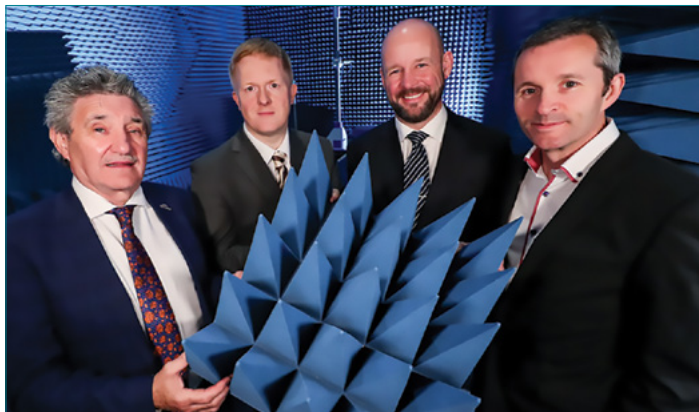


# UNIVERSITY NEWS



## Ireland's National 5G Test Centre Opens at Maynooth University



(L-R) John Halligan TD, Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and Development; Prof Ronan Farrell, Director of RadioSpace; Prof Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University and Ciarán Seoighe, Deputy Director General, SFI

### Minister John Halligan TD, Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and Development, opened Ireland's National 5G Test Centre in Maynooth University on Thursday 30 May

The 5G facility is open to large industry, SMEs, start-ups, and provides a unique, large scale, interference-free facility for scientists and engineers from industry and universities, in Ireland and internationally.

The facility consists of a specially constructed anechoic chamber that provides perfect isolation for radio signals; nothing can enter and nothing can leave. This, with the advanced test equipment and specialist engineers, allows for very sensitive measurements to be made, essential for the development of modern wireless devices.

RadioSpace connects industry and academic researchers with the aim of addressing the full range of challenges in developing new technologies and products for the next generation of wireless devices. It is designed to provide a full range of services to developers of 4G mobile networks, IoT enabled products and future 5G and mmWave devices.

The €1.5 million facility, which has received €638,000 funding from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), is part of CONNECT - the world-leading SFI Research Centre for Future Networks and Communications.

This service is available to SMEs, and access can be facilitated via the Enterprise Ireland Innovation Voucher scheme. This ensures that both SMEs and larger organisations can avail of the technology and expertise of researchers in Maynooth University.

## Summer Soirée 2019: Sold-out Crowd of 400 Alumni and Friends of MU Fill the Aula

### MU hosted a night of music and conversation, celebrating the influence of Leonard Cohen

On 20 June, the Dept of Adult and Community Education and the Development and Alumni Office teamed up to organise a special night in the Aula Maxima. Charley and Hattie Webb, artists who played distinctive parts in Leonard Cohen's return to live performances, performed and remembered his life and work in conversation with playwright, novelist and poet, John MacKenna.

They were joined by novelist and poet Dermot Bolger, the renowned songwriter and musician Kevin Doherty, and academic, writer and alumna Dr Bríd Connolly.



Charlotte and Hattie Webb with the President, Prof Philip Nolan, and Rebecca Doolin, Director of External Relations

*in this issue*

## Commercialisation Awards 2019



Dr Karen Griffin, Commercialisation Executive; Prof Ray O'Neill, Vice-President for Research and Innovation; Dr Jennifer McManus, Head of Chemistry Dept.

### Each year MaynoothWorks recognises excellence in the commercialisation of research at Maynooth University

The Awards were presented in two categories; Commercialisation of Intellectual Property and Industry Engagement activity.

Dr Jennifer McManus and Dr Bryan Hennelly, respectively, were the successful recipients this year, with both researchers being supported in their activities by Dr Karen Griffin from the MaynoothWorks team.

Dr Bryan Hennelly, Department of Electronic Engineering and Department of Computer Science, was awarded the Commercialisation of IP Award. Bryan is developing IP on label free life science imaging. Traditionally biologists are required to chemically stain cells/tissue samples with fluorescent chemicals that bind to sub cellular features and to use specialised microscopy techniques such as fluorescent microscopy or phase contrast microscopy. His research group is developing several methods to achieve this without the use of labels.

Dr Jennifer McManus of the Chemistry Department was awarded the Industry Engagement Award. Jennifer, who leads the Soft Matter and Biophysical Chemistry research group along with her team, has been working collaboratively with a number of companies in Ireland, the UK and Italy. The primary research focus of the lab is understanding protein-protein interactions and assembly pathways.



