

Welcome to the IVI newsletter, updating you on the latest news and upcoming events from the Innovation Value Institute. **This month:** a bumper review of IVI's 20th anniversary at the 2026 IVI Summit...

The next stage of the IVI community

Following the Summit with our most international audience yet, and the launch of our new ATLAS platform, we'd like to invite you to join IVI's relaunched international community of researchers, business and tech leaders and policy experts. **Register here for our webinar on 23 July** to learn more about how membership can benefit you, and how you can contribute your knowledge to our growing community of like-minded experts.

IVI Summit 2026

10-12 June saw the twentieth anniversary of IVI celebrated at the most international and widest-ranging IVI Summit yet. Across three days we welcomed leaders in research, business, technology and government to Ireland and to Maynooth.

- 90+ speakers
- 16 countries represented
- 8 co-creation workshops, 4 thought leader addresses, 4 inspiring talks, 3 roundtables and 1 masterclass

Photos and selected presentations from **Day 1**, **Day 2** and **Day 3** of the Summit are now available on our website, including those from our Thought Leader Addresses from Margaret Laffan (Intel, USA) and Marc Einstein (Counterpoint Research, Japan).



Day 1: Cutting Edge Co-Creation

Following a welcome from Summit MCs Karen Griffin and Dr Rehan Iftikhar, the Summit began with welcoming addresses from IVI Director Prof. Markus Helfert and Maynooth University Deputy President Prof. Aidan Mulkeen. Prof. Helfert reflected on how we take the next *step* in digital transformation - a fitting question given IVI's welcome gift to every attendee, a pair of IVI socks!

The morning's first discussion session was a roundtable on 'Navigating Change at Scale - Perspectives from Government CIOs and Digital Leaders', setting the stage for considering the challenges, and opportunities, of the current digital landscape in large-scale transformation projects.

The majority of Day 1 consisted of simultaneous co-creation workshops, on topics ranging from trust in healthcare data across Europe, to how farmers and agriculture businesses can maximise the value of the data they create. We even saw an experimental workshop co-moderated by an AI agent - which all participants found fascinating, despite "Lisa's" occasional tendency towards sarcasm! Demonstrating the value of the sessions and the strong collaboration developed, several sessions had to be gently reminded to break for lunch - showing how keen participants were for conversations to continue.

At the same time as the workshops, Prof. Jörn von Lucke led the Masterclass 'Generative AI in the Public Sector' - which had huge interest from participants for future sessions. We will just suggest, watch this space...

Day 1 also saw the International Research Symposium, allowing both early-career and senior researchers to share their latest work either through research posters or through abstract presentations. IVI thanks all participants and the members of the expert feedback panels for giving their time and expertise.



The afternoon saw a panel celebrating 20 years of IVI's work, featuring Dr Peter Conlon (Director, MaynoothWorks), Prof. Martin Curley, Martin Delaney (former Managing Director, IVI), Joan Mulvihill (long-term IVI collaborator) and Prof. Markus Helfert. Following the trip down memory lane, we looked ahead to the future as Prof. Helfert and Dr Michael Hanley announced the launch of the next step of IVI's organisational change knowledge - **the ATLAS platform**. ATLAS combines the 20+

years of knowledge from IVI's capability framework, continuing work from our current research experts, and AI-powered assistance. Access to ATLAS will be rolled out soon - we're very excited to see what's next...

IVI was honoured to welcome Frank Feighan TD, Minister of State for Public Procurement, Digitalisation and eGovernment, to launch ATLAS officially. Minister Feighan said that "the question of the IVI Summit, 'what's next', is the right one... I look forward to seeing partnerships, ideas and innovation emerge from this gathering."

Photos and selected presentations from Day 1 are available [here](#).

Day 2 - Opportunities

The second day of the IVI Summit saw greater focus on discussion of the current digital landscape and where we head next. Attendees received a full authentic Irish weather experience thanks to some very serious rain, but it did not dampen spirits!

Following opening addresses from Prof. Helfert and Maynooth University Vice-President for Research & Innovation Prof. Rachel Msetfi, we welcomed four Thought Leader Addresses from international leaders in digital and data - Margaret Laffan (Cloud Growth and Scale GTM Leader, Intel, USA); Glen Lally (Global Vice President, Enablement & GTM Transformation, Everpure, USA); Ben Hallinan (Vice President for Digital Enablement Commercial, Kerry Group, Ireland); and Marc

Einstein (Research Director, AI, Telecommunications & Digital Transformation, Counterpoint Research, Japan). The fascinating presentations ranged from how AI agents can create value across the business once they are taken out of siloed use, through to research on how countries across the world are negotiating sovereign AI.

Following Q&A with all speakers, the day continued with a roundtable on AI regulation in Europe, asking how to balance the needs of legislation with business competitiveness. With experts in legislation, policy, Computer Science and AI start-ups, the debate was itself complex in places while allowing a very interesting range of perspectives to be shared and discussed.



The afternoon of our second day continued with three simultaneous deep-dive discussion sessions, focusing on Organisational Change, Technological Change and Societal Change, before a final roundtable on international collaboration in research, featuring experts from Europe, east Africa, east Asia and North America. The day wrapped up with our Gala Dinner, including the launch of new books from IVI's Distinguished International Collaborator Prof. Piero Formica and from IVI's Dr Zohreh Pourzolfaghar. We also recognised and celebrated the outstanding contributions of some of IVI's staff and collaborators through our awards presentations. [See the winners and further photos and presentations from Day 2 here.](#)



Day 3 - Winning the Race

The third day of the Summit began a very well-attended GoGreen Trails climate walk led by Sara Lynch, giving attendees the chance to see some of Maynooth's greenery - thanks to *much* better weather than the previous day! Presentations began with our International Networking Breakfast, with the chance to hear from some of IVI's

research experts as well as special guests in the beautiful environment of Pugin Hall on Maynooth's

old campus. Next, Dr Azra Aryania announced the winners of this year's International Student Innovation Challenge - congratulations to the winning teams from Maynooth University, Aga Khan University (Kenya), Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman (Ukraine), Deggendorf Institute of Technology (Germany) and Ball State University (USA). IVI would like to once again thank Yaroslav Humeniuk, First Secretary on Economic Issues at the Embassy of Ukraine to Ireland, for presenting the awards, and thank UNUM Ireland for their continued generous sponsorship.

Summit attendees were then lucky enough to take a tour of Maynooth's old campus, including the stunning chapel.

The afternoon included a trip to the National Stud and Gardens for more informal presentations, including talks and conversations as well as a special presentation from Irish comedian Kevin Gildea on the potential benefits of an AI-led apocalypse! The day concluded with a tour of the National Stud, including the chance to meet some of Ireland's most famous retired champion racehorses.



Pictures from Day 3 are available [here](#).

IVI would like to once again thank all attendees for their participation and contribution to three days of learning, networking, discussion, and shaping the digital future.

With thanks to the IVI Summit 2026 sponsors

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So... What's next?

As we launch ATLAS and look ahead to the next stage of IVI's offering to organisations, we would love you to join us to collaborate, share your knowledge and receive the benefits of IVI membership, including access to our research and ATLAS. On 23rd July we will host a webinar on how you can get involved in the relaunched international IVI community. We look forward to seeing you there!

Register now

Innovation Value Institute | Eolas Building, North Campus Maynooth University Co. Kildare | Maynooth Co Kildare, 0
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