

## VITAE (Short)

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### Current Role

Since the end of January 2016, Paul has been working as a freelance expert for other organisations in Northern Ireland and around the world on projects including organizational development, youth engagement and participation structures for young people.

### Previous Role

Paul Smyth was previously the CEO of Public Achievement. The organisation developed a model known as “Civic Youth Work” and ran a series of groundbreaking projects that supported better engagement between young people from tougher social realities, and various kinds of public authority – including museums, the fire services, the police and with politicians. Under his leadership the organisation won a raft of awards, including a Big Society Award from the UK Prime Minister (2012), a TechforGood award (2014) and an award for the most innovative European volunteer project in Europe.

The organisation was best known for the WIMPS (Where Is My Public Servant?) project and website – [wimps.tv](http://wimps.tv) – a unique project which helped young people to use media to address important issues, and to engage directly with elected representatives. He raised over £7 million in funding for the charity over its 16-year lifespan.

### EDUCATION (Key qualifications)

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Degree Year</u>	<u>Field of Study</u>
University of Ulster	Adv Dip 2013	Sustainable Investment for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sector
University of Ulster	MSc 2010	Innovation Management in the Public Sector
University of Ulster	Certificate 2005	Sustainable Futures – Managing Nonprofits
Brunel University	M.A. 1998	Youth and Community Studies
University of Ulster	B.A. 1988	Fine Arts (Honors)

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>
Public Achievement, Northern Ireland	2003 - 2016	CEO
Achieve Enterprises, NI	2009 –2016	Board member/MD (Social Enterprise)
University of Minnesota	2003 & 2005	Visiting Lecturer – Youth and Conflict
Queens University, Belfast	2008 –2011	Part-time Lecturer, Graduate School of Education
University of Ulster	1998 - 2007	Part-time Lecturer
Youth Council for Northern Ireland	1998-2002	Community Relations Development Officer
University of Ulster, School of Education	1996 – 1998	Research Officer, Speak Your Piece project

### Recent Publications

Smyth, P, (2012) *Citizenship and the Ceasefire Generation*, in Adolescent Behaviour, Bassani C (Ed), Psychology Research Progress, Nova, New York

Smyth, P, (2007) *The Stumbling Progress of Community Relations Youth Work in Northern Ireland, 1968 – 2005*, in Magnusson, D and Baizerman, M (eds), *Work With Youth in Divided and Contested Societies*, Rotterdam: Sense Publishing

VeLure Roholt, R, and Smyth P (2007) *Civic Youth Work and Implications for Service Learning – Lessons from Northern Ireland*, in McIlrath, L and Bernard, M. *Civic Engagement and Higher Education- International Perspectives*, Ashgate, London

### **Recent Presentations**

Young Digital Team Competition – keynote speaker at launch event on policing and youth engagement, March 2016  
Social Justice Initiative/ENAR seminar in Brussels, Presenting on young people and policing - November 2012  
Atlantic Philanthropies – international youth network, July 2011  
UNESCO Conference on the Violent Radicalisation of Youth, Manama, Bahrain, June 2008  
World Movement for Democracy Conference, Kiev, Ukraine, April 2008

### **International**

- 2011 (July) represented Public Achievement at Atlantic Philanthropies youth network, NY
- 2010 (Feb) ran training in Lebanon for youth workers, teachers and NGO leaders in Baalbek and Tripoli
- 2008, November, led delegation to Israel, field trip with Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service looking at road safety innovations with young drivers
- 2008, February, Led training in Beirut, Lebanon for British Council to local NGOs
- 2007, October, Hosted visit of Basque Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport to Northern Ireland.
- 2006 November, led Northern Ireland policy level delegation in exchange with Basque Government
- 2006 October, participant in US State Department visit via Boston College, looking at eGovernance
- 2006 April, delegation to Israel looking at collaboration with Jewish and Palestinian communities
- 2004, Nov/Dec led delegation to Jordan and Israel, looking at Youth Work in Contested Spaces
- 2004, March – trained students across Palestinian West Bank in democratic youth work practice
- 2003 and 2005 (July) University of Minnesota, Youth Studies – lecture on youth cultures in Northern Ireland
- 2002 (November) Bigli University, Istanbul, Turkey – course for Turkish and Palestinian Students on Democratic Practice in Youth Work.

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (Recent)**

- Board member Achieve Enterprises – 2009 – 2016
- Advisor to the Forum for Victims and Survivors 2012 – 2013
- Member of the YouthNet Executive Committee, 2009 - 2011
- EU funding Committee Member, Community Relations Council 2004 – 2008
- Board Member, St Columb's Park House Reconciliation Centre, Derry, March 2005 – Jan 2007

### **WEBSITE/BLOG**

Wiseabap.com