Prof Ray O'Neill, Dr Bryan Hennelly and Dr Karen Griffin

#### FROM THE EDITOR

University News is published three times a year by the Maynooth University Communications and Marketing Office. For questions, or to submit stories and ideas any time of the year, contact [communications@mu.ie](mailto:communications@mu.ie)

## Department of Biology Awarded Athena SWAN Bronze Award

The Department of Biology has achieved an Athena SWAN Bronze Award, which recognises work undertaken to advance gender equality for staff and students at departmental level

Biology is the first department at Maynooth University to apply for, and achieve, Athena SWAN accreditation, which is overseen by Advance HE. Maynooth received a Bronze Institution Award in April 2018.

President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, said: "I congratulate everyone whose hard work is recognised in this award, especially the role played by Dr Karen English in so skilfully chairing a strong application and action plan. Athena SWAN forms a key part of the University's commitment to advancing women's academic and research careers in STEM subjects."



(l-r) Claire McGing, Athena SWAN Project Officer, Maynooth University; Prof Paul Moynagh, Head of the Dept of Biology; and Dr Karen English, Chair of the Biology self-assessment team at Maynooth University

Head of Department Professor Paul Moynagh stated: "This is a very proud day for our department and we are fully committed to implementing our action plan, which runs from 2019-2022. The plan embeds the principle of gender equality into everyday departmental practice and will benefit all staff and students."

## 'Leave No One Behind' Conference Focuses on Public Employment Service

The 'Leave No One Behind: Building a Public Employment Service and Guidance Model for an Inclusive Labour Market' conference was organised by Dr Mary Murphy, Department of Sociology

The conference on 17 June, which was attended by more than 150 stakeholders from statutory, market and social employment service providers and guidance practitioners, is the first of a range of events organised as part of the ACA PES: A Collaborative Approach to building a Public Employment Service project. It is funded under the Irish Research Council's COALESCE programme.

The project focuses on a collaborative approach to building a national public employment service. Post-crisis Ireland needs capacity to support the development of a strong labour force with a focus



(l-r); Niall Egan, AGS Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection; Prof Jean Michel Bonvin, University of Geneva, (Keynote speaker); Dr Mary Murphy, Dept of Sociology; Dr Michael McGann, University of Melbourne, (Keynote speaker); Dr Fiona Dukelow, UCC; and Kevin Empey, Work Matters

on the needs of diverse cohorts of job seekers, particularly those most distant from the labour market. This research is developing in collaboration with the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed, the LESN and the Irish Local Development Network, and in association with the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection.

## National 5G Test Centre Opens *(continued)*

Professor Ronan Farrell, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering and Director of RadioSpace, said companies also will have access to academic experts in the area of wireless communications. "This facility will provide industry in Ireland and across Europe, as well as academics, a rare and valuable capability

to develop new technologies, and also to explore exciting questions in radio physics and engineering. We look forward to RadioSpace being a catalyst for increased collaboration between academia and industry, nationally and internationally."

## Nordic-Irish Partnership for Smart Cities Launch



Pictured at the launch of the joint Nordic-Irish partnership for smart and sustainable city development in Dublin in May are (l-r): Hakan Lind, Nordic Innovation; Prof Brian Donnellan, Vice-President and Dean of International Affairs, Maynooth University and Chair All Ireland Smart Cities Forum; HE Jaana Teckenberg, Ambassador of Finland; Mark Griffin, Secretary General, Department for Communications, Climate Action and Environment; Owen Keegan, Chief Executive, Dublin City Council; HE Else Berit Eikeland, Ambassador of Norway; HE Uffe Balslev, Ambassador of Denmark. It is anticipated that the new partnership will result in long-term relationships being forged between Irish and Nordic companies working specifically on a range of smart city solutions.

# Professor Paul Moynagh Admitted to the Royal Irish Academy (RIA)

## Maynooth University congratulates Professor Paul Moynagh on his admission as a member of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA)

Prof Moynagh, who is Head of the Department of Biology and Director of the Human Health Research Institute at Maynooth University, is one of 27



Prof Peter Kennedy and Prof Paul Moynagh

new members of the RIA, and one of 10 new members admitted from the Sciences in 2019.

Prof Moynagh has published extensively in the area of immunology-related research. In 2009, he was awarded the NUI Centennial Prize for Academic Publishing in Medical and Health Sciences and he is the recipient of the 2014 Irish Area Section Biochemical Society (IASBS) Medal. He is a Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Principal Investigator. His research focuses on delineating the roles of Pellino proteins in immunity.

