



**Professor Jim O'Gara** completed his BSc in Microbiology at the University of Galway in 1990. His research career began in the laboratory of Prof L.K. Dunican also in Galway from which he was awarded his PhD in 1994. He relocated to the University of Texas Medical School in Houston to undertake his first postdoctoral fellowship in Prof Samuel Kaplan's laboratory before returning to Ireland in 1997 for a second postdoctoral fellowship at Trinity College Dublin with Prof Charles Dorman. Prof O'Gara was appointed Lecturer in Microbiology at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 1999 where he established his independent research programme in the area of staphylococcal infection biology. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2003 before moving to University College Dublin as Senior Lecturer in Microbiology in 2005, where he served as Head of Graduate Studies in the School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Sciences from 2009-2012. He returned to his Galway alma mater in 2012 as Professor of Infectious Disease Microbiology. He leads the Infection and Immunology Research Cluster and served as Head of Microbiology from 2013-2016. He was awarded a DSc from the National University of Ireland in 2018 and was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy (MRIA) in March 2022.