



## CURRICULUM VITAE

Fionnuala H. O'Neill  
B.Sc. (Hons.), Dip. Comp. Sc., H. Dip. Appl. Sc., Ph.D.

### EDUCATION

- 1997 – 2003 University College, Cork.  
Ph.D. Regeneration of native oak woodland following *Rhododendron ponticum* L. clearance from Glengarriff Woods Nature Reserve, Co. Cork, Ireland.
- 1996 – 1997 University College, Cork.  
H. Dip. in Applied Science (1st Class Honours).
- 1989 – 1990 University College, Cork.  
Dip. in Computer Science (1st Class Honours).
- 1985 – 1989 University College, Cork.  
B.Sc. (Plant Science) (2:1).

### CAREER HISTORY

**Consultant Ecologist, BEC Consultants.** April 2007–present (full-time); April–September 2005 and May–September 2006 (contract ecologist).

Phase II surveys for various projects, principally the National Survey of Native Woodland. Key additional elements include arranging access for surveys, the collection of samples for further analysis and later identification of retained specimens, particularly bryophytes, as well as data entry and quality control, and assessment of conservation criteria for surveyed woodlands.

**Ecologist, Atkins, Cork.** January–March 06 and October 2006–March 07.

Phase I habitat survey, mapping, site evaluation, impact assessment and recommendation of mitigation measures; report-writing and preparation of habitat/botanical sections of Environmental Impact Statements.

**Course Co-ordinator, University College, Cork.** September 2004–January 2005.

Co-ordinated distance learning courses in Field Ecology (Diploma) and Biodiversity Components of Forestry (Certificate); duties included project supervision and assessment.

**Occasional/Part-time lecturer, various employers.** 1999–Present.

Over the past number of years I have participated in teaching on university degree and diploma courses (primarily night programmes for mature students), including modules in biodiversity and conservation, factors affecting distribution of organisms, plant structure/evolution, and a varied range of habitats such as Bogs, Fens, Turloughs and Woodlands. I have conducted field trips or assisted other lecturers with theirs in a variety of habitats on many occasions. In addition I lecture on botany and teach plant identification skills to student medical herbalists.

**Computer Instructor, Nyumba ya Sanaa, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.** April 1995–July 1996.

Volunteer posting under the auspices of Agency for Personal Services Overseas (APSO). Instructed staff in the use of computers and computer applications such as WordPerfect and Lotus 1-2-3; facilitated the transfer of manual accounts to computer.

**Computer Programmer/Analyst, Kerry Group, Tralee.** August 1990–January 1995.

Duties included maintenance and support of existing in-house software (written in COBOL and SQL/Oracle database on DOS-based and Unix-based operating systems), programming of new modules, network administration (1994-5), provision of technical support to staff on all aspects of IT, including word processing (WordPerfect) and spreadsheet (Lotus 1-2-3).

## **SKILLS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Communication & Interpersonal Skills**

- My report writing skills have been honed in the course of my Ph.D., and further developed in my work on Environmental Impact Assessments.
- Public speaking experience has been gained in the presentation of papers at conferences and as a demonstrator to undergraduates while carrying out my Ph.D.
- Teaching skills have been acquired in the course of lecturing both to mature students and to undergraduates. Several of my lectures are to individuals with little or no knowledge of botany or ecology, so it is particularly important to explain basic concepts and put information across in an understandable format.
- I have conversational Irish, French and Swahili.
- I work successfully as an individual and as a leader and have trained a number of ecologists in woodland surveying and plant species identification.
- I work well within a team, having worked on major team-driven projects during my time as a computer programmer, and latterly in the course of my time with BEC Consultants.

### **Computer Skills**

- My recent work and studies have given me a high level of proficiency in data analysis, report writing and accurate data entry.
- My former work as a computer programmer/analyst has trained me in logical skills that can be carried forward to newer computer applications.
- I am highly experienced in the use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and also have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Access, ArcView GIS and DataDesk statistical package.

### **Driving**

- Full clean driving licence.

### **Identification Skills**

- Excellent plant identification skills, including vascular and bryophyte species.
- Experience in identifying Carabids (ground beetles) to species and other invertebrate groups, including spiders and beetles, to family.

### **Membership of Professional Organisations**

- Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI) (Ordinary member).
- British Bryological Society (Ordinary member).
- County Nature Trust (website manager).
- Application submitted for membership of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM).

## **PUBLICATIONS**

In press: "*Collateral damage to native woody species arising from the control of Rhododendron ponticum.*" Proceedings of The Seventh Regional Biodiversity Conference and International Conference: The Ecology and Management of *Rhododendron ponticum* - an invasive alien or a neglected native. Held at Sheffield Hallam University and hosted by the South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group and Network. June 2004.