The RIA also plans to establish a young academy for Ireland's top young researchers in the sciences and humanities. The young academy will provide a forum for Ireland's early to mid-career researchers and scholars so that their voices are heard within the Academy and by national and international policy makers. It will join an international network of 45 National Young Academies that exist world-wide.

The Academy has been honouring Ireland's leading contributors to the world of learning since its establishment in 1785.

## MU Named Among Top 50 Young Universities in the World

Maynooth University has been recognised again as one of the leading new universities in the world with *Times Higher Education* (THE) ranking it #50 in its latest Young University Rankings

Climbing from the position of #80 in 2018, the ranking is the highest position achieved by an Irish university this year.

The Young University Rankings are based on a range of criteria including research income achieved, reputation for teaching, numbers of PhDs awarded, the number and quality of scholarly papers and citations from staff, and numbers of international staff and students.

Commenting on the new ranking, Maynooth University President, Professor Philip Nolan, said: "At a time when Irish universities operate with very constrained resources and significant underfunding, it is particularly encouraging for Maynooth University to be recognised among the top young universities in the world. Since becoming an independent university in 1997, MU has nearly tripled its enrolment to 13,000 students to become the fastest growing university in Ireland and has solidified its reputation as a place where internationally significant research and an innovative approach to teaching go hand in hand."

In addition to being named in *THE's* Top 50 Under 50, Maynooth University is recognised among the top 400 universities in the world, the top 200 European universities, and as one of the top 200 universities for international connections and outlook.

## MU Achieves Highest-Ever First Preference Applications



### 33 percent increase in BSc first preferences

More than 4,200 students have chosen Maynooth as their first preference for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to figures released by the Central Applications Office (CAO). This figure represents a 7% increase on Maynooth applications from last year, and amounts to more than three times the total increase (2%) in CAO Level 8 first preferences this year.

The increases in first preferences are recorded right across Maynooth University's degree courses, particularly the Bachelor of Science degree (33%), Arts (17%), Law (12%), Business (9%) and Education (6%).

Maynooth's Bachelor of Arts degree continues to be the most popular course in the CAO, attracting more applications and first preferences than any other CAO course.

## Schedule of Dates for Meetings in 2019-2020

FACULTY OF ARTS, CELTIC STUDIES & PHILOSOPHY at 12.00 hours	FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES at 15.00 hours	FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING at 15.00 hours	ACADEMIC COUNCIL at 15.00 hours (ONE EXCEPTION)	GOVERNING AUTHORITY at 14.30 hours (TWO EXCEPTIONS)
2 September 2019 Boardroom JHB	2 September 2019 Boardroom JHB	3 September 2019 Boardroom JHB	23 September 2019 Boardroom JHB	19 September 2019 (16.00)
14 October 2019 Boardroom JHB	14 October 2019 Boardroom JHB	15 October 2019 Boardroom JHB	4 November 2019 Boardroom JHB	14 November 2019 Boardroom JHB
18 November 2019 Boardroom JHB	18 November 2019 Boardroom JHB	19 November 2019 Boardroom JHB	10 December 2019 (Tuesday) Boardroom JHB	18 December 2019 (16.00) Boardroom JHB
13 January 2020 Boardroom JHB	13 January 2020 Boardroom JHB	14 January 2020 Boardroom JHB	3 February 2020 Boardroom JHB	6 February 2020 Boardroom JHB
9 March 2020 Boardroom JHB	9 March 2020 Boardroom JHB	10 March 2020 Boardroom JHB	30 March 2020 Boardroom JHB	26 March 2020 Boardroom JHB
11 May 2020 Boardroom JHB	11 May 2020 Boardroom JHB	12 May 2020 Boardroom JHB	25 May 2020 (14.00) Boardroom JHB	4 June 2020 Boardroom JHB

## Library Hosts National Academic Writing Workshop



The Library was pleased to welcome 17 librarians from Irish higher education institutions on 19 June for an academic writing workshop facilitated by Helen Fallon and Laura Connaughton. The one-day workshop is now an annual event and many of the participants have gone on to publish international literature.

