor of the Practice of Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University.

•“Professor Michael O’Sullivan’s career is a model of how to integrate serious scholarship with a grounding life-commitment to making a difference in the world. I have also always been impressed with the kindness, calm, and good humour that he brings to interpersonal and group relations. At the same time he has a practical mind and is skilled in doing the detail work that is necessary to make programs work”.

Professor Mary Frohlich, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago

•“Dr. Michael O’Sullivan brings a unique background to his academic work in spirituality. His extensive pastoral experience in Latin America, Africa, and with the urban poor in Ireland contribute to his ability to engage in contextual studies and to mentor and relate to his many students in spirituality.

Professor Janet Ruffing, Professor in the Practice of Spirituality and Ministerial Leadership, Yale Divinity School, Yale University.

•“Dr. Michael O’Sullivan, SJ has established himself as a leading figure in the academic study of Christian Spirituality. Through his teaching, writing, public speaking, and administrative service he has inspired colleagues and students not only in Ireland but throughout the world. Tireless in his efforts to build networks of collaboration among people of different nationalities, denominations, and scholarly disciplines, Dr. O’Sullivan is respected for the breadth of knowledge and the depth of his commitment to academic work that makes a positive difference in the lives of people – especially the poor and marginalized.”

Professor Arthur Holder, Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and John Dillenberger Professor of Christian Spirituality, Graduate Theological Union (University of California), Berkeley.

•“I have the very highest regard for Professor O’Sullivan as a person, a scholar and a teacher. It is a privilege to be able to work with him and engage him regularly over questions of common concern. It would be difficult for me to overstate just how valuable his presence is to the international effort to promote the rigorous, critical study of spirituality in a way that can contribute to social, cultural and personal renewal. Professor O’Sullivan is one of the real leaders in this important enterprise. He is widely recognized by his North American peers as being one of the most consistently thoughtful and informed European voices on the place and meaning of spirituality in the contemporary world”.

Professor Douglas E. Christie, Professor of Theological Studies, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.

•“Dr O'Sullivan is the hub of a massive communications network!!!”

Dr Cheryl Hunt, Exeter University, Vice-Chair of the International Network for the Study of Spirituality and Editor of Journal for the Study of Spirituality

Research Funding

€92,000 raised by SpIRE to support MA and PhD spirituality students at SETU, 2016-22

€11,000 raised to support public lectures in spirituality by international speakers at All Hallows College, Dublin City University, 2010-15