

UNIVERSITY NEWS



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

3U Partnership Launched



Pictured at the launch are (l-r) Prof Cathal Kelly, CEO RCSI; Prof Philip Nolan, President NUI Maynooth; An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD; Minister Ruairi Quinn TD and Prof Brian MacCraith, President DCU.

An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD together with Minister for Education Ruairi Quinn TD has announced details of the 3U Partnership – a major collaboration between NUI Maynooth, Dublin City University (DCU) and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

Building on the success of collaborative work between the institutions over the last number of years, the new formal partnership will see significant developments in academic programmes, research, education and internationalisation.

Speaking at the launch, on 26 June, An Taoiseach said that the partnership was vital to Ireland's future educational success and a cornerstone of Government policy. "This is a very significant collaboration between three of our finest institutions with very complementary and distinct fields of expertise. Through collaboration we can achieve scale that allows us to compete more effectively on the global stage," he said.

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NUI Maynooth Tops Irish Rankings in World's Best New Universities

NUI Maynooth has been recognised as one of the leading new universities in the world, ranked #64 in the new Times Higher Education (THE) 100 Under 50 rankings. The University is also the highest placed Irish university in these rankings.

The ranking, which lists the world's best 100 universities less than 50 years old, is published today for the first time. Universities are ranked according to 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 rankings NUI Maynooth President Prof Philip Nolan said, "While rankings of this nature are subjective and built largely on opinion, it does show that the tremendous achievements of NUI Maynooth since its foundation have been internationally recognised. This is due to the scholarly reputations of our staff, the quality of our research, and our collective efforts to provide an outstanding education for our students."

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Professor Séamas O Súilleabháin Memorial Lecture



The Education Department hosted the Professor Séamas O Súilleabháin Memorial Lecture 2012 on May 2nd in Education House.

The guest speaker Dr Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector, Department of Education and Skills, addressed the large gathering speaking on the topic of *The Quality Assurance of Irish Schools: Current and Future Trends*. The paper examined the evolution of external inspection and school self-evaluation in the Irish school system and comments on a number of related ongoing and forthcoming developments in the quality assurance of schools. The lecture was introduced by Prof Philip Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth and was chaired by Dr Aidan Mulkeen, Head of the Education Department.

FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to all who contributed to this edition. Your news, as always, is warmly welcomed by the Communications Office. We have come to the end of another academic year and, like last year, it has been very busy over the past few weeks with the launch of the 3U partnership and the Centre for Youth Research and Development among others. We are ending the year on a high with NUI Maynooth being recognised as one of the leading new universities in the world, ranked 64th in the new Times Higher list of the world's best universities less than 50 years old.

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Professor Martin Curley Enrolled as a Member of The Royal Irish Academy

The Royal Irish Academy (RIA) has admitted Martin Curley, Professor of Technology and Business Innovation at NUI Maynooth, Co-Director of IVI, and Vice President of Intel, as a new member to the Academy in recognition of his academic achievement.

Prof Curley is among 22 academics on the island of Ireland to achieve this highest academic distinction. Recently appointed Intel Vice President, Dr Martin Curley is a senior Principal Engineer and Director of Intel Labs Europe, which is a network of twenty labs and nine hundred Intel researchers and developers in Europe. Martin is Professor of Technology and Business Innovation at NUI Maynooth and co-Director of IVI (Innovation Value Institute), helping lead a unique industry-academic open innovation consortium to advance IT management and innovation.

Speaking at the announcement NUI Maynooth President, Prof Philip Nolan said, "The University is delighted with this well deserved recognition of Dr Curley's extensive contribution to the field of IT management and innovation. All of his colleagues extend their congratulations on this wonderful achievement."



Prof Martin Curley and Prof Luke Drury, President of the RIA.

Prof Luke Drury, President of the RIA, said that this group is as accomplished and as academically diverse as any cohort elected since its founding members signed the roll in 1785.

Events on Campus Attract Alumni



Sr Úna Collins with Dr Tom McConalogue and guest.