## European Librarians Visit



As part of Dublin ERASMUS Week the Library hosted 23 librarians from 12 European countries on Tuesday, 18 June. Cathal McCauley, University Librarian gave the group a library tour and this was followed by a seminar on the topic: "Information and digital literacies". In the afternoon the group visited the

Russell Library and Maynooth Castle as part of a campus tour. This is the third year the Library has hosted this event. Library staff have also participated in European ERASMUS visits in Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

## Summer Soirée 2019 *(continued)*

Prof Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, presented the Webb Sisters with the 2019 Maynooth University Award for Arts and Culture, which honours individuals who have made distinctive contributions to the arts, culture or heritage in Ireland or the world that reflect the ethos and mission of Maynooth University.

The sold-out event marked the culmination of the Department of Adult & Community Education 2019 Summer School on the theme of 'Popular Culture and the Making of Meaning - social issues in the works of Leonard Cohen, Dory Previn and Paul Simon,' and was held in conjunction with the Maynooth Summer Soirée, the annual arts and culture event for alumni and friends of the University.

The programme is part of the BA in Community Studies and was conceived of and delivered by John MacKenna, an occasional lecturer in creative writing at the Department of Adult and Community Education.



Pictured (l-r) Dr Mary B. Ryan, Dermot Bolger, Hattie Webb, the President Prof Philip Nolan, Charley Webb, Kevin Doherty, Dr Derek Barter, John MacKenna, Dr Bríd Connolly

## Kilkenny Campus Books in Africa

A shipment of books from the Library to the Institut Catholique de Kabgayi (ICK) in Rwanda arrived safely and the 769 students and 43 academic staff now have access to a number of useful textbooks across the Humanities and Social Sciences. The books were selected from the Kilkenny Campus Collection by the Vice-Chancellor Balthazar Ntivuguruzwa, when he attended a conference at St Patrick's College Maynooth.



## Library Hosts Croatian Exhibition



Professor Terry Dooley, Professor Marian Lyons and His Excellency Ivan Mašina from the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Ireland

On Monday, 13 May, the exhibition "Laval Nugent - Warrior and Art Collector" opened in the Library. The exhibition was a collaboration between the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, Maynooth University and the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Ireland.

Count Laval Nugent (1777-1862) was a central figure in Croatia's development into a modern European country during the 19th century. The significance of Laval's story is additionally interesting because this fervent advocate of Croatian nationhood was born in Ireland, was a member of the Irish nobility, as well as a field-marshal of the Austrian Army, Croatia then being part of the Habsburg Monarchy. Laval combined his brilliant military and political career with his personal interest in culture and Croatian history. Conducting archaeological excavations and collecting objects of art, he assembled an impressive collection of artifacts that became the basis of the first museum in Croatia.

## Ringling the Ogoni Bells



School children view the exhibition

The Maynooth University Library Ken Saro-Wiwa travelling exhibition is on display in four libraries in Wexford during June and July. It formed part of "Africa Day" activities on 25 May in Gorey Public Library. The exhibition, based on the death-row correspondence of Nigerian writer and activist Ken Saro-Wiwa was donated to Maynooth University in 2011.

## Maynooth University Collection Exhibited at Quinnipiac University

In April 2019, Maynooth University Library collaborated with the Arnold Bernhard Library and Theatre Department at Quinnipiac University on an exhibition and event to celebrate the life and work of renowned Irish playwright Teresa Deevy. One of Ireland's foremost playwrights in the 1930s, Teresa Deevy enjoyed success most notably with the Abbey Theatre and later with RTÉ and the BBC. Her archive was donated by the Deevy family to Maynooth University in 2011. The exhibition was accompanied by a performance of Deevy's one-act play *The King of Spain's Daughter* on Tuesday, 16 April, which was preceded by a talk on Deevy's life and legacy by Special Collections Librarian Barbara McCormack.

# Campus Developments Update

## Construction work has begun on a new academic building with changes to traffic flow in place

The initial phase of the new academic building, to open in late 2020, forms part of a wider plan to modernise and expand the Arts and Science buildings on the Maynooth University campus.

As part of the University's commitment to a sustainable environment, a major tree planting and biodiversity scheme is being planned in collaboration with the Maynooth Green Campus Committee (a partnership among MU, St. Patrick's College Maynooth and Trócaire that was awarded a Green Flag in 2018).

Additional plans are in place to prioritise pedestrian and cyclist movement with the design of new 'public realm' initiatives to strengthen the links between the south and north ends of the campus.



