

**Merrilyn Goos (UL)**

**Meeting the challenge of teaching mathematics “out of field”: The Professional Diploma in Mathematics for Teaching**

“Out-of-field” teaching refers to the practice of assigning post-primary school teachers to teach subjects that do not match their training or education. This practice is an issue of concern in many countries around the world and seems particularly prevalent in the teaching of mathematics. In this talk I will outline the design and delivery of the Professional Diploma in Mathematics for Teaching – a blended learning programme of professional development for out-of-field teachers of post-primary school mathematics in Ireland. The programme combines 60 credits of university-level mathematics with 15 credits of mathematics pedagogy, so that graduates meet the Teaching Council’s curricular subject requirements for teaching mathematics at the highest level.