Post Graduate Diploma in School Guidance and Counselling Alumni attend 2012 Special Guest Lecture

On 7 February, the 2012 Special Guest Lecture entitled 'A Life Facing Challenges - Reflections of a School Guidance Counsellor' was delivered by Sr Úna Collins. Sr Úna was the co-founder and leader of NUI Maynooth's first programme in school guidance and counselling and this lecture marked her retirement from NUI Maynooth. With the Education Lecture Theatre filled to capacity, alumni, faculty and friends enjoyed a heartfelt and often humorous account of Sr Úna's reflections on her time as a school guidance counsellor. Prof Philip Nolan, President of NUI Maynooth and Prof Emeritus John Coolahan, former head of the Education Department, also attended this special evening which was followed by refreshments in the Education Seminar Room.

Access Alumni return to campus for a celebratory evening

The Maynooth Alumni Office invited Access Alumni who were supported by the Maynooth Access Programme under the directorship of Ann O'Brien to an evening event in the mezzanine area of Phoenix restaurant on Thursday, 7 June.

A great night was had by all as graduates from 2001 onwards mingled with University staff, associates of Ann from the wider education community and Ann's family. Ann's professional contribution and her forthcoming retirement at the end of June were widely acknowledged.

Alumni who couldn't attend on the night provided a variety of messages in support of Ann and the evening itself. Currently 15% of undergraduate students at Maynooth are mature entrants and 4% are disability students. Approximately 25% of the general student body are supported by the Maynooth Access Programme.



Graduates of the University (l-r): Suzanne Losty (2005); Gemma Ennis (2002) and Annie Hayden (2005) with Ann O'Brien.

Three Fulbright Scholarships Awarded to NUI Maynooth

Two NUI Maynooth staff and a former student are among recipients of a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship for 2012-2013.

Dr Rowan Fealy Department of Geography, Dr Brian Flanagan Department of Law and Caitríona Ní Chadhain, a Masters in Education alumnus, were awarded Fulbright scholarships at the Annual Scholars' Dinner on Friday, 15 June.

Dr Rowan Fealy received a Fulbright Scholar award in Science and Technology and will undertake research at the National Centre for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado, one of the world's leading research centres for atmospheric research, where he will be investigating the potential to develop next generation climate simulations.

Dr Brian Flanagan, who received a Fulbright Scholar's award in Law, will undertake research into the notion of collective legislative intentionality and the role of conceptual analysis in general jurisprudence at New York University School of Law as a Hauser Research Scholar.

Caitríona Ní Chadhain, a primary school teacher in St Malachy's Boys National School in Dublin is a Masters graduate in Education from NUI Maynooth. Caitríona received a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant scholarship which she will take up at the University of Montana.



Pictured (l-r); Dr Brian Flanagan, Caitríona Ní Chadhain and Dr Rowan Fealy.

Austin Currie and Liz O'Donnell Address Kennedy Institute

Ms Liz O'Donnell pictured with MA students Mary Kelly and Paul Bailey



The Edward M Kennedy Institute for Conflict Intervention was delighted to welcome both Austin Currie and Liz O'Donnell to NUI Maynooth in March 2012.

Students completing their MA in Mediation and Conflict Intervention and Post Graduate Certificates in Peace Process Practices recently participated in two highly interactive dialogue workshops to draw out the lessons to be learned for this generation of peace makers and mediators.

In a candid session, Austin Currie gave his personal "behind the scenes" account of the people and the events that brought Northern Ireland to its current political incarnation.

Liz O'Donnell, provided critical insight into the internal mechanics behind the development of the Good Friday Agreement.

The aim of the Institute is to build capacity for constructive approaches to conflict at all levels of society.

US Chamber of Commerce CEO Honoured

NUI Maynooth formally recognised the achievements of influential Irish American Thomas J Donohue, in an Honorary Conferring ceremony which was held on campus in May.

Thomas J Donohue is president and CEO of the US Chamber of Commerce, which, with over 3 million corporate members, is the world's largest business federation. Dr Donohue received his Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Prof Philip Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth, who described him "as a model of strong and principled leadership, a consistent proponent of individual rights and deeply committed to education".

Under his leadership, the US Chamber of Commerce has become a lobbying and political force to be reckoned with in the United States and across the globe. During Donohue's tenure of the US Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber has helped secure many legislative victories, including major tax cuts, more sensible workplace and environmental regulations, and increased funding for transportation. Since assuming his post in September 1997, Donohue has revitalized the organization, increasing its membership, tripling its budget, and expanding its influence in Washington and around the world.