West View of the new Academic Building

## Minister McHugh Launches CLIL Pilot Project at Maynooth

### The 'PE as Gaeilge' project will run as a pilot, using the CLIL methodology in primary and post-primary schools over three years, with the project expanding each year

Launching the project, Minister McHugh said: "We must be ambitious in our approach to the language and how it is taught and endeavour to make it relevant to the next generation and instil a love of the language."

As part of the launch, Mikaila Greenan and Colm Keane, who have just completed teacher education degrees at Maynooth University Froebel Department and undertook CLIL research, demonstrated PE as Gaeilge lessons with 4th class pupils of English-medium primary school Scoil San Carlo, Leixlip.

The aim of the PE as Gaeilge project is to improve school children's competence, disposition and confidence when learning the language. It will also support practitioners and teachers to implement a CLIL approach to language learning.



Prof Aidan Mulkeen, Tony Sweeney, Prof Marie McLaughlin, Séamie Ó Néill, Minister Joe McHugh, Dr Celine Healy

## Maynooth University Student Experience Awards

### The Maynooth University Student Experience (MUSE) Awards celebrated the wealth of activities students have engaged in beyond the classroom, at the inaugural awards ceremony on 1 May



Prof Sinéad McGilloway alongside Department MUSE and MUSE Advanced Level Awardees - Shane Owen, Siobhan Wray, Elizabeth McKeague, Maria Gialama

The Experiential Learning officer, Dr Aisling Flynn, commended the MUSE activity coordinators and verifiers on their commitment, dedication and passion to student engagement accomplishments across the University.

A total of 96 MU students were recognised as completing 24,662 hours of verified activities in a wide range of themes including University Community and Campus Life, Social and Cultural, Volunteering and Civic Engagement, Internationalisation, Enterprise and Work Experience and Leadership. It was acknowledged that Maynooth University and its student and staff cohorts, its community and employer stakeholders, as well as its Erasmus University partners have benefited massively from the wealth of this student activity. Dr Alison Hood, Dean of Teaching and Learning who officially opened the event congratulated the MUSE Awardees.

## Digital Competence Upskilling Project for Adult Learners

### Department of Adult & Community Education is partner in a new project - DELSA - Digital Empowerment for Upskilling Adults

The Department of Adult & Community Education at Maynooth University is one of eight partners from six European Countries (Belgium, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Spain), working together to promote the uptake of digital skills by lower



skilled adults through the ERASMUS+ DELSA project. The project will prepare free and open training modules to assist adults upskill digitally based on scoping reports prepared by each project partner during 2019-2020.

The project partners met in May in Pescara, Italy, to plan the DELSA project where they presented on the current digitalisation status and a strategy to upskill adult learners in their country. Project administration, dissemination, exploitation, visibility and quality assurance matters were also discussed.

In Ireland, the Department of Adult & Community Education is working with Irish Rural Link (DELSA Project lead partner) and Longford Womens Link to engage with local communities of learners and to test newly prepared digital upskilling materials. For more information about DELSA project initiatives visit [www.digitaldelsa.eu](http://www.digitaldelsa.eu)

Pictured (l-r); Michael Kenny, Department of Adult & Community Education, Tara Farrell, Longford Womens' Link and Sinead Dooley and Mary Keys from Irish Rural Link

## Oíche Filíochta ar Champas Mhá Nuad



Ciara Ní É, an file Gaeilge ar an bhfocal labhartha a bhain cáil amach di féin ar na meán shóisialta don dán “Phenomenal Woman”, sa léir idir Oifigeach na Gaeilge Brian Mac Maghnúis agus Clíodhna Duffy ó Chuallacht Cholmcille ag ár n-Oíche Filíochta ar champas i rith na bliana.

## Comórtas Náisiúnta Buaithe ag Cuallacht Cholmcille



D'éirigh le Cumann Gaelach na hOllscoile, Cuallacht Cholmcille, an chéad áit i gComórtas Chonradh na Gaeilge do na cumainn Ghaelacha ollscoile a bhaint amach san earrach don dara bliain le trí bliana anuas. Le feiscint sa ghrianghraf seo leis an ngradam úd (ar deiseal ó thaobh na láimhe clé) tá baill de phríomhchoiste na Cuallachta 2018 - 2019 Laurie Doré, Conor Logue, Ciarán Watts, Róisín Ní Mhaoláin, Róisín Ruth, Michael Monahan, Sinéad Scully, Dúlra Ní Áinle agus Clíodhna Duffy.

