

Humanities Institute/ Library shared fellowships

General:

The Maynooth University Arts and Humanities Institute, together with the University Library are delighted to announce the establishment of three visiting fellowships for 2020-21. The objective of this dedicated fellowship scheme is both to facilitate greater research engagement in the Library's unique and distinctive collections and to further the research mission of the Institute. Prospective researchers will explore new areas of scholarship and inquiry within the rich collections of Maynooth University, with a focus, this year, on history, literature, religion and language.

Conditions:

Each fellowship is worth €1750 and is intended for transport to and from and accommodation in Maynooth.

The fellow will spend at least one week on Maynooth University campus, during the period June 2020 until Friday 24th September 2021.

Successful candidates will be provided with an office space in the Institute/Library. They are expected to be free of other significant professional obligations during their stay, and to focus their research on the collections outlined in their proposal. Fellows will also enjoy access to additional resources at Maynooth including the Library's extensive print and online holdings.

Fellows will create opportunities to engage with colleagues in Maynooth and should share their findings with the Maynooth scholarly community and further afield. Possibilities include seminars / public presentations / workshops aimed at faculty, students, staff, and the general public. Blog posts on the MU Library Treasures Blog would be welcome. Journal articles and book chapters based on their research in these collections are encouraged.

While applications which propose scholarly engagement with any of the Library Special Collections will be considered, please note that preference will be given to proposals which promise particularly innovative interrogation of these collections and / or those which consider the following key collections:

History of land and property:

Belmont Mills Archive

Established in 1760, the Belmont Mill is in the town of Belmont, County Offaly. This collection consists of the archival papers of the mill during its ownership by the Perry family from 1854 to 1997. Documents include family and business correspondence, employee records and financial accounts.

Burrowes Collection

A collection of deeds and indentures relating to the Borrows or Burrows family (Sir Walter, Sir Kildare & descendants) of Gilltown, Co. Kildare and their property in Kildare, Dublin & Queen's County. Dated between 1720 and 1840, this collection includes leases, mortgages, tenancies and marriage settlements.

History of the nineteenth century:

Marquis of Sligo Archive

A collection of letters sent by one of the greatest Grand Tour travellers of the early 19th century, Howe Peter Browne, the second Marquess of Sligo. They relate to two periods:

(a) His travels to the Mediterranean between 1809-1811 during which he met up and travelled with his friend, Lord Byron, who was writing his epic poem *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* at the time. On these travels he also met Lady Hester Stanhope, an intrepid traveller in the Middle East. This period also involved the Marquess of Sligo, excavating and appropriating Greek antiquities in competition with Lord Elgin both in the Parthenon and in Mycenae.

There are 43 letters in this section of the Sligo Papers.

(b) His travels in Europe following the final stages of the Napoleonic War between 1813-1814 when he was a bystander at the crucial battle of Leipzig, a commentator in Paris when the Parisian mob pulled down a statue of Napoleon, and a friend of Caroline, Princess of Wales, wife of the future George IV. There are eighty-five letters in this section of the Sligo Papers.

Wardell Archive

A collection consisting of the papers of the Wardell family, a landed family with a long tradition of serving in the military and with connections in Canada, Britain and Ireland. The collection, dating from the nineteenth century includes letters, photographs and sketches of camps and battlefields from the Anglo-Zulu war in South –Africa. The collection also includes papers of Professor John Wardell (1878 -1957) (TCD) including his research into the family history.

Sadlier Archive

This archive consists of 34 letters written by John Sadleir (1813-1856), M.P and Banker, to his colleague Michael Dunne (J.P and M.P. 1850-1865), of Stradbally, county Laois. The letters concern both national and local politics, including Sadleir's appointment to the junior ministry, the Tenant League's efforts to see him defeated in the election, the introduction of income tax to Ireland and Gladstone's budget.

History and Religion:

Salamanca Archive

The archive of the Irish College in Salamanca was deposited in St Patricks College, Maynooth on the closure of the Irish college in 1952. It contains documents spanning from the late sixteenth to the mid-twentieth century. In total, the collection contains the archives of the Irish Colleges in Salamanca, Santiago de Compostela, Seville, Madrid, Alcala de Henares and Lisbon and also contains some material from the English College in Valladolid. The collection contains over 50,000 individual items which include student oaths, rectors' private papers, accounts, leases, books of income and expenditure and material concerning mortgages and annuities.

Hibernian Bible Society

The Hibernian Bible Society archive contains material relating to the foundation and activities of the society. The earliest item is a volume of annual reports of the HBS, with the earliest in the volume being from 1806. As well as minute books, annual reports and financial reports, there is documentation relating to projects undertaken by the society. There is also a series of lectures held by the NBSI, called the Bedell-Boyle lectures, which dates from 1991 to 2013.

Ireland in the 20th century: society and literature:

Desmond Forristal Archive

The Reverend Desmond Forristal (1930-2012) was known for his work as a scholar, author, playwright, and TV producer. The Forristal documents reflect his involvement in both religious and literary circles, and include correspondence, essays, lectures, audio visual material, scripts, research notebooks, reviews, sheet music, programmes, invoices, music catalogues, photographs and press coverage relating to Forristal's work

Pearse Hutchinson Archive

This collection consists of the papers of distinguished multilingual writer Pearse Hutchinson (1927-2012). It includes family papers and photographs, drafts of Hutchinson's poetry, both published and unpublished, and his translations of the work of Catalan and Galician writers, correspondence, scripts for Hutchinson's radio programme *Óró Domhnaigh* and his weekly magazine column *Tagairt*, which ran for twenty-seven years.

Teresa Deevy Archive

Irish playwright Teresa Deevy (1894-1963) is known principally for her work with the Abbey Theatre in the 1930s. This collection consists of a selection of documents relating to Deevy's work and legacy and includes correspondence, theatre programmes and scripts, some of which are heavily annotated by Deevy. In addition, the collection includes newspaper cuttings and reviews and copies of some of the published works Deevy contributed to.

Northern Ireland Troubles Collection

A collection consisting of a variety of material, mainly from the 1970s and, notably, was collected without bias or ideological affiliation. It represents a remarkably comprehensive archive in terms of breadth, with representation of all aspects of the Troubles. It includes posters and ephemera, many of which appear to be unique, as well as rare pamphlets and grey literature. In addition, the collection contains a variety of books and periodicals, with a notable collection of fiction relating to the period.

Other collections for consideration

St Canice's Cathedral Library Collection

This collection, which is known as the Otway-Maurice library, constitutes one of the oldest diocesan library collections in Ireland and contains over 3,000 titles dating from 1483 until the mid-nineteenth century. It was founded on the death of Bishop Thomas Otway in 1693 and was supplemented with the printed books of Bishop Edward Maurice in 1756. The collection contains approximately 300 books printed before the year 1600 and four items of incunabula (pre-1500 printing) along with several medieval manuscript fragments.

Gaelic Manuscripts

This collection consists of a very large and important body of manuscripts, representing a rich tradition of history, religion and literature from the early 15th to the late 19th century.