



Citation for the Distinguished Alumni Award

The IUSA Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honour bestowed by the Ireland-United States Alumni Association (IUSA). The purpose of the award is to honour alumni of U.S. exchange programs who have outstanding contributions to society and have demonstrated a commitment to promoting the special relationship between the United States and Ireland.

I am incredibly honoured to present this year's award to Declan Dunne.

Declan is a past participant of the Boston College Irish Institute Accessing the Economy Program and is a former President of the Board of the Ireland United States Alumni Association. He is currently the CEO of Respond Housing and the chair of the Housing Alliance.

Declan's accomplishments in the public service are too numerous to mention however, the highlights have included;

- Chief Executive Officer with Sophia Housing Association,
- A non-executive director of the Ballymun Regeneration Board,
- Chair of the Homeless Network,
- A ministerial appointee to the National Education Welfare Board,
- Founding member of the Dublin City Children's and Youth Peoples Services Committee; and
- A director and board member at the Ballymun Local Drugs Taskforce.

Declan's dedication to public service speaks for itself, he is an incredible nominee and a worthy winner. Therefore, in recognition of his professional excellence, his commitment to the U.S. – Irish relationship, and his outstanding contribution to society I am delighted to present Declan Dunne with this year's Distinguished Alumni Award.