## Cúrsa Úrnua ar Líne á Reachtáil ag Lárionad na Gaeilge



An Dochtúir Victor Lazzarini, Déan Dhámh na n-Ealaíon, an Léinn Cheiltigh agus na Fealsúnachta agus Anna Ní Ghallachair, Stiúrthóir Lárionad na Gaeilge in éineacht le Seán Kyne TD, an tAire Stáit don Ghaeilge, don Ghaeltacht agus do na hOileáin, ar champas thuaidh na hollscoile ag fógairt an chúrsa úrnua ar líne

I Mí Bealtaine d'fhógair an tAire Stáit don Ghaeilge, don Ghaeltacht agus do na hOileáin, Seán Kyne, TD, pacáiste maoinithe de €270, 129 thar thréimhse trí bliana chun gur féidir le hOllscoil Mhá Nuad an chéad chúrsa teastais ollscoile ar líne den saghas seo in oiliúint múinteoirí Gaeilge do fhoghlaimoirí fásta a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm.

Beidh an cúrsa ar líne forbartha ag Lárionad na Gaeilge agus bainfidh sé buntáiste as an teicneolaíocht foghlama is déanaí chun an pobal is leithne anseo in Éirinn agus go hidirnáisiúnta a shroichint. Dóibh siúd a bhfuil spéis acu Gaeilge a mhúineadh do dhaoine fásta anseo in Éirinn agus thar sáile beidh siad in ann rochtain a fháil ar ábhar ar líne agus ar ghearrscannáin atá tar éis bheith forbartha ag saineolaithe san earnáil.

Ag trácht ar an gclár nua, dúirt Anna Ní Ghallachair, Stiúrthóir an Lárionaid: “Tá ríméad orm go mbeidh ár Lárionad in ann tacaíocht a thabhairt do mhúinteoirí Gaeilge ó Inis Meáin go Iowa. Ó Ghaeltacht Chiarraí ó dhúchas, tá taithí Éireannach agus idirnáisiúnta i dteagasc na teanga ag stiúrthóir ár gcúrsa, Ailín Ní Chonchúir, agus tá a cleachtas bunaithe ar an taighde idirnáisiúnta is fearr. Ceadóidh teicneolaíocht di agus dá comhghleacaithe a gcuid saineolais a roinnt taobh amuigh de champas na hollscoile.”

## Comhdháil in Ómós don Dr Aisling Ní Dhonnchadha



An Dochtúir Aisling Ní Dhonnchadha ag comhdháil lae den teideal “I mBun Aistir agus Athléimh” in ómós di leis an hollaimh Regina Uí Chollatáin agus Máirín Nic Eoin ar an dá thaobh di.

Beidh an Dr. Aisling Ní Dhonnchadha ag éir as a post léachtóireachta i Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge an samhradh seo tar éis nach mór tríocha bliain ar champas. Mar chomhartha ómóis di as gach a bhfuil déanta aici le blianta fada i réimse an léinn, ar ábhar na gearrscéalaíochta ach go háirithe, chuir a comhghleacaithe roinne comhdháil lae den teideal “I mBun Aistir agus Athléimh” in eagar i Mí an Mheithimh. Bhí an Dochtúir Ní Dhonnchadha, a clann mhac agus gaolta eile i láthair don ócáid cheiliúrtha chomh maith le cairde agus comhghleacaithe léinn ní amháin ón ollscoil seo ó cheann ceann na tíre, na hollaimh Gearóid Denvir, Máire Ní Annracháin, Regina Uí Chollatáin agus Máirín Nic Eoin ina measc. Ó thaobh ábhair na gcainteanna de, clúdaíodh ceist an neamhní in úrscéalaíocht Bhreandáin Uí Dhoibhlin ag an Ollamh Fionntán de Brún agus an dara leabhar a scríobh Muiris Ó Súilleabháin nár foilsíodh riamh, Fiche Bliain Faoi Bhláth, ag an Dochtúir Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh agus an chros-síolracht i ngearrscéalta Phádraic Bhreathnaigh ag an Dochtúir Laoise Ní Cheallaigh, bean léinn a bhí stiúrtha ag an Dr Ní Dhonnchadha agus a taighde dochtúireachta ar bun aici. Mar sméar mhullaigh ar an gcomhdháil lae thug an tOllamh Nic Eoin, atá tar éis roinnt leabhar a scríobh i gcomhar leis an Dr Ní Dhonnchadha, caint aisti inár phléigh sí bean na hócáide go tochtach mar léitheoir báúil agus mar chritic ghéarchúiseach.

