



Philip KEARNEY
(Ireland)
Secretary of EFTA-TIC

Phil was awarded a Masters in Family Therapy in 1980 from Hahnemann University in Philadelphia where Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, MD, was Head of the programme. He may have been the first European to receive an MFT?

On his return to Ireland Phil was involved in the setting up of the two training programmes in Dublin – at the Mater Hospital and Clanwilliam Institute. Both programmes now award masters degrees.

Together with Ed McHale, PhD, he founded Clanwilliam in 1982. It is the primary independent training centre for systemic psychotherapy in Ireland.

Phil was director of training from 1988 - 2006 and joint-CEO 2005 – 2007. He has now passed these roles to the next generation of Irish family therapists who were trained in the local programmes. He serves on the Academic Council of the Institute.

In 2007 he was co-opted to the EFTA-TIC board where he has worked to improve the website and to co-ordinate the redrafting of the EFTA Training Standards. The revised standards were approved in Lisbon in June 2010. He was elected to the new EFTA-TIC board in October 2010.

Phil was a founder of the Irish Green Party which is currently in government. He has worked in many capacities – voluntarily and employed - in this organisation.

Through this involvement he has been appointed as a government nominee to the Governing Body of the National University of Ireland and to chair a UN Task Force on Public Participation based in Geneva.

He has been combining his interests in recent years by applying a systemic perspective to the emerging ecological crises of climate change, resource depletion and population growth.

He presented on this topic at the EFTA Congress in Paris in Oct 2010 and has been invited to present at the Annual Conference of the German Family Therapy Association in Berlin in May 2011.

He is married with three children and since 2010 he has also become a sheep farmer.