

Forensic Science in Crisis – Wednesday 05 October 2022

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Professor Niamh Nic Daeid is Director of the award winning Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science (LRCFS) the 10 year mission is to provide a robust underpinning for the scientific evidence presented in our Courts. She is a Chartered Chemist and an authorised Forensic Chemist with specialisms including fire investigation, clandestine drug chemistry and explosives.

She undertakes forensic casework, primarily in fire scene investigation and has appeared as an expert witness for the Courts. She has chaired the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) fire and explosion Investigation working group, the INTERPOL forensic science managers symposium and was deputy chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the International Criminal Court.

She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and holds fellowships with the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland, the Royal Statistical Society, the UK Association of Fire Investigators and the Chartered Society of Forensic Science. She has received many awards for her work including the Stephen Fry Award for public engagement, the ENFSI Distinguished Forensic Scientist award and the Peter Ganci award for services to fire investigation.

A broad review of the current state of forensic science within the context of underpinning scientific robustness and fitness for purpose in how scientific evidence is presented in the service of the justice system. This presentation will touch on the challenges faced by forensic science, including forensic odontology, its practice and communication across the justice system, from the crime scene to the court room as well as opportunities for a brighter future.