## Caoga Bliain de Léachtaí Cholmcille Ceiliúrtha



An tOllamh Gearóid Denvir ó Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh, an príomheagharthóir an Dochtúir Eoghan Ó Raghallaigh ó Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge agus an tOllamh Pilib Ó Nualláin, Uachtarán Ollscoil Mhá Nuad, ag an seoladh de Léachtaí Cholmcille 2019, ag a raibh caoga bliain den chomhdháil aitheanta á gcomóradh le téamaí agus tionscail taighde mar phríomhábhar le linn an deireadh seachtaine.

## Human Resource Notes

### NEW APPOINTMENTS

We are pleased to announce that the following staff have been appointed to Permanent Posts in the University:

School/Departments	Appointees
Ancient Classics	Ms Sarah Coughlan Da Silva, Senior Executive Assistant
Campus & Commercial Services	Mr Stephen Seaman, Campus Services Grounds Supervisor
Chief Information and Innovation Office	Mr Kamil Mahajan, Information Security Manager
English	Professor Lauren Arrington, Professor
Examinations Office	Ms Breda Cole, Executive Assistant
Human Resources	Mr Neil Coogan, Employee Relations Manager
Office of the Vice President of Engagement & Innovation	Professor Markus Helfert, Professor
Student Records Office	Ms Jennifer Boggan, Administrative Officer

Our best wishes to all concerned

### EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

The Employee Assistance Programme is a support programme provided by the University for staff members.

The Programme provides a confidential counselling service, designed to assist staff members in dealing with any issue that adversely affects their health, wellbeing, personal or professional life.

If you have a problem that is troubling you, then you can get help and support.

You can avail of the service by calling the following free phone number: **1800 201 346**

# Strong Interest in Commemorations Timeline Quiz Continues

5th and 6th class students from two local schools took part in the Timeline Quiz, based on the Decade of Commemorations 1912-1922

Maynooth University's Decade of Commemorations Committee was delighted to welcome back the fifth and sixth class girls from the Presentation Girls' School Maynooth and to welcome the sixth class boys from St Mary's Boys' National School Maynooth for the first time to participate in its timeline quiz. This is a valuable opportunity for schoolchildren who are learning about the hugely significant events that took place locally, nationally and internationally between years 1912 and 1922 to engage with this part of history outside the classroom.

The quiz is based upon the timeline which was erected on the front façade of the John Paul II Library and features questions on topics as diverse as the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the election of Countess Constance Markievicz, the sinking of the Lusitania and the publication of *Ulysses*. Encouraged by their teachers to write stories inspired by this period in history, the committee members, who were ably assisted in the running of



Lisa McVann and Brian MacMaghnúis from the MU Commemorations Committee with Mr Cathal McGeady and the boys from his sixth class in St Mary's Boys' National School Maynooth, who were on campus to participate in the Decade of Commemorations timeline quiz

the quiz by Elaine Bean and team members Finn and Rachel in the Library, were delighted to receive such wonderful compositions as "The Escape," "The Child Spy," "Maggie" and "Why?"

## MU ICT Summer Camps for Second-Level Students

Maynooth University Departments of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering hosted their summer camps again this year



A sample of the robots built by students at the summer camp, which are programmed at the PC and then put onto a track. The aim is that each robot is programmed to autonomously complete the circuit in as quick a time as possible

Over three weeks almost 300 secondary school children experienced many facets of Computer Science, including problem solving, web development, game design, graphics, music programming and robotics.

In the advanced summer camps both the Department of Electronic Engineering and the Department of Computer Science introduced students to topics including Robotics and the Internet of Things, so the students were expected to have some previous programming experience.

The camps are run by academic staff assisted by postgraduate and undergraduate students acting as demonstrators. The camps typically include guest presentations on selected topics and are funded by the Higher Education Authority of Ireland (HEA).

## NCCA Council Appointment



Pictured is Brian Tubbert, Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, who was recently appointed by the Minister for Education and Skills Joe McHugh TD to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). The NCCA advises the Minister for Education and Skills on curriculum and assessment from early childhood to the end of second level. It engages with learners, teachers, practitioners, parents and others to support innovation in schools and other educational settings. It undertakes, uses and shares research as a basis for advice and debate on education.

