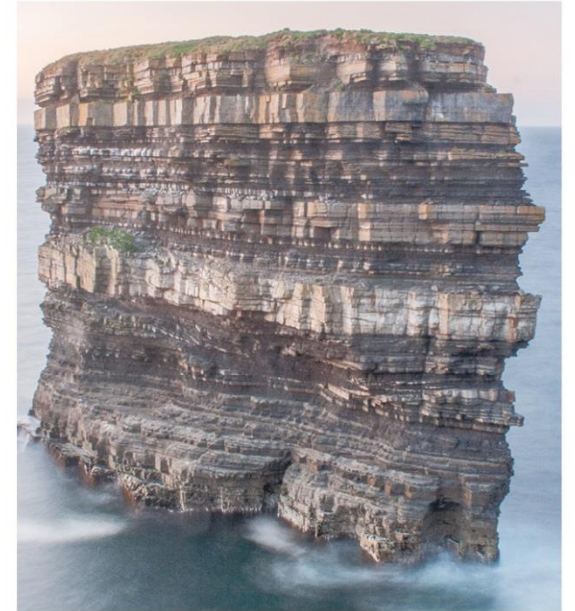




The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Strategy 2019-2024



Introduction

The IGI was founded in 1999 to represent all geoscientific disciplines with the support of its sponsoring bodies:

- Irish Association for Economic Geology
- Irish Mining and Quarrying Society
- International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group)
- Geotechnical Society of Ireland
- Geophysical Association of Ireland

Objectives

The main objectives of the IGI, set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to:

- Promote and advance the science of geology and its professional application in Ireland; and
- To ensure its members uphold, develop and maintain the highest professional standards

Strategy

- Core objectives will not change, but we now have the opportunity to renew our approach to achieving them
- Through consultation with our members and stakeholders and the work of the Strategy Working Group we have identified 4 Strategic Goals and Priority Actions for the next 6 years
- Public engagement emerged as the key area where the IGI's profile and efforts are to be bolstered in a new strategy

Strategic Goal 1

Act as an independent, trusted authority on the role of geoscience in society and the economy in Ireland

Geoscience underpins Ireland's society and economy as we know it today. Our members work to ensure a sustainable supply of raw materials, water and energy for Ireland, while assessing, protecting and monitoring the environment.

Geologists will play a key role in the response to the climate emergency, ecological breakdown and the energy transition. The IGI will seek to increase its profile in response to these urgent issues.

Strategic Goal 1

Priority Actions

- Represent members' professional interests with Government, in appropriate Oireachtas committees, media and society as a whole.
- Ensure that regulations and legislation affecting the geoscience profession are monitored and influenced.
- Facilitate the coordination of voices of the geoscience community, through e.g. the Heads of Geoscience Groups forum and the Irish Geoscience Network.
- Maintain representation on European Federation of Geologists Council, Expert Panels and Working Groups.

Strategic Goal 1

Priority Actions (cont.)

- Coordinate provision of position papers and guidance documents.
- Continue to work with the European Federation of Geologists, the Geological Society of London and other international professional bodies on matters of mutual interest.
- Extend public outreach to educate and inform legislators and the general public about the role and importance of geoscience to society and the challenges faced by society.



*The Holocene meets the Dalradian
Errigal, Co. Donegal*

By EurGeol Dr. John Kelly PGeo

Strategic Goal 2

Support a community of geoscientists that is technically excellent, professionally competent, socially and environmentally responsible, inclusive and diverse

The IGI membership includes geoscientists involved in a diverse range of pure and applied disciplines, working in a range of sectors.

The IGI will continue to ensure the maintenance of high professional standards in geoscience for the benefit of the profession and the public.

Recognition of such standards by decision makers and the general public will increase confidence in the profession and benefit our membership.

Strategic Goal 2

Priority Actions

- Act as the recognised body in Ireland for professional accreditation of geoscientists through the Professional Geologist (PGeo) accreditation and European Geologist (EurGeol) title.
- Maintain the CPD scheme, provision of training and registers for specialised disciplines.
- Uphold commitments to the IGI Code of Ethics and PERC code.
- Provide support to members on mentoring and employment issues.
- Maintain and develop links with other professional bodies in Ireland and internationally to facilitate cooperation and mobility.



Crinoids at Hook Head
by EurGeol Dr. Jim Hodgson PGeo

Strategic Goal 3

Foster the next generation of geoscientists

The next generation of geoscientists will be required to meet increasingly challenging sustainable development objectives. The IGI will inspire students at second and third level to consider geoscience as a career.

The gender breakdown of the IGI membership is currently 74% male, 26% female; the IGI will work to develop a membership which reflects the makeup of our society today.

Approximately 44% of IGI members are at early-career stage (Member-in-Training or less than 10 years' experience at PGeo level). IGI will continue to provide support for early-career stage members.

Strategic Goal 3

Priority actions

- Support educators to confidently communicate the critical issues by participating in key education initiatives.
- Career guidance and information to third level students.
- Support provision of educational content for secondary school / third level educators.
- Visit third level institutions to promote the IGI and expand student and academic membership.

Strategic Goal 3

Priority actions (cont.)

- Support and develop IGI membership in central Government, local Government, public sector organisations and agencies
- Support student members and Members-in-Training; encourage participation in training and networking.
- Grow a diverse, gender-balanced membership inclusive of all disciplines. Promote initiatives which increase female participation and advancement in the profession.

Dún Briste

by Kevin Ledwith, MIT



Strategic Goal 4

Develop and strengthen the IGI

We need to ensure that the role of the IGI and its standing within the geoscience sector is maintained and strengthened in order to achieve our strategic goals.

To achieve this, the IGI must be sustainable, adaptable and resilient over the long term. This is especially important as pressure on the Earth's resources increases and the role of the geosciences in tackling the climate emergency becomes ever more critical.

Strategic Goal 4

Priority Actions

- Continue to run the business of the organisation in accordance with the Articles of Association; strengthen finances
- Implement a 6-year strategy review cycle, with annual oversight by a Head of Strategy who will be the immediate past president of the IGI. The strategy cycle will be a way for the board to consider any required changes to the running or structure of the organisation over time
- Promote the requirement for engagement of PGeos by businesses and bodies

Thank you to IGI members and stakeholders for assistance in developing this Strategy

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