Dr Thomas J Donohue and President of NUI Maynooth, Prof Philip Nolan.

3U Partnership Launched by An Taoiseach *(continued from page 1)*

President of NUI Maynooth, Prof Philip Nolan highlighted the commitment of the partner institutions to deep and sustained collaboration: "This launch is a public statement of our commitment to working closely together over the coming decade, developing our institutions together in order to deliver for our region and our country, and enhance our global presence. This is a partnership of real substance. We are highlighting today important new collaborations

in research, new joint academic programmes, joint teaching initiatives, and a major development in international education. And this is just the beginning; there is an impressive pipeline of planned activities which will see the 3U partnership become a national and international model for co-operation in higher education".

Music in Goethe's Faust Conference

An international, interdisciplinary conference, *Music in Goethe's Faust: Goethe's Faust in Music* took place in the Department of Music, NUI Maynooth in association with the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures on 20-22 April.

This conference, which was organized by Dr Lorraine Byrne Bodley and Prof Florian Krobb (Head of the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures), re-examined the musical origins of Goethe's *Faust* and explored the musical dimensions of its legacy. 52 lectures were given by internationally acclaimed musicologists and Germanists. The conference was hosted in association with the Goethe-Institut Dublin, Kildare Arts Council, UCD School of Music and the Society for Musicology in Ireland.

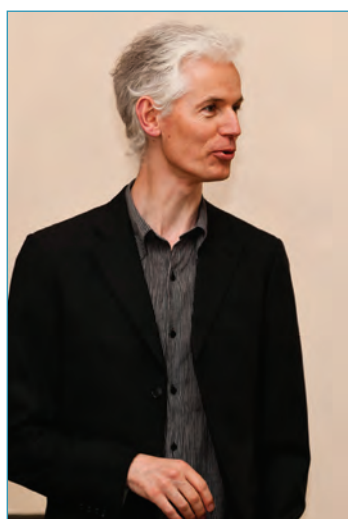
Centre front: Prof Thomas Baumann; Prof of Musicology, Northwestern University, (one of three keynote speakers). Background (l-r); Prof Florian Krobb, Dr Lorraine Byrne Bodley with Rolf Stehle, Director of the Goethe-Institut, Dublin.



Recipient of Fields Medal Delivers Inaugural Berkeley Lecture

The first Berkeley Lecture took place in NUI Maynooth on Thursday, 26 April.

The lecture was delivered by Prof Timothy Gowers of Cambridge University who received a *Fields Medal* in 1998 for his ground-breaking research. The Fields Medal is an analogue of the Nobel Prize in other disciplines. Prof Gowers gave a talk entitled "Will computers ever be able to do mathematical research?"



His talk drew a large crowd to the Physics Hall which was filled to capacity for the lecture. Prof Gowers has made many important breakthroughs in pure mathematics, especially in the areas of functional analysis and combinatorics.

The Berkeley Lecture will be an annual event at NUI Maynooth in which a talk in the general area of mathematics and philosophy will be given by a high-profile visiting speaker. It is sponsored by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the Department of Philosophy at NUI Maynooth.

Prof Timothy Gowers.

Ignite at NUI Maynooth

Following on from the success of the Christmas Event, Ignite II took place on May 9th in the Phoenix Restaurant.

Staff from a variety of departments enjoyed an hour of intriguing insights into some of the widespread research taking place at NUI Maynooth. From electrochemistry to the circadian clock and from music in the Irish country house to X-ray spex, the talks by the seven speakers featured a multitude of disciplines, representing the three faculties. A member of the NUI Maynooth Postdoctoral Executive Board introduced the Board and spoke about its role in supporting early career academics.

The Research Support Office is continuing the Ignite series to increase internal visibility of the research taking place at NUI Maynooth. The brisk format of five minute presentations provides quick introductions, making the event fast-paced and fun. For anyone interested in participating, contact ignitenuim@gmail.com

Access Schemes, DARE & HEAR, Win Excellence Award

An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny TD presented a *Public Service Excellence Award* to two college admission schemes the *Disability Access Route to Education (DARE)* and the *Higher Education Access Route (HEAR)*.

The awards, which seek out improvements and innovative activities from the public sector, recognise the success of the DARE & HEAR schemes in increasing the numbers of students entering third level with disabilities or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The schemes, with support from the Department of Education and the Higher Education Authority (HEA), have undergone major change and development over the last three years to help meet the HEA National Access Office targets of a 54% college entry rate for all socio-economic groups by 2020 and a doubling of the number of students in 3rd level with sensory, physical and multiple disabilities by 2013.

DARE and HEAR give a points reduction to disadvantaged students and students with disabilities thus increasing their chances of success in getting to Third Level. The schemes also offer a package of supports including academic, personal, financial and social supports. Access and Disability officers are on hand in each college to support students through the application process and continue to offer guidance and support throughout the student's college life. Since 2009, 295 students have accepted their places at NUI Maynooth through the HEAR Entry Route and 107 students have accepted places through the DARE Entry Route.



Director of Access Ann O'Brien and Maureen Dunne, former Irish Universities Association Access Manager.

The Centre for the Study of Irish Protestantism Launched at NUI Maynooth

A new initiative, the Centre for the Study of Irish Protestantism was launched on 15 July at NUI Maynooth.

The new Centre will explore how minorities survive, change, adapt and integrate with the majorities among whom they live. Located in the Dept of Adult and Community Education and linked to the Dept of History at NUI Maynooth, the new Centre is dedicated to the interdisciplinary and participative exploration of the social, cultural, historical and spiritual dimensions of Irish Protestantism.

Speaking at the launch Prof Philip Nolan, President of NUI Maynooth commented that “for a variety of historic and social reasons, religion has played a particularly significant role in Irish society and in the construction of individual and group identities in the country. This centre will play a key role in developing a richer understanding of minorities in general, their relationship to the contexts in which they exist and of the processes which contribute towards peaceful co-existence.”

For further information, email: mary.c.gallagher@nuim.ie or 01-7083951.



Pictured at the event (l-r); Prof Irene Whelan, Manhattanville College; Tony Walsh, NUI Maynooth; Dr Caroline Gallagher, NUI Maynooth; Prof Alan Ford, University of Nottingham; Dr Miriam Moffit, NUI Maynooth; Prof Eugene Biagini, University of Cambridge; Prof Philip Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth and Prof Jackie Hill, NUI Maynooth.

Philosopher-Kings of Antiquity Book Launched



Dr William Desmond and Dr Kieran McGroarty at the launch of Dr Desmond's latest book entitled *Philosopher-Kings of Antiquity* (London: Continuum, 2011). The book was launched on Friday 20 April 2012.

Conference Suggests Current Studies Underestimate the Rate of Suicide Among Young Men

A conference on the *Ethnographic Approaches to Suicide in Ireland* took place at NUI Maynooth in March.

The conference sponsored by the IRCHSS 'New Ideas' Scheme, was organised by Felicia Garcia, a PhD candidate in the Department of Anthropology at NUI Maynooth.

According to Ms Garcia, the statistics on suicide in Ireland do not represent the reality in certain communities. In particular, in the Irish traveller community, instances of suicide among men are nine times more than for women, compared to the national average of four male to every female suicide. The conference highlighted gender roles in Irish society as a contributing factor to the over-representation of suicide among young men in predominantly working-class communities and aimed to emphasise the importance of qualitative studies in relation to suicide and self-destructive behaviour. Dr A Jamie Saris, NUI Maynooth gave the keynote speech at the conference which was attended by Alumni and others from the sector.



Felicia Garcia, PhD candidate.

IFI Announces Plans to Build Major New Preservation Centre at NUI Maynooth

Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and film director Neil Jordan, marked the success of the recent IFI Irish Film Archive Preservation Fund campaign with the launch of plans for a new IFI Irish Film Archive Preservation & Research Centre at NUI Maynooth.

In March, the IFI officially launched the IFI Irish Film Archive Preservation Fund to expand access to, and preservation of, our national film archive collection. An innovative partnership with NUI Maynooth presented the IFI with a unique opportunity to build a new custom built Research and Preservation Centre on campus. The Centre will allow the IFI to ensure that future generations can continue to learn from, and enjoy, Ireland's moving image heritage.