## CONNECT 2019



CONNECT 2019 brought together researchers, company representatives, venture capitalists and state support organisations to get an overview of the broad scope of the high-level research at Maynooth University

Topics ranging from professionalism in medical practice, to managing drone airspace to infectious disease control, and 27 other diverse research topics in between were discussed. Held on campus on 15 May, each presenter had 5 minutes to make their presentation and all researchers rose to the challenge, sharing a snapshot of what they do.

CONNECT 2019 aimed to create opportunities for collaboration by discovering potential solutions to problems that exist in industry and the marketplace. The event was organised by MaynoothWorks, Maynooth University's office for Knowledge Transfer, Enterprise Partnership and Entrepreneurship Innovation. Feedback from attendees has been very positive and indicates it has helped seed new relationships and collaborations, which the MaynoothWorks team will support into the future.

## Summer Programme for Undergraduate Research 2019



Pictured is Dr Alison Hood, Dean of Teaching and Learning; Dr Aisling Flynn, Experiential Learning, and the Summer Programme for Undergraduate Research 2019 Student Cohort. The Summer Programme for Undergraduate Research (SPUR) attracted a range of undergraduates students to undertake the experiential learning programme.

# Maynooth University Celebrates with Staff Awards

The Maynooth University Staff Recognition Awards were celebrated at a ceremony on Thursday, 30 May. The awards recognise the outstanding contributions by staff in three categories: Teaching Awards, Research Awards, and President's Awards for Service Excellence and Innovation

The awardees are as follows:

TEACHING AWARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Dr Ciarán Mac an Bhaird, Dept of Mathematics &amp; Statistics</li> <li>» Dr Patricia Kennon, Froebel Dept of Primary and Early Childhood Education</li> <li>» Dr Seamus McLoone, Dept of Electronic Engineering</li> <li>» Critical Skills Team (Dr Brian McKenzie, Dr Eamon Darcy, Dr Adeline Cooney, Dr Susan Giblin, Dr Máire Ní Mhórdha, Dr Denis Casey, Jonathan Brown, Dr Aneta Stepien, Dr Adrian Kirwan)</li> </ul>
RESEARCH AWARDS
<i>Early Career Research Achievement Awards</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Dr Gerard McCarthy, Dept of Geography, ICARUS (FSS and overall winner, Maynooth University Early Career Research Achievement Award 2019)</li> <li>» Dr Ozgur Bayram, Dept of Biology, Human Health Institute (FSE)</li> <li>» Dr John Paul Newman, Dept of History, Centre for European and Eurasian Studies (FASCP)</li> </ul>
<i>Research Achievement Awards 2019</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Prof Kath Browne, Dept of Geography (FSS)</li> <li>» Space Optics Group (Prof Anthony Murphy, Dr Creidhe O'Sullivan, Dr Neil Trappe, Dr Marcin Gradziel) (FSE and overall winner Maynooth University Research Achievement Award 2019)</li> <li>» Prof Patricia Palmer, Dept of English (FACSP)</li> </ul>
PRESIDENT'S AWARDS FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE
<i>Individual</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Alice Normoyle, Admissions Office</li> <li>» Kathleen Cox, Student Services</li> <li>» Lynn Conlon, Bursar's Office</li> </ul>
<i>Team</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Department of Chemistry Technical Officers</li> <li>» Maynooth University Security Office - Day Team</li> </ul>
PRESIDENT'S AWARDS FOR SERVICE INNOVATION
<i>Individual</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Ria Collery Walsh, Dept of Chemistry</li> </ul>
<i>Team</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Library's Evidence Based Acquisitions (EBA)</li> <li>» Launchpad – Maynooth Access Programme</li> </ul>



Dr Ciarán Mac an Bhaird, Dept of Mathematics & Statistics University



Dr Patricia Kennon, Froebel Dept of Primary and Early Childhood Education



Dr Seamus McLoone, Dept of Electronic Engineering



Dr Gerard McCarthy, Dept of Geography, ICARUS



Dr Ozgur Bayram, Dept of Biology, Human Health Institute



Ria Collery Walsh, Dept of Chemistry



Dr John Paul Newman, Dept of History



Prof Kath Browne, Dept of Geography



Alice Normoyle, Admissions Office



Kathleen Cox, Student Services



Lynn Conlon, Bursar's Office



Critical Skills Team - Dean of Teaching and Learning



Space Optics Group - Dept of Experimental Physics



Department of Chemistry Technical Officers



MU Security - Day Team



Library's Evidence Based Acquisitions (EBA)



Launchpad – Maynooth Access Programme