The process of being editor for this issue was an extremely interesting one, the double blind peer review process being the most insightful stage. It was observed how reviewers subjectively perceived design approaches and how views were polarised. The opposing viewpoints between reviewers are incredibly exciting to encounter as they challenge pre-conceptions, create debate and discourse; from which we attain greater understanding of our research and practice. As we navigate through what Irish design research is, and what it evolves to be over the coming years, I feel it is important to maintain this open discourse and to continue to push research outside subjective rational bounds.

It is important to view this publication as an evolving design project itself; with every edition growing ideas, framing and re-framing thoughts, diverging and converging. When we shape what we perceive as a typical edition of Iterations, then, hopefully we can disrupt, subvert, and move into unexpected spaces constructing new platforms to disseminate and grow ideas. We aim to act in an inclusive manner and maintain a sense of community and collegiality between academic institutes, students and our design peers. It is important to encourage and give confidence to up and coming design researchers to write and disseminate, visualise, design, make and produce.

We demonstrate in this edition that we have a vibrant and diverse range of design research activity in Ireland. Included is a range of articles relating to education, policy, practice and other discipline specific papers. We hope these articles inform and inspire. As we are in the latter stages of the ID2015 initiative, we thought it important to include an opinion piece on policy, ‘Developing the Creative Economy’. This piece was agreed by the Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, and authored by Marcella Corcoran Kennedy TD, Chair of the Joint Committee. As a Design Research and Practice community we encourage your feedback, commentary and thoughts on this piece. We aim to create a platform for your voice to inform future government policy in this area.

Finally, I would sincerely like to thank the authors, editorial review panel, ID2015 and the Institute of Designers in Ireland for their assistance in this edition. Long may this publication continue, evolve and iterate.

Dr. P.J. White / Issue Editor

Welcome to the Second Edition of Iterations

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the second edition of Iterations. We continue from the success of Dr. Adam de Eyto’s work in initiating and launching this publication in June of this year. Quite simply, it’s a very exciting time to be a design researcher and practitioner in Ireland. Irish Design 2015 has assisted many fantastic initiatives that have ignited this excitement. On a personal note, being editor of Iterations and co-chairing the Faultlines conference in designCORE at the Institute of Technology, Carlow this year has been very encouraging. We now have a much needed and progressive design research field emerging in Ireland. Coming to the fore of the design field is a depth and breadth of research across the disciplinary bandwidth with fascinating research composites in-between.