

UNIVERSITY NEWS



Maynooth University Named Among Top 100 Young Universities in the World



Maynooth University is recognised as one of the leading new universities in the world, ranked 68th in the latest Times Higher Education (THE) 'Top 150 under 50' list

This success follows on from Maynooth's extremely strong performances in other recent THE rankings, including being named among the top 400 universities in the world, the top 200 European universities, and being recognised as one of the top 200 universities for international connections and outlook.

Universities are ranked according to a range of criteria, including research income achieved; reputation for teaching; numbers of PhDs awarded; the number of scholarly publications and their quality evidence by citations; and the numbers of international staff and students. Maynooth was ranked 68th in the top 150.

Maynooth University President, Professor Philip Nolan, said: "While rankings of this nature are subjective and problematic, it is a welcome endorsement of the performance of the entire University; it shows yet again that our research and teaching are excellent by international standards, and recognised as such by our peers.

Letters of 1916: A Year in the Life

Researchers at Maynooth University launched an online archive of letters written 100 years ago



Comdt Padraic Kennedy, Officer in Charge, Military Archives; Prof Philip Nolan, President, Maynooth University; and Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland

The Letters of 1916 project has crowd-sourced letters and their transcriptions from memory institutions and members of the public in Ireland's first public humanities project. Letters written between 1 November, 1915 and 31 October, 1916 were digitised to create this unique collection, which will be of great interest not only to historians and genealogists, but to anyone who wants to find out what people were writing in Ireland at the time, as well as how people outside of Ireland viewed events here. Moreover, since each letter is available online, the project transports present day readers to a different time, providing a rare opportunity to be, however fleetingly, part of the world they inhabited. Letters of 1916 is making visible a new perspective on events which took place a century ago. The collection contributes to public understanding of what it was like to live an ordinary life through extraordinary times.

In this issue...

Leading Law Firm Sponsors Unique Module in Law Degree



Ian O'Herlihy, Mason Hayes & Curran with student, Colin McCarthy, who achieved top marks in 'Innovation in Professional Practice'

Business law firm, Mason Hayes & Curran, announced its sponsorship of *Innovation in Professional Practice*, a unique module in the Bachelor of Law degree at Maynooth University

Designed by Dr Peter Robbins, Director of the EDEN Centre for Entrepreneurship, Design and Innovation, in collaboration with the Maynooth University Department of Law, the module is a unique and valuable opportunity for law students to think about the future of law and the future of lawyers.

Speaking at the announcement, Dr Robbins said: "Many students graduating with a law degree will have, during their career, the opportunity to be self-employed as a barrister or solicitor. This module gives them the chance to think about how to make their particular value proposition distinctive and compelling in the overall legal ecosystem."

Highlighting the importance of the sponsorship for Mason Hayes & Curran, Ian O'Herlihy, Partner and Head of Education Law, said: "The creative element of this truly unique law module will enhance the learning and development opportunities for current and future Maynooth University students. The *Innovation in Professional Practice* module will benefit students as well as employers in the Irish and international legal sectors. We are delighted to be involved in the sponsorship of this innovative module and the EDEN Centre for Entrepreneurship, Design and Innovation at Maynooth University."

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@nuim.ie.

Highest Ever First Preference Applications for Maynooth University

Maynooth University has experienced its highest ever level of demand, with more than 3,250 students first preference applications this year

The figure represents a 5% increase from last year. Maynooth University's Bachelor of Arts is now the most popular course in the country, with first preference applications increasing by 16%.

With overall applications to the CAO growing by 2% year on year, this represents a significant first-in-sector achievement for the University, which launched its new undergraduate curriculum at the beginning of the 2015-16 academic year. The model adopted by Maynooth University is unique in the Irish university sector, offering greater flexibility, choice and breadth in degree programmes and expanding opportunities for students to study across disciplines. Maynooth University also made the decision to significantly reduce its number of entry routes—from more than 50 to approximately 30. These broader entry routes greatly simplify the



CAO process for students, giving them more time to make the best decisions for their future.

Commenting on the figures, Professor Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, said: "This is a real milestone for Maynooth University. Last year, we presented a fresh proposition

to Irish students in the form of the new curriculum, and we have received a resounding endorsement for it. It is a tremendous vindication for the bold steps we took to offer students a unique opportunity to have greater flexibility and more control over their education. It is Maynooth University's dedication to listening to students and delivering a different model of education that it tailored to their needs—and the needs of the job market they will encounter upon graduation—that has made us Ireland's fastest growing university."

Fáilte Ireland CARA Award to Prof Ó hUiginn

Prof Ruairí Ó hUiginn was among 79 'Conference Ambassadors' honoured by Fáilte Ireland at its inaugural Conference Ambassador Recognition Awards ceremony at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham on 21 January

Prof Ruairí Ó hUiginn, Roinn na Nua Ghaeilge, was nominated for the award as an organiser of the International Congress of Celtic Studies held on campus in August 2011. The conference attracted more than 600 delegates and 300 papers were delivered.

Fáilte Ireland's Conference Ambassador Programme was developed to support individuals deliver



Pictured (l-r); Shaun Quinn, Chief Executive, Fáilte Ireland, and Prof Ruairí Ó hUiginn, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge

international conferences to Ireland. The programme provides relevant impartial assistance and financial support to anyone seeking to bring an international conference to Ireland, from the initial bidding stage all the way through to the marketing and promotion of the event.

Maynooth University Holds Public Consultation on Campus Master Plan

Prof Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, recently completed the consultation process on the Master Plan with a series of staff meetings and events

The University held a month-long public exhibition of the plans in the foyers of the Library and Iontas buildings, a series of "World Café" events, and several campus committee meetings on the plan which were designed to provide staff with an opportunity to contribute their ideas and observations on the future of the University campus. The process also includes two Staff Town Hall events, with the final set for Friday, 22 April at 10 am in the Iontas Lecture Theatre. Additionally, the process has garnered important feedback from



students, colleagues from St. Patrick's College Maynooth, the local authority and other groups.

The Campus Master Plan website (under the 'Engage with Us' tab on the home page) will be active throughout, and anyone can raise questions or make comments by e-mail to campus.masterplan@nuim.ie; these e-mails will be answered, and the questions, comments and responses will be published on the website. The campus Master Plan will be presented to Governing Authority for approval at its June 2016 meeting.

