



Peter E.Childs

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Member of the Conference Scientific Committee

Retired in 2009 as Senior Lecturer in Chemistry and now directs the Chemistry Education Research Group, and is an Associate Director of the National Centre for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and Learning located at the University of Limerick. Has taught chemistry at university level since 1970 and has been interested in the teaching and learning of chemistry at both second and third level. He has worked intensively with Irish chemistry teachers since 1978 in a variety of ways: producing the magazine *Chemistry in Action!* since 1980, initiating and running the annual one-day ChemEd-Ireland Conference from 1982 to 1996, starting the Schools Information Centre on the Irish Chemical Industry in 1989, running various in-service courses and workshops, including the annual Chemistry Demonstration Workshop. He directs the TY Science project to produce curriculum materials for the Irish Transition Year. Currently he leads a small but active research group whose aim is to improve the teaching and learning of chemistry in Ireland at both second and third level. Since 2010 the group has produced 3 PhDs and one Masters in chemical education. He was a partner in the Tempus SALiS project (2010-2012) and is currently a partner in the new FP7 TEMI project (2013-2017). He is a past-President of the Irish Science Teachers Association, past-President of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland and a past-chairman of the EuCheMS Division of Chemical Education. He has been involved on the scientific committee for several international conferences and in 2013 is organising Eurovariety 2013 in Limerick.



Area of Expertise: Chemical education; chemistry misconceptions; chemistry demonstrations; language in science teaching; curriculum development.