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General Biography

I am the Director of the Professional Master of Education (PME) programme who has recently completed a PhD by publication in Democratic Pedagogical Partnerships in Initial Teacher Education in the School of Education, University College Dublin. As former Deputy Director of the Professional Development Services for Teachers (PDST), I have extensive experience in continuing professional development in the areas of school self-evaluation, embedding digital technologies in teaching, learning and assessment and implementing new subject specifications in post-primary education. With a keen interest in partnerships in education, I have led many collaborative initiatives involving a range of education and industry stakeholders. I believe that the publications arising from my PhD research are very timely and relevant given the ongoing reform in teacher education where there is a vision for the role of Treoraithe as a coresearcher with student teachers while on school placement. I believe that "close to practice" research is very important and I believe that I am well positioned to support this due to my extensive research and my proven track record working on a number of research and public engagement projects with schools associated with the UCD PME programme. I also believe that I can enhance my own research by working with schools as the work undertaken by schools can inform teacher education policy and practice. The Cosán areas that I feel I can support include inclusion in its broadest sense, ICT and supporting teachers' learning. I have led many projects in the aforementioned areas, and I have supported a Cinnirí Taighde in submitting an application for the John Coolahan research bursary as part of the Creative Cluster project that I am part of with Laois Education Support Centre and associated teachers and industry partner SchooVR. In this particular project I am trying to explore the role of immersive technology in education with particular reference to inclusion and global citizenship education. On a personal level, I am a teacher at heart, and I enjoy working with other teachers, school leaders and pupils on innovative and creative projects that engage students in learning.