Prof Philip Nolan, President of NUI Maynooth, said, “It is a privilege for NUI Maynooth to be involved in the IFI Research and Preservation Centre. The IFI Irish Film Archive offers us unique insights into our culture, history and place in the world, and is a rich source for scholars and educators. We look forward to a long partnership between the IFI and NUI Maynooth.”

Schedule of Dates for Meetings in 2012-2013

FACULTY OF ARTS, CELTIC STUDIES & PHILOSOPHY at 15.00 hours (three exceptions)	FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING at 15.00 hours (two exceptions)	FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES at 15.00 hours	ACADEMIC COUNCIL* at 15.00 hours	GOVERNING AUTHORITY at 10.00 hours
10 September 2012 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	11 September 2012 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	10 September 2012 Boardroom JHB	24 September 2012 Renehan Hall	27 September 2012 Boardroom JHB
01 October 2012 Boardroom JHB	02 October 2012 Boardroom JHB	08 October 2012 Boardroom JHB	22 October 2012 Renehan Hall	8 November 2012 Boardroom JHB
19 November 2012 Boardroom JHB	20 November 2012 Boardroom JHB	26 November 2012 Boardroom JHB	10 December 2012 Renehan Hall	13 December 2012 Boardroom JHB
14 January 2013 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	15 January 2013 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	21 January 2013 Boardroom JHB	4 February 2013 Renehan Hall	14 February 2013 Boardroom JHB
11 March 2013 Boardroom JHB	12 March 2013 Boardroom JHB	25 March 2013 Boardroom JHB	8 April 2013 Boardroom JHB	18 April 2013 Boardroom JHB
13 May 2013 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	14 May 2013 Boardroom JHB	13 May 2013 Boardroom JHB	27 May 2013 Renehan Hall	13 June 2013 Boardroom JHB

* All business for Academic Council should be submitted at least 12 days prior to the meeting.

Local Students train for International Maths Olympiad

NUI Maynooth Mathematics & Statistics Department held its' Local Olympiad Training Contest in the Spring.

Prizes were given to seven budding mathematicians who hope to represent Ireland in the International Mathematical Olympiad to be held in Argentina this month. Pictured are members of the North Kildare Maths Problem Club (which consists of second level students together with staff and students from the Mathematics & Statistics Department of NUI Maynooth) and Sean Ashe, CEO of Kildare VEC.



Human Resource Notes

INTERVIEWS HELD

24 May 2012 Software Engineer x 2, An Foras Feasa (Contract Post).
25 May 2012 Executive Assistant, Examinations Office (Contract Post).
18 June 2012 Director of National Centre for Geocomputation, NCG.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

We are pleased to announce that the following have accepted appointment to contract posts in the University:

School/Departments	Appointees
Admissions Office	Ms Kate Crofton, Executive Assistant Ms Judith Caffrey, Schools' Liaison Officer
Celtic Studies - Sean Ghaeilge	Ms Leonie Duignan, Executive Assistant
Chemistry	Mr Walter Walsh, Technical Officer
Student Services	Ms Denise Stokes, Student Counsellor Ms Clementina Sidoli O'Connor, Executive Assistant
Institutes	Appointees
NCG	Mr Paul Newman, Computer Technician
Library	Appointees
	Ms Barbara McCormack, Assistant Librarian Ms Audrey Kinch, Library Assistant Ms Eileen Quinn, Library Assistant (Half-Time) Ms Jean Kane, Library Assistant (Half-Time)

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**

Access Students win Travel Awards



Trudie Gorman and Cynthia Okofar.

Four NUI Maynooth students have won EIL International Travel Awards.

EIL Travel Awards are awarded annually to young people who display a passion for experiencing different cultures and have a proven interest in community involvement

as well as leadership potential. Three of the students have won Learning Access Travel Awards. These awards are open to all students who are registered with an Access Office in any University or Institute of Technology in Ireland.

Amanda Sheridan, a final year student studying anthropology will be volunteering on an animal conservation project in Chiang Mai, Thailand. **Trudie Gorman**, a first year student studying English, History and Sociology, will be working on a human rights project in Mexico City. **Cynthia Okofar**, a first year science student will work with under privileged children in the Himachal region of Northern India.

A former Access Student, **Anthony Burrowes**, currently studying for an MA in Youth and Community Work has won the Mexico Travel Award. Anthony will be volunteering in a beach village of La Ventanilla to volunteer at a co-op project which started out as a project to stop the killing and selling of turtles and their eggs and has grown into a sustainable alternative source of income for the community. NUI Maynooth is the only University to receive four Travel Awards in 2012.

All students heading away this summer will be blogging their journey and experience on <http://www.eilireland.org/community/blogs>.

International Students Rank NUI Maynooth First

NUI Maynooth has achieved the highest ranking among Ireland's universities in a major survey of international students.

The International Student Barometer (ISB) conducted by i-Graduate in autumn 2011 involved over 209,000 international students from 238 universities in 16 countries.

International students ranked NUI Maynooth first overall in Ireland and seventh globally for Teaching and Learning. Of particular note is the first place ranking for the expertise of the academic staff, the quality of their teaching and of the facilities for teaching and learning and the range of language supports available to students. In addition, the University was ranked first globally for diversity of Topic Selection and Opportunities to Teach at postgraduate level. NUI Maynooth also excelled in the other categories surveyed, which included Arrival and Support Services and Living experience. It was ranked first in Ireland in terms of Orientation as a University, Orientation to the Local Area, the Opportunities to Meet Academic and Support Staff, Internet Access, Medical Center, Student Advisory Service, its Finance Department and Catering Service.



The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Andrew Montague, who hosted a reception in Dublin's Mansion House for 100 international students in February, to "promote Dublin as one of the top international cities in which to study" is pictured with NUI Maynooth Students Breonie MacMahon, Canada; Bu Xiu Xiu, China; Ricky Jacob, India; Alasia Belema Hannington, Nigeria; Karen Siu Ting, Peru; Shelby Banning-Arndt, Helen Rogers and Erin Clements, USA.

It ranked first overall out of the seven Irish universities and third globally for propensity for international students to recommend the university to their peers.

Centre for Youth Research and Development Launched at NUI Maynooth



Pictured (l-r); Anastasia Crickley, Head of the Department of Applied Social Studies, NUI Maynooth; Prof Philip Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth; Frances Fitzgerald TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and Dr Maurice Devlin, Director, Centre for Youth Research and Development.

Centre dedicated to youth a positive sign that their voice is being heard.

The Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Frances Fitzgerald TD launched the Centre for Youth Research and Development (CYRD) in NUI Maynooth, the first Centre in an Irish university dedicated specifically to youth. It will be concerned with the study of all aspects of youth in society as well as the study of, and contribution to the development of, policies and services for young people (including youth work, youth justice, social care, education and health).

Speaking at the launch, Minister Fitzgerald said that "the fact that it is the first research centre in an Irish university that is dedicated specifically to youth is, I believe, a very positive sign that attitudes towards young people are changing for the better and their voices are being heard."

Located in the Department of Applied Social Studies and directed by Dr Maurice Devlin, the Centre for Youth Research and Development has already embarked on a number of projects including an evaluation of the Football Association of Ireland's FUTSAL project; an action research project in partnership with Kildare Youth Services and the development of a Masters in European Youth Studies with funding from the EU Lifelong Learning Programme.

It was launched during the 2nd Maynooth International Youth Studies Conference, which covered all aspects of the representation of youth, including issues of cultural expression and recognition, image construction and stereotyping, as well as 'political' representation and participation.

Inaugural Mini Maker Faire a Huge Success

An NUI Maynooth-led proposal was chosen as one of the select "Public Engagement Programmes" which was held during the Euroscience Open Forum in July.

Led by Dr Tomás Ward, Department of Electronic Engineering with help from Caroline Ang in the Research Support Office, the Irish Robotics Club and the Science Gallery, the Mini Maker Faire exhibited a selection of innovative designs by European engineers, hackers, inventors, hobbyists and craftspeople. The exhibition took place on 14 July, during the Euro Science Open Forum (ESOF) in the Science Gallery and was one of the first such exhibitions in Europe.

Speaking after the launch of the ESOF earlier this year, Dr Tomás Ward said that the idea of submitting a proposal for exhibiting at the ESOF was inspired by the success of NUI Maynooth's Maker's Club. The inaugural Mini Maker Faire attracted over 6,500 attendees with 33 exhibitors from Ireland and England.



NUI Maynooth Scientists Receive €2.4mn SFI Principal Investigator Awards

On 2nd July 2012 the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Richard Bruton TD, announced funding for two flagship scientific research projects based at NUI Maynooth.

Administered via Science Foundation Ireland's (SFI) 'Principal Investigator' (PI) Programme the projects, run by Prof Douglas Leith, Prof Rob Shorten and Prof Sean Doyle, will be supported through to 2015.

Prof Douglas Leith and Prof Robert Shorten of the Hamilton Institute at NUI Maynooth have received €1.8mn to fund their research Green Transport and Communications Networks in partnership with Intel and Bell Labs Ireland.

Prof Sean Doyle, Dept of Biology at NUI Maynooth has been awarded €600k for his study of the global effects of gliotoxin on *A. fumigatus* using state-of-the-art protein mass spectrometry and molecular biology expertise and equipment, available at NUI Maynooth.

Making the announcement, Minister Bruton said "that the Government is investing a further €39 million in 30 new research projects in areas which the Government has identified as having particular potential for jobs and growth, including ICT, health/life sciences and energy. I congratulate



Prof Sean Doyle, Prof Doug Leith and Prof Robert Shorten pictured with Mark Ferguson, Director General of Science Foundation Ireland.

SFI on their achievements; we must now build on this to ensure that even more of this work is translated into commercial products and services and ultimately the jobs we need".

World Refugee Day Celebrated



Prof Rowena Pecchenino with some of the graduates of the NUI Community Work in a Changing Ireland Certificate programme.

NUI Maynooth celebrated World Refugee Day on 20 June with a graduation for refugees and migrants on completion of a Certificate programme run in collaboration with Galway Refugee Support Group and the Department of Applied Social Studies.

19 refugees and migrants from Zimbabwe, Somalia, Ethiopia, Colombia, Nigeria, Kenya, Croatia, and Ghana, who have settled in the West of Ireland undertook the NUI Community Work in a Changing Ireland Certificate programme. The programme offers the opportunity to reflect on recent Irish demographic social, cultural and economic changes and explore how communities and community work can engage and respond effectively to the issues arising. It is designed to enable participants to develop an appreciation of the principles and processes that underpin social inclusion and equality and contribute to sustainable community work initiatives in marginalised and minority communities.

"Migrants and refugees have a contribution to make to Irish society and communities, this programme has supported participants to realise their contribution and offered some of the skills required to do this effectively" said Anastasia Crickley, Head of Department of Applied Social Studies at the ceremony. "We, at the Department of Applied Social Studies look forward to on-going collaborations to achieve this end".

Job Success for Class of 2011 Business Graduates

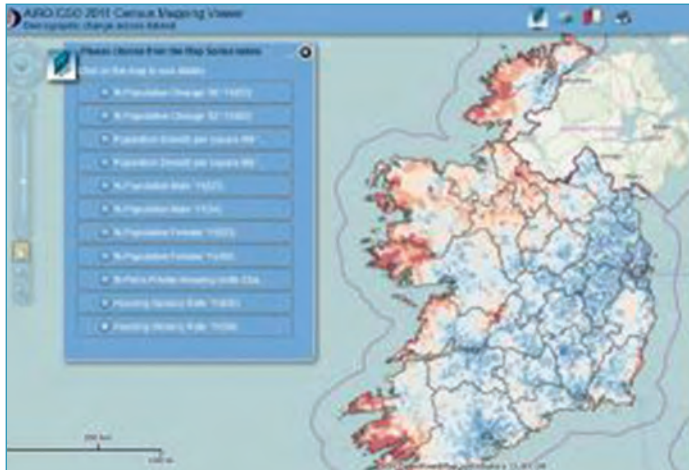
Last year's graduates from NUI Maynooth's School of Business MSc programmes enjoyed a 100% success rate in finding full-time employment, according to a recent survey by the School of Business.

The survey of graduates revealed that all 52 were in full-time employment. Most of the respondents are employed in international companies and national concerns, with many of them employed in management and executive roles.

The employment success of NUI Maynooth's Business Graduates in a competitive job market is proof of the career-orientated programmes offered by the University, according to academics in the Department.

Commenting on the figures, Prof Robert Galavan, Professor of Strategic Management in the School of Business said, "The MSc programmes in Strategy and Innovation, Business Management, IT Management and Human Resources Management/Development are clearly valued by employers due to their applied and relevant nature. They provide graduates with disciplinary expertise with an additional set of management and business tools which has proven to significantly enhance their employment and career development potential."

Panel of Experts from NUI Maynooth Analyses 2011 Census Data



A team of analysts from NIRSA have studied the Census results from the CSO and applied the data to their All-Ireland mapping tool, which can be used in future decisions on planning and development.

Census 2011 revealed that the population in Ireland had increased by 8%, that there is a spike in vacant housing units, along with a decreasing population in the 15 – 29 years category.

According to Prof Rob Kitchin, Director of NIRSA, “what is clear from the Census data is that there is a wide variation across the country with respect to levels of vacancy and oversupply. Unfortunately, the areas of high vacancy/oversupply coincide with the areas of low or negative population growth, which would suggest that they will suffer ongoing issues of oversupply for many years.”

According to Dr Mary Gilmartin of the Department of Geography at NUI Maynooth, Census 2011 reveals that almost all migrant groups in Ireland recorded an increase in numbers between 2006 and 2011. Poles now account for the largest migrant group in Ireland, with a 94% increase in the number of Poles living in Ireland since 2006. There were also large percentage increases among Hungarian, Indian and Brazilian national groups.

Census 2011 shows that Ireland is still a predominately Catholic country, with 84.2% of people identifying themselves as Catholic.

RoboEireann Runners Up in Robotic Soccer Euro Championship

NUI Maynooth’s Dept of Engineering showcased Ireland’s Robot Soccer team, ‘*RoboEireann*’, which was runner up at the recent 2012 German Open, the annual European Robot Soccer competition in a demonstration on campus.

RoboEireann comprises students and staff from the Department of Electronic Engineering and Department of Computer Science at NUI Maynooth.

RoboCup is an international research initiative aimed at advancing the state of the art in intelligent autonomous robotics. *RoboEireann* competes in the Standard Platform League where all teams use identical humanoid robot hardware but must develop software that enables the robots to understand their surroundings, make decisions, and coordinate their behaviour without human intervention or remote control. The German Open competition had 38 teams from 12 nations which had a group stage followed by knock-out rounds. *RoboEireann* overcame teams from Greece, Spain, and Portugal before eventually succumbing to the world champions, B-Human of Germany, in the final.



Computational Thinking Challenge Attracts Large Interest from Secondary Schools

This was the first such competition which attracted over 2,300 entries from 76 schools in 23 counties.

The Competition, sponsored by Microsoft, was open to all students attending secondary school in Ireland. Only three students in Ireland identified the optimal solution and the top prize was a Microsoft Xbox 360 with Kinect. Dr Phil Maguire and Dr James Power are joint directors of the Computational Thinking degree, combining Computer Science, Maths and Philosophy being launched at NUI Maynooth in September 2012.

Pictured are (l-r); Dr Phil Maguire, Computer Science Department; Adrian O'Reilly, winner, from the Christian Brothers Secondary School, Wexford Town; Dr Adam Winstanley, Head of Department, Computer Science and Dr James Power, Computer Science Department.



Maynooth Team Represents Ireland at Imagine Cup Final

A team of three students from the Computer Science Department won the Irish Microsoft Imagine Cup Software Design competition.

The 'DocTek' team also won the Connected Health Challenge with their project concerning a cloud-based doctor-patient system. DocTek travelled to Sydney in July where they represented Ireland at the world finals.

The three students, Marie Farrell, Donal O'Sullivan and Cosmin Siclovan, along with their mentor David Kerr were victorious in the national final ahead of 600 other competitors.

The Microsoft Imagine Cup invites eligible students to use Microsoft tools and technology to solve