



**Cónaidhm Éireannach na Múinteoirí Ollscoile
Irish Federation of University Teachers**

MEDIA RELEASE

Irish lecturers work longer hours than European counterparts, says IFUT President

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Lecturers in Ireland spend longer hours at work than their European counterparts, while a greater portion of their time is taken up with administration, according to Dr Marie Clarke, President of the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT). She will be addressing the Annual Conference of IFUT in Dublin on Saturday, 21 April.

Dr Clarke revealed data from a forthcoming book, “Work Situation, Views and Activities of the Academic Professions”, based on survey data from 12 European countries. Among the findings, which includes responses from 1,200 Irish academics, are:

- Senior academics in Ireland work on average 50 hours a week. This compares to an average of 48 hours across the twelve European countries studied.
- Junior academics work 47 hours a week on average, compared to 42 hours at this level across Europe.
- In Ireland, senior academics spend 11 hours each week on administration, representing 22% of their working time, compared to a European average of just eight hours (17%).
- Junior academics in Ireland spend 9 hours a week on administration, which represents 19% of their work time.

Dr Clarke said that both senior and junior academic staff in Ireland spend too much time on administration, which is the result of an intensified audit culture.

“Senior academics spend 22% of their day on administration, almost as much as the 24% devoted to teaching. 19% of junior academics' time is spent on administration, which is also excessive.

“This represents an imbalance in duties within the Irish university sector and is a poor use of staff time and qualifications”, she said.

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