

## **Vita**

A native of Leixlip, Ireland, I received my BA degree in Geography and Sociology with first class honors from the National University of Ireland (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth). I was awarded the Gwenda Hurst Memorial Medal from the Association of Geography Teachers of Ireland for achieving the highest grade in the 1990 National Leaving Certificate Examination, and the J.A.K. Graham award from the Geographical Society of Ireland for the best Geography undergraduate thesis in Ireland in 1995. Following completion of my Masters Degree at Virginia Tech I took up a scholarship to pursue a Ph.D. in Geography at the University of Bristol under the supervision of Professor Nigel Thrift.