Maynooth Academics Receive National Teaching Awards

Ireland's national awards honour the best higher education teachers in the country

Dr David Wraith, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and the TEN (Transformative Engagement Network) team from Maynooth University have been recognised as outstanding teachers and supporters of learning by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

The TEN Team—comprising Prof Anne Ryan, Dr Bernie Grummell, Dr Conor Murphy, Prof Martin Downes, and Maggie Noone—received a special commendation for 'Transcending Knowledge Transfer.' Dr Wraith's work is under the research cluster 'Mathematical Structures and Data Analytics.'

Institutionally-led and established to identify exceptional teachers who focus on learning impact, the 2015 winners were identified from a wide range of disciplines. They show that brilliant teaching is a complex challenge, involving a mix of high-level subject expertise, a strong focus on students and innovative approaches to teaching in a world that is increasingly digital.

The National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education presented 16 awards to outstanding teachers and supporters of learning from 11 higher education institutions.

Dr David Wraith, Dept of Mathematics and Statistics, and Prof Sarah Moore, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education



Distinguished Visiting Scholar Visits Department of Mathematics and Statistics



Professor Boris Botvinnik, University of Oregon; Dr David Wraith, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; and Dr Mark Walsh, Wichita State University, Kansas. Dr Walsh is a Maynooth alumnus and former MSc student of Dr Wraith and PhD student of Professor Botvinnik

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics played host to Prof Boris Botvinnik, University of Oregon, one of the world's leading figures working at the interface of Geometry and Topology

Prof Boris Botvinnik's two-week visit was funded by the Maynooth University Distinguished Visiting Scholar scheme, and he is the second academic to receive such an award. During his visit, Prof Botvinnik delivered a master class on recent developments in positive scalar curvature and conducted research with his Maynooth University sponsor, Dr David Wraith.

Maynooth University Chamber Choir World Tour

The Maynooth University Chamber Choir, which made history last July when it became the first Irish choir to lift the coveted Pavarotti Trophy as "Choir of the World," performed in the historic St Patrick's Cathedral in New York on 15 March

The choir captivated its audience in the iconic cathedral at the heart of 5th avenue with a performance that constituted one of the highlights of its three-week World Tour. The tour included performances in eight cities, including New York, Boston, Tucson, and Denver in the United States and Shanghai, Changzhou, and Guangzhou in China.

The 36-member choir, which is comprised of students from across Maynooth University, had previously kicked off its World Tour with a concert at St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin on Saturday, 5 March that attracted 800 people.

Another highlight of the tour included a performance at the Easter Sunrise Service on the rim of the Grand Canyon in Arizona on Sunday, 27 March. This annual event dates back to 1935 and draws an audience of more than 1,000 people.

Maynooth University President Philip Nolan said: "I am truly delighted for Michael Dawson and the Maynooth University Chamber Choir. Listening to them perform it all seems very effortless, but there is a tremendous amount of hard work and dedication that goes into it, as well as remarkable talent.



Maynooth University Chamber Choir on Times Square, New York

They are wonderful ambassadors for the University and for Ireland. Maynooth University has a rich tradition of fostering talent across the arts, and our Department of Music, of which Michael is a product, is a thriving centre with over 550 students currently benefiting from the exceptional resources and teaching that is offered there."

Excellence in Junior Cert Business Studies Recognised

The Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting; School of Business; and Department of Law jointly hosted Maynooth University's inaugural presentation ceremony to publically recognise excellence in the 2015 Junior Certificate Higher Level Business Studies examination

The event was run in conjunction with the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland (BSTAI). The event acknowledged schools teaching and promotion of excellence in the discipline, while applauding students who achieved excellence in their 2015 higher level Business Studies junior certificate exam.

Over 95 schools gathered in the Aula Maxima to celebrate excellence achieved by more than 525 students. These schools were represented on the night by teacher and student representatives.



Pictured at the presentation ceremony are (l-r): Ultan Henry, Principal St Vincent's Dundalk and President of BSTAI; Klara Hjalmsers; Professor Philip Nolan, President Maynooth University; and Linda McCusker, Teacher

New Accreditation Pathway for GPA Madden Leadership Programme

Maynooth University recently announced the accreditation of the Gaelic Players Association (GPA) Jim Madden Leadership Programme, designed to develop leadership skills amongst county Gaelic football, hurling, ladies football and camogie players



Pictured are (l-r): Anna Geary, WPGA; Prof Philip Nolan, President; and Stephen McDonnell, Cork hurler

The Leadership Programme is individually tailored to athletes performing at an elite level, with each student working with a professional life coach, addressing their development needs and helping them reach their personal goals.

The students will attend workshops in personal development, interpersonal skills, and group skills, designed to assess their leadership strengths and weaknesses. They also will attend a series of Leadership masterclasses with experts from business, community, and sport which are designed to explore the critical behaviours, attributes, and capabilities that foster key leadership skills. The accreditation pathway, leading to a qualification in professional leadership will be offered through the Department of Education at Maynooth. The Programme was made possible by the support of Michael Madden and his family, who dedicated the new curriculum to the memory of their late father, Jim, a tireless grassroots GAA and community activist in Tipperary.

Letters of 1916 *(continued from front page)*

Project leader, Professor Susan Schreibman, explains: "Letters of 1916 has to date collected more than 2,500 letters from more than 20 institutions and 45 private collections. These letters cover a variety of topics ranging from the Easter Rising to art, culture, family life and the Great War. Through these letters the project is bringing to life the written words, the last words, the unspoken words and the

forgotten words. It is an online collection for the public, created by the public, which is adding a new perspective to life in this period, a confidential glimpse into early 20th century Ireland and the politics of the time."

See letters1916.maynoothuniversity.ie

Silenced Stories – The Protestant Experience of 1916

The Protestant experience of 1916 is not often considered in the marking of that significant milestone in Irish history

However, it was the theme of 'Silenced Stories – The Protestant Experience of 1916,' a conference opened by President Philip Nolan and held in Renshan Hall in November. The event was organised by The Centre for Studies in Irish Protestantism.

Although Irish Protestantism has many historic links with various aspects of Irish Nationalism, by 1916 the nationalist movement had become overwhelmingly, although not exclusively, a Catholic phenomenon. In the years that followed, Catholicism and the Irish identity became ever more inextricably intertwined.

As the country marks the centenary of 1916 and the journey towards Irish independence, the conference explored stories from a group that is sometimes overlooked in the story of that time. Dr Tony Walsh, Director of the Centre for Studies in Irish Protestantism, said, "As the stories of our history are told, largely inadvertently, alternative or other experiences of Irishness and identity have



often been overlooked. We wanted to create a conversation that explored the experience of the Irish Protestant minorities of 1916 and the years that followed, particularly elements within Protestantism that are rarely mentioned in popular stories about the Rising and its aftermath."

More than 50 people from all parts of the island attended the conference, including senior members of the Orange Order. Speakers included Prof Roddy Cowie, QUB; Dr Ben Levitas, Goldsmiths University; and Dr Miriam Moffitt, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra.

The conference was about reflecting on the past with a view to building a better, stronger

future, and reflecting on the experience of minorities of all kinds in a world that often doesn't seem to see them. The conference was organised by Dr Tony Walsh, Dr Deirdre Nuttall and Rev Earl Storey and funded by the Department for Foreign Affairs. Further information can be found at www.journeyinselfbelief.org

Opening Conversations: Achieving Equality for LGBT people in Irish Schools

Opening Conversations was organised by the Department of Education to promote equality for LGBT people in Irish schools

The event was prompted by the national conversation concerning the recent Marriage Equality referendum. The audience heard that schools, while being open to having honest conversations about equality, do not feel prepared for recent legislative and policy changes concerning LGBT issues. The Department's aim was to contribute to schools' existing efforts to support creative, sensitive and especially student-centered approaches to inclusion in their schools.

Attended by more than 120 school leaders, teachers and guidance counselors, the programme offered a rich array of events and activities, including policy, practice and research inputs, plenary discussions, a number of creative workshops by students and educators, as well as a staged reading of the Mark Ravenhill play *Citizenship* performed by the Kildare Youth Theatre. In addition to being informative, the event was celebratory and characterised by an openness to share stories from schools concerning LGBT students, teachers and parents. It is intended that the event marks the start of an ongoing engagement with schools on LGBT issues and wider issues of equality.



Sandra Irwin-Gowran, GLEN; Dr Fergus Ryan, Department of Law; and Angela Rickard, Department of Education

Library Hosts Domhnall Ua Buachalla Exhibition

An exhibition of documents, photographs and artefacts relating to Maynooth Volunteer Domhnall Ua Buachalla opened in the foyer of the John Paul II Library on Thursday, 10 March

'Domhnall Ua Buachalla: An Exhibition' showcased material on loan from the Buckley family. The exhibition is open to the public and will run until late April 2016.



Members of the Buckley family with Barbara McCormack, Special Collections and Archives, Russell Library; Prof Bernie Mahon, Vice President for Research; Rev Prof Michael Mullaney, Vice-President, St Patrick's College, Maynooth; and Susan Leyden, Archivist, St Patrick's College, Maynooth

Maynooth College and the Easter Rising

An exhibition relating to Maynooth College and the Easter Rising was launched on Wednesday, 2 March in the historic Russell Library as part of Maynooth University's programme of commemorative events

'Maynooth College and 1916: An Exhibition' is a collaboration between Maynooth University Library and St Patrick's College Maynooth which aims to tell the story of Maynooth College during the Easter Rising. The exhibition is running in the Russell Library until June 2016; it then transfers to the John Paul II Library for the months of July and August.



Professor Philip Nolan and Monsignor Hugh Connolly with exhibition curators Dr Eamon Darcy, Susan Leyden and Barbara McCormack at the launch of 'Maynooth College and 1916'

Connect Event Links Business with Research

There has never been a better time for Irish businesses to collaborate with universities, according to Dr John Scanlan, Director of Commercialisation at Maynooth University

Dr Scanlan was speaking at Connect 2016, where he addressed more than 170 entrepreneurs and industry partners about how they could emulate the success of companies, such as Sigmoid Pharma and Treemetrics, and benefit from partnerships with universities.

The biennial Connect event reflects the importance that Maynooth University places on commercialisation and its role as a driver of economic growth in Dublin and the Midlands region. Three recent Maynooth University spin-outs alone have raised more than €20 million in investment and created 50 jobs. Last year, the University opened its new €20.6 million

Eolas building. The state-of-the art facility serves as a "research powerhouse" that drives innovative teaching methods, fosters collaboration with industry, and deepens the university's culture of 'spin-out' companies. MaynoothWorks, the business incubation centre that is based in the Eolas building, is now home to ten client companies.



Pictured at Connect 2016, which links industry and university researchers, are Enda Keane, CEO of Treemetrics, and Dr Tim McCarthy, NCG and MUSSI researcher. Treemetrics, in collaboration with Maynooth University, has developed a revolutionary forest management system based upon cutting-edge technological developments

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2016

Cuireadh tús le céiliúrtha Sheachtain na Gaeilge ar an Luan, 7ú Márta i bhforhalla na leabharlainne

Chun tús a chur le Seachtain na Gaeilge chomh maith le céiliúradh 1916, chuir Oifig na Gaeilge in éineacht le Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge agus Cuallacht Choilm Cille dráma aonair eachtrúil léirithe ag Diarmuid de Faoite dar teideal Páraic Ó Conaire – an tAiséirí ar siúl san ollscoil ar an 29ú Feabhra. Bronnadh cúig réalt ar an dráma iontach seo nuair a céad léiríodh é sa bhliain 2001. Baineann an dráma seo le saol agus saothar an Chonairigh chomh maith leis an tréimhse staire sin go léir: bunú Chonradh na Gaeilge, an athbheochan Cheilteach, an Éirí Amach, an Sóisialachas, Cogadh na gCarad agus bunú an tSaorstát. Ní léacht polaitiúil atá sa dráma ach dráma ildánach atá ann, é fisiciúil, físiúil, foclach, dhá theangach, tragóideach, greannmhar, measúil, aonarach le hos cionn triochoa carachtair ann san am céanna.



Seoladh Sheachtain na Gaeilge san ollscoil (ó chlér/ar chúil) Iar-mhic léinn agus polaiteoir áitiúil Naoise Ó Cearúil, Seán Ó Riain Cathaoirleach Choiste na Gaeilge, Laura Connaghton Ceann leabharlainne, Eimear Ní Dhroighneáin Oifigeach Gaeilge na hollscoile, Brenda Ní Ghairbhí Bainisteoir Sheachtain na Gaeilge Oifigiúil. (ó chlér/chun tosaigh) Coiste na Cuallachta, Caoimhe, Deirdre, Clíodhna, Darragh agus Kevin



Oifigeach Gaeilge na hollscoile Eimear Ní Dhroighneáin (sa lár) ag céiliúradh 1ú agus 2ú áit i gcomórtas an Ard Fheis le mic léinn na Cuallachta, Clíodhna Ní Dhufaigh (ar chlér) Oifigeach Gaeilge in Aontas na Mac Léinn agus Deirdre Ní Chearúil (ar dheis) Uachtarán Cuallacht Choilm Cille



Diarmuid de Faoite mar "Pháirc Ó Conaire"

Bhí aifreann álainn in Aireagal Naomh Seosamh Dé Máirt ag meánlae leis an Athair Noel O'Sullivan. Ghlac na mic léinn páirt sa léitheoireacht agus chan siad cúpla amhrán. Chomh maith leis an Aifreann, bhí léacht ón Ollamh Ruairí Ó hUiginn ar scéalta Béaloidis.

Ar an gCéadaoin, bhí léacht ar an údar Flann O'Brien agus tháinig triúr chun cainte; Breandán Ó Conaire, Ian Ó Caoimh agus Siún Ní Dhuinn. Rinne an ollscoil céiliúradh ar 50 bliain bhás Uí Nualláin chomh maith leis an 75 bliain ó scríobh sé an leabhar An Béal Bocht. D'fhreastail idir mhic léinn agus bhaill foirne ar an ócáid speisialta seo.

Déardaoin, bhí an roinn ceoil ag céiliúradh Sheachtain na Gaeilge le hOifig na Gaeilge i Halla Riverstown. D'eagraigh an roinn ceoil siompóisiam traidisiúnta chun céiliúradh a dhéanamh ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus pósadh a dhéanamh idir na ranna éagsúla. Cuireadh tús le taispeántas iontach ar Dhomhnall Ua Buachalla sa leabharlann tráthnóna freisin.

Tháinig RITH 2016 isteach geataí Chill Choca na hOllscoile ar an Aoine 4ú Márta agus tacaíonn Ollscoil Mhá Nuad go mór leis an Rith agus leis an nGaeilge a spreagadh i measc an phobail agus go náisiúnta.

Cuireadh mórphictiúr in airde i bhfoirgneamh na nEalaíon le déanaí. Molann Oifig na Gaeilge an ceiliúradh atá déanta ar an nGaeilge ann agus an comhoibriú a rinneadh mar chuid den tionscadal. Thug an mórphictiúr seo spreagadh don Dr Tadhg Ó Dúshláine, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, peann a chur le pár agus amhrán agus dán dar teideal Mo Bhalla Iontais a scríobh. Is féidir teacht ar na saothair iomlána ar shuíomh Oifig na Gaeilge faoi Nuacht.



As Tobar an Doibhlinigh *arna thiomsú ag Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh*

Ar an Luan, 14 Márta, sheol Ambasadóir na hÉireann chun na Fraince, Geraldine Byrne Nason, As Tobar an Doibhlinigh, arna thiomsú ag an Dr Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh, sa Centre Culturel Irlandais, i bPáras

Cnuasach atá sa leabhar seo de shamplaí ionadaíocha de scríbhneoireacht Bhreandán Uí Dhoibhlin agus é i mbun pinn le breis agus seasca bliain anuas, iad leagtha amach i gcúig earráil, mar atá, Cúrsaí Critice, Cúrsaí Aistritheoireachta, Seanmóireacht agus Óráidíocht, Scríbhneoireacht Chruthaitheach, agus Aistí Ilchineálacha. I measc na dtéamaí a fheictear ag fí trí na sleachta sa leabhar tá ceisteanna féiniúlachta agus cultúir go mór chun tosaigh agus an Doibhlineach ag impí ar mhuintir na hÉireann an oidhreacht as ar fáisceadh sinn a aithint, a admháil agus a chur chun cinn. Mar a dúirt an tAmbasadóir ina hóráid, is tráthúil an ní é cnuasach den chineál seo a bheith ar an bhfód i mbliana agus sinn ag machnamh athuair ar cheisteanna cultúir le linn mhórchomórachd 1916.

Ní díreach seoladh leabhair a bhí i gceist ar an oíche ach ceiliúradh agus comóradh ar dhuine de mhórscoláirí na Fraince agus na Gaeilge, an Mons. Breandán Ó Doibhlin, Ollamh Emeritus le Fraincis. Chuige sin, bhí roinnt cainteoirí difriúla i gceist agus stiúthóir an Centre Culturel, Nora Hickey M'Sichili, ag feidhmiú mar bhean an tí. Chuir Nora fáilte roimh an slua breá a bhí i láthair sular iarr sí ar an Ambasadóir tús a chur i gceart le himeachtaí an tráthnóna. Dhírigh an tAmbasadóir, ina cuid cainte, ar shaibhreas oideachas Mhá Nuad agus ar mhórghréasán Alumni na hOllscoile. Labhair sí mar gheall ar an gceangal stairiúil idir Má Nuad agus Páras, ansin, agus ar ról an Doibhlinigh i gcosaint an cheangail sin agus i mbunú an Ionaigh Chultúrtha, sular sheol sí As Tobar an Doibhlinigh. An tAthair Dwayne Gavin, ball eile d'Alumni Mhá Nuad agus séiplíneach Choláiste na nÉireannach, a labhair ansin agus é ag díriú ar

phobal na hÉireann i bPáras, ar thábhacht an Ionaigh Chultúrtha dóibh agus ar a chuid cuimhní féin ar an iar-Ollamh le Fraincis le linn a chuid staidéir féin i Má Nuad. Bhí tábhacht an leabhair mar eithne na cainte a thug an Dr Tadhg Ó Dúshláine uaidh agus béim faoi leith á leagan aige ar éirimiúlacht scríbhneoireachta an Doibhlinigh agus ar an saothar luachmhar a bhí curtha le chéile ag an Dr Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh. Tracey, í féin, a labhair ansin agus d'inis sí scéal an tsaothair don slua agus an chaoi a raibh clár saothair Bhreandáin á thabhairt suas chun dáta aici nuair a bhraith sí dualgas uirthi a shaibhreas a athfhógairt. Agus an ball is mó ar deireadh, an Mons. Breandán Ó Doibhlin. Ghabh sé a bhuíochas croíúil leis an Ambasadóir, leis an slua a bhí i láthair, le Tracey, as an saothar a chur le chéile, agus le toscaireacht Mhá Nuad a d'eagraigh agus a thug faoin turas go Páras leis.

Bhí an seoladh seo i measc imeachtaí oifigiúla Ollscoil Mhá Nuad le haghaidh mhórchomórachd 1916. An tráthnóna roimh an seoladh, bhí Breandán agus toscaireacht Mhá Nuad ina n-aíonna chun dinnéir in Ambasáid na hÉireann thall.



Mons. Breandán Ó Doibhlin, Ollamh Emeritus le Fraincis agus Ambasadóir na hÉireann chun na Fraince, Geraldine Byrne Nason

The Communiversality Continues to Grow



Pictured are the participants of Communiversality from Coolock, Dundalk and Drogheda, with staff of the Department of Adult and Community Education, including, Dr Tony Walsh, Head of Department; Derek Barter and Kay Loughlin. The Communiversality, which is part of the Maynooth University's Campus Engage programme, is a partnership between Maynooth University, local leader partnership companies and local libraries now in its fifth year.

Seomra na Gaeilge Seolta go hOifigiúil



An tUachtarán Pilib Ó Nualláin le mic léinn na hOllscoile

Sheol Uachtarán Ollscoil Mhá Nuad, An tOllamh Pilib Ó Nualláin, Seomra Gaeilge na hOllscoile go hoifigiúil roimh Nollaig

Spás sóisialta ar leith atá ann inar féidir le pobal na hOllscoile an Ghaeilge a labhairt. Bhí idir mhic léinn agus bhaill foirne i láthair ag an ócáid speisialta seo. Is ionad buail isteach é Seomra na Gaeilge atá lonnaithe i bhfoirgneamh na nEalaíon ar an gcampas thuaidh. Casann Cumann Gaelach na hOllscoile, Cuallacht Cholmcille, ann go minic. Dúirt an tOllamh Pilib Ó Nualláin, Uachtarán Ollscoil Mhá Nuad, go gcuireann sé gliondar croí air daoine óga a fheiceáil i Seomra na Gaeilge, seomra atá lonnaithe i gcoirlár an champais, spás geal agus fáilteach agus áit a labhraítear an Ghaeilge le háthas agus le cairdeas.

“Nuair a tháinig mé go Má Nuad ceithre bliana ó shin, baineadh siar mé le háthas mar go raibh an Ghaeilge chomh mór chun fóir agus feiceálach ar an gcampas agus mar go raibh an-spéis ag pobal na hOllscoile sa Ghaeilge. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil leis na glúine – baill foirne agus mic léinn – a chuir le gaisce na Gaeilge anseo san Ollscoil le blianta,” a dúirt sé.

Chuir an tOllamh Seán Ó Riain, Cathaoirleach Choiste na Gaeilge, leis an méid sin. Dúirt sé: “Beidh Seomra na Gaeilge mar acmhainn iontach do phobal Ollscoil Má Nuad, bíodh beagán nó mórán Gaeilge acu.”

Thug Aontas na Mac Léinn tacaíocht don tionscadal. Labhair Uachtarán Aontas na Mac Léinn, Matt Ó Baoill, faoi na cuimhní cinn atá aige ar Sheomra na Gaeilge. Dúirt sé: “Bhí an-craic agamsa sa Seomra thar na blianta agus ba mhór an onóir é a bheith bainteach leis an tionscadal seo.”

International Award for Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG)

As part of the international conference of Language Commissioners held in Galway in March, Maynooth University Language Centre has been awarded the ALTE (Association of Language Testers in Europe) Q-mark for its series of Irish language proficiency exams, Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG)



Emyr Davies, Cathaoirleach, Association of Language Testers in Europe le Siuán Ní Mhaoinigh

The ALTE Q-mark is a new quality indicator which member organisations can use to show that their exams have passed a rigorous audit and meet all 17 of ALTE's quality standards. The Q-mark allows test users to be confident that an exam is backed by appropriate processes, criteria and standards.

TEG has had more than 4,000 applicants since its commencement in 2005. The five examinations are designed to provide learners with realistic and clear learning

objectives, providing motivation along with an accurate assessment of language competency from level to level - TEG Bonnleibhéal 1 (A1); TEG Bonnleibhéal 2 (A2); TEG Meánleibhéal 1 (B1); TEG Meánleibhéal 2 (B2) and TEG Ardleibhéal 1 (C1).

TEG exams are broadly-based on the Common European Framework for Languages (Council of Europe, 2001), and are recognised around the world. TEG also is used by employers in many third level and Irish-language organisations. TEG applicants can apply for full or partial certification (oral exam only).

Anne Gallagher, Director of the Language Centre, stated: “This international recognition is an additional affirmation for learners, employers and other stakeholders with regard to the standard and reliability of TEG examinations.” She thanked Foras na Gaeilge and the Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta for their continued support of TEG.

Departmental Administrators' Forum

The Departmental Administrators' Forum is dedicated to the exchange of expertise relating to all aspects of the Departmental Administrators' role within the University

The goal of the forum is to maximise communication between academic department administrative staff and other departments and offices of the university; to continue to improve departmental administration processes and procedures; and to contribute to and maintain an online resource for self-driven learning.

The Departmental Administrators' Forum meets three times per year and the next session will be held on Thursday, 12 May 2016.

There are four members of the Steering Committee: Bernadette Curtis, Applied Social Studies, Bernadette.curtis@nuim.ie; Neasa Hogan, Geography, neasa.hogan@nuim.ie; Breda Gibney, Adult Education, breda.gibney@nuim.ie and Gemma Middleton, An Foras Feasa, gemma.middleton@nuim.ie

Academic Department Administrators interested in coming along can contact any of the above.

Library Publications Festival Goes Paperless

Professor Philip Nolan, Maynooth University President, officially launched the Library's Annual Publications Festival on Tuesday, 26 January in the Library foyer

The festival showcased research in the Faculty of Science & Engineering – in electronic format - and focused on Open Access and Impact. The President praised the Library for its role in facilitating and supporting scholarly communication, championing Open Access and the continued development of the institutional repository. Staff and student researchers submitted electronic posters for display at the launch. Dr Fiona Lyddy, Dean of Science & Engineering, awarded a prize to Eimantė Kalinauskaitė for the best student poster submitted.



Cathal McCauley, Librarian; Professor Philip Nolan, President; Lorna Dodd, Senior Librarian, Learning, Research and Information Services; and Dr Fiona Lyddy, Dean of Science and Engineering

List of Members of Governing Authority by Panel 2015-2019

The term of office of the fourth Governing Authority ended on October 29, 2015

Elections for the fifth Governing Authority, which has a term of four years, took place in October 2015. The following is the list of members:

Chairperson	Baroness Nuala O'Loan
Ex Officio	Professor Philip Nolan Dr Mike O'Malley (<i>Secretary</i>) Professor Aidan Mulkeen
Members of academic staff who are Professors	Professor Sharon Todd Professor Christopher Morris
Permanent or full-time members of academic staff other than Professors or Associate Professors	Dr Mary Gilmartin Dr Fiona Lyddy Mr Séamus Taylor Dr Tomás Ward
Permanent or full-time employees of the University who are not academic staff	Ms Paula Murray Mr James Cotter
Elected officers of the Students' Union	Mr Matthew O'Boyle Ms Síona Cahill Mr Dillon Grace
Postgraduate student	Ms Roxanne Paul
IBEC ICTU	Ms Christine Moran Ms Sheila Nunan
Nominees of the Trustees of St Patrick's College	Monsignor Hugh Connolly Monsignor Jim Cassin Dr Marie Griffin
Graduates of the University	Ms Maura Moore Mr Michael Smyth
Nominees of NUI Senate	Professor Mary Corcoran Professor Martin Curley
Minister's Nominees	Outstanding Outstanding
Other External Members	Mr Peter Cassells (<i>Deputy Chairperson</i>) Mr Richard George Mr Eugene Magee Ms Madeleine Mulrennan

3U Leadership Symposium 'Leading the Pursuit of Quality'

The 4th annual 3U Leadership Symposium took place on Saturday, 5 March, at Maynooth University

Over 450 delegates, practitioners from the world of education, healthcare and business were in attendance. Graduates from the Department of Education at Maynooth University, RCSI and DCU presented their research on a wide variety of leadership topics.

Keynote contributors included: Professor Kathryn Riley, Institute of Education, London; Dr Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector; Dr Sean Ruth, Consultant; and John Farrelly, Deputy Chief Inspector, HIQA. Event co-ordinator, Paula Kinnarney, Maynooth University Department of Education acknowledged the event is increasing in popularity each year and highlighted next year's event will take place on Saturday, 4 March.



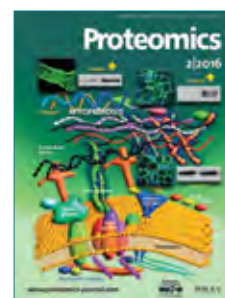
Pictured (l-r); John Farrelly, Deputy Chief Inspector, HIQA; Dr Anne Looney, CEO of the NCCA; Dr Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector of the Department of Education and Skills; and Professor Philip Nolan, President Maynooth University

New Biomarkers of Tissue Scarring

Many common human diseases are associated with generalised tissue scarring

In the case of neuromuscular pathologies, the gradual loss in motoric functions is often related to the severity of this scarring process. The formation of scar tissue causes a critical loss of tissue elasticity and triggers a progressive decline in biological functions. In a new article in the journal PROTEOMICS, members of the Muscle Biology Laboratory at Maynooth University critically examine the evidence of new disease indicators of tissue scarring, so-called biomarkers of fibrosis. The article by Dr Ashling Holland, postgraduate student Sandra Murphy, Dr Paul Dowling and Prof Kay Ohlendieck of the Biology Department was chosen as the cover of the January 2016 issue of the prestigious journal PROTEOMICS.

The newly discovered biomolecules that are involved in muscle tissue scarring are now being tested for their suitability as novel diagnostic biomarkers and new therapeutic targets to treat muscular disorders. Research was funded by Muscular Dystrophy Ireland and the German Muscular Dystrophy Foundation.



Pictured is the cover of the recently published, January 2016 issue of the journal PROTEOMICS, which features an article on a Maynooth University Department of Biology lab

Maynooth University Named Among Top 100 Young Universities

(continued from front page)

We are very proud of our standing as a global university, yet we are continually working to further enhance our research and to improve the educational experience we offer. The quality of our research is evident from our position as first in Ireland for publications in the top 1% of academic journals in the world. Students are responding to our new and exciting undergraduate curriculum, evidenced by our highest ever number of first preferences on the CAO applications."

Common Security and Defence Policy Course on Campus



Participants of the CSDP Building Integrity (BI) course on campus

The Kennedy Institute, in association with the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom and Transparency International (UK), conducted a course for EU public servants on promoting transparency and reducing the risk of corruption 14-18 March

The course focuses on the risk and challenges presented by corruption and its different manifestations within organisations, including the impact on personnel management, financial management, the procurement and disposal

of equipment and of contracted services. The consequence of corruption is money wasted, erosion of trust and depletion of available resources and budgets.

Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grant Awards Ceremony 2016



Prof Mary E Daly, President, Royal Irish Academy; Prof Michael Peter Kennedy, RIA; Dr Denis Casey, Department of Early Irish; Prof David Stifter, Department of Early Irish; and Professor Colm Lennon, former RIA PL&A Secretary and historian from Maynooth University

Maynooth University scholars were among those presented the Charlemont Grant Awards 2016 by Mary E Daly, President of the Royal Irish Academy, at a recent ceremony

Professor Daly congratulated each scholar and noted the importance of the award and the diversity of disciplines awarded.

Dr Denis Casey, Department of Early Irish, received his Award for the research project - An edition and translation of *Annála Gearra as Proibhinse Ard Macha* (British Library, additional MS 30512).

A recent PhD graduate of Maynooth University Department of History, Dr Bronagh McShane, also received the award. Dr McShane is currently employed by NUI Galway as a post-doctoral Research Assistant on the ERC funded RECIRC project but remains working in Maynooth as an occasional lecturer.

Social Science Annual Lecture Spotlights the 2016 General Election

The latest event in the *Maynooth University Alumni Lecture Series*, 'Ireland Votes 2016: Predictions, Predilections, and Partnerships,' took place in Dublin City Council's Wood Quay venue Wednesday, 24 February

Only two days prior to the General Election, the lecture put the spotlight on the mechanics of this election (e.g. boundary changes, political/vote trends, gender quotas, etc.) and explored the key issues that drove the debate and the electorate. The panel consisted of Professor John O'Brennan and Dr Mary Murphy from the Department of Sociology and Dr Adrian Kavanagh and lecturer, Claire McGing from the Department of Geography at Maynooth University, along with moderator Shane Coleman from the *Irish Independent* and *Newstalk*. The engaging discussion entertained all the alumni and friends in attendance and spilled over into social media.

The next lecture in this series took place on 6 April in Renehan Hall, where Emeritus Professor Vincent Comerford delivered the Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy lecture entitled; *Currencies, Politics and Society in Ireland since 1847*. The *Maynooth University Alumni Lecture Series*, designed by the Alumni Office in 2014 is a series of lectures, by faculty, geared specifically for graduates (see <https://maynoothuniversity.ie/alumnilectureseries/>). A Faculty of Science & Engineering lecture is currently being planned for November 2016.



Claire McGing discusses her views at the Social Science Lecture Annual Lecture

In other alumni notes, a pan-irish alumni pub night hosted by a number of Irish universities took place on 13 January in the Porterhouse Bar, Covent Garden, London. Maynooth University, together with Cork Institute of Technology, Dublin City University, Royal College of Surgeons, Trinity College Dublin and Queens University invited their alumni to this social and networking event.

Alumni also gathered at both the book launch celebrating the literary achievements of Msgr Breandán Ó Doibhlin, in the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris on 14 March, and the Maynooth Chamber Choir concert held in St Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on 15 March.

Human Resource Notes

NEW APPOINTMENTS

We are pleased to announce that the following staff have joined the University or have been appointed to a new post internally:

School/Departments	Appointees
An Foras Feasa	Dr Konstantinos Papadopoulos, Lecturer in Digital Humanities (Contract Post)
Biology	Dr Conor Breen, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) Dr Rebecca Owens, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)
Celtic Studies	Dr Denis Casey, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)
Chemistry	Dr Diego Montagner, Lecturer
Human Resources	Ms Catriona Shovlin, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)
International Office	Dr Kathryn Segesser, International Office
Law	Dr Sarah Arduin, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)
Library	Ms Rita Pinhasi, Sub Librarian Ms Yvette Campbell, Assistant Librarian Part Time (Contract Post) Ms Helen Farrell, Assistant Librarian Part Time (Contract Post) Ms Shona Thoma, Assistant Librarian
Maths and Statistics	Ms Siobhan Connolly, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)
Modern Languages, Literatures & Cultures	Ms Simona Cutcan, Assistant Lecturer in French (Contract Post)
Music	Dr Iain McCurdy, Lecturer (Contract Post)
NIRSA	Ms Anne Hamilton Black, Executive Assistant Part Time (Contract Post)
Registrar's Office	Dr Adrienne Hobbs, Admin Officer 1 (Contract Post) Ms Catherine Heffron, Senior Executive Assistant Ms Emma McDermott, Executive Assistant
Registry	Ms Nuala Downes, Senior Executive Assistant Ms Elaine Burroughs, Executive Assistant Ms Sarah Critchley, Executive Assistant
Research Development Office	Mr Patrick Boyle, Research Development Officer (Contract Post)
Student Services	Ms Corla Mansfield, Accommodation Officer Ms Sabrina Barrett, Executive Assistant
Vice President Academic	Dr Alison Hood, Dean of Teaching & Learning

Our best wishes to all concerned.

UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MARCH 2016

As part of the University's commitment to Gender Equality (<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/equality>) and to mark International Women's Day, the University hosted a series of speakers and panel discussion on this year's theme - *Pledge for Parity – Each of us can be a leader within our own spheres of influence and commit to taking action to accelerate gender parity.*

The theme called for a celebration of the social, economic, cultural and political achievement of women, yet also noted that progress towards gender parity had actually slowed in many places around the world, with urgent concrete action needed to accelerate gender parity.

This year's event was supported by Maynooth University Human Resources Equality, Department of Sociology, Applied Social Studies, and the Research Development Office. The event was a great success and the diverse range of speakers from industry, academia, and civil society appealed to both staff and students on the day.



Pictured are (l-r): Dr Ashley O'Donoghue, Dr Mary P. Murphy, Fiona Tierney, Prof Philip Nolan, Dr Anne O'Brien, Dr Clara Bradley, Rosaleen McCarthy, Dr Akwugo Emejulu, Prof Rowena Pecchenino, Dr Pauline Cullen

SEECHANGE WORKSHOPS: MANAGING MENTAL HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE

On Friday, 8 April and Thursday, 21 April the HR Department has organised two half day training workshops on managing mental health in the workplace for employees who have responsibility for managing people. The workshops will be delivered by SeeChange, a national organisation committed to removing the stigma around mental health in the workplace (<http://www.seechange.ie/>).

The workshops aim to enable staff to understand mental health problems that employees may face and its relevance and impact on the workplace. The workshops will offer good practice advice on creating workplaces that are free of stigma and discrimination in relation to mental health and enable participants to create an open and supportive work environment. The training workshops will provide confidence for staff who are tasked with managing a situation and to understand the university supports that are in place.

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

Details of the enhanced on-line Employee Assistance Programme can be accessed through the Staff Well-being link on the Human Resources webpage:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/staff-development/employee-assistance-programme>

Disability Studies Awards



Pictured are students from the Donegal Centre for Independent Living (CIL) and Dublin Centre for Independent Living (CIL), who visited the campus Saturday, 30 January to receive their Level 7 Cert. in Disability Studies awards. Dr Derek Barter, academic co-ordinator for Continuing Education courses in the Department of Adult and Community Education, and Paul Fagan, course tutor, were proud of and inspired by the reflections of the students who presented on the day and who spoke of their experiences on the programme.

Travellers in Higher Education Forum



Pictured are the participants and panellists at the recent Travellers in Higher Education - Maynooth University Graduate Consultation Forum. The Maynooth University Graduates Consultation Seminar was jointly hosted by MAP and Department of Applied Social Studies, Maynooth University Traveller Alumni and current students. Students and alumni who work with Traveller Rights and Advocacy were invited to the seminar to explore Traveller experience of participation at Maynooth University and the barriers and strategies for suggested Traveller third level participation.

Maynooth University Researchers to Curate Major New Project Celebrating Modern Irish Language Writers



Dr Liam Mac Amhlaigh, Litríocht & Teanga na Gaeilge, Roinn Froebel and Ronan Doherty, PhD candidate, PhD Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge

Dr Liam Mac Amhlaigh and Ronan Doherty are collaborating with the Irish language body Foras na Gaeilge and the publishing house COMHAR Teo., to produce and curate a major new electronic and print resource celebrating Irish language literary and academic writing, its writers and its biographical research

Portráidí na Scríbhneoirí Gaeilge (Portraits of Irish language writers) is a unique compilation of the photographic portraits of 107 of Ireland's foremost living Irish language writers, drawing on an archive originally compiled by the late Máire Uí Mhaicín, photographer and academic. These images are being prepared with accompanying biographical information and literary examples highlighting their work.

Further details are available at www.portraidie.ie, where the material will be published a little later this year, with the concurrent launch of the high-quality hardbound edition of Portráidí na Scríbhneoirí Gaeilge.

Bodies Politic: Artists and Academics Gathered at Maynooth University for the First Event in the Casement Project



The Casement Project choreography © Marcin Lewandowski

On Thursday, 25 February, artist Fearghus Ó Conchúir from the Department of Geography kicked off The Casement Project, an ambitious national and international project as part of ART: 2016, the Arts Council's programme for Ireland 2016, with the Bodies Politic Symposium

Bodies Politic brings artists and academics together to discuss the relationship between the body and the state in the context of the 1916 centenary commemorations. Artist and choreographer Fearghus has invited four of the Arts Council's ART: 2016 commissions and one of GPO's Witness History commissions to introduce their work and begin a conversation with scholars to give the public more insight into these projects. As well as the featured artists, speakers included Arts Council Chair, Sheila Pratschke, and writer and activist Rosaleen McDonagh.

The Bodies Politic Symposium is supported by Maynooth University Research Development Fund and Maynooth University's Commemoration Committee.

Here I Am Photographic Exhibition



Some of the crew involved with the Galway Cycle 2016 pose with the exhibition in the background. This year's Galway Cycle took place over the weekend of 8-10 April, in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland.

Maynooth University is the first third-level institution to host a photographic exhibition entitled *Here I Am*, which features photographs of children with Down Syndrome. The exhibition, which ran from 7-11 March on the North Campus, displayed the images by photographer Dan Murphy

The Froebel Department (which spearheaded the exhibition) promotes inclusive education across all learning areas. The promotion of a broader view of inclusion of diversity (based on ethnicity, culture, religion, or ability) within classrooms, is a priority goal of teacher education in the Froebel Department, and is successfully achieved through the promotion of greater awareness of difference.

This difference is not merely perceived as represented by those with a disability, but rather by a broader and encompassing diversity. Celebrating and accepting difference, as portrayed in this memorable exhibition, is well-achieved through the very personal portraits of the children with Down Syndrome.

Maynooth University Archers Storm Student Nationals

The Maynooth University Archery Club brought home a huge haul of silverware from the Student Nationals, held this year in Nemo Rangers' Sports Ground in Cork

The Nationals are an annual event where archers from colleges throughout the country compete for honours in several individual and team events. Maynooth University suffered a setback even before the shooting started, as two of the best archers in the club, all but certain to win their category, had to pull out. The depleted team battled on bravely and placed in 3 out of the 4 team categories and two individual categories.

The University sent 10 archers to the competition in the barebow, recurve and compound categories. The winners are as follows:

Mixed Team Gold- Diego Coyle Diez, Christoph Nellinger, James Floyd; **Barebow Team Gold**- Christoph Nellinger, Ciaran Martin; **Recurve Team Silver**- Diego Coyle Diez, Domhnall O Poil, Hugh Farrell; **Male Recurve Silver**- Diego Coyle Diez and **Male Compound Bronze**- James Floyd.



Maynooth University Archers celebrating their success

Maynooth University GAA 2016/2017

Maynooth University GAA had a very busy and successful year with many highlights

Maynooth's second Fresher team claimed the 'C' Championship title. This is the Fresher 2 team's second year in existence and team manager Luke Barrett has secured two All-Ireland titles in these two years. This team will compete in Fresher Football Division B grade next year, one below the first team.

It was a historic year for Maynooth University LGFA, with a first ever win in the O'Connor Cup. The ladies travelled to Belfast, where they turned heads and beat Queen's University Belfast by two goals.

The camogie team reached the final of the Purcell Cup and the hurlers reached a Kehoe Cup final.



Fresher 2 team which defeated DCU in the C Championship final!



Leinster Intermediate Camogie Champions



Purcell Cup Championship Runners-Up 2016

MAP Ambassadors Continue to Excel

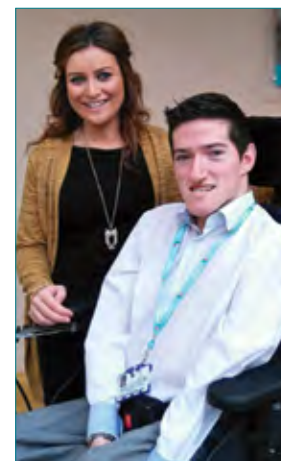


Nicole Chatham pictured in Mexico

MAP Ambassador Nicole Chatham, 2nd year Youth and Community Work Student, won a highly competitive EIL Travel Award in 2015. EIL helped fund Nicole Chatham's volunteer experience in Oaxaca, Mexico, last year where she worked with local youth groups on recycled arts projects, and blogged about her experiences.

She has continued to teach recycled art to youth groups and adults here since her return. Nicole is currently in the process of completing her action projects for the Gold level Global Citizen Award.

James Cawley is a MAP Alumni Ambassador who is currently completing a Master of Education with the University and hopes to pursue a career in secondary school teaching. James was awarded the Maynooth University Inspirational Student Award 2015 and recently featured on RTÉ's Nationwide. James recently launched the Irish Wheelchair Association's *Angels Pin Design Competition 2016* as both an active Irish Wheelchair Association member and a MAP Ambassador.



James Cawley, Master of Education Student, pictured with Anita Matthews, Irish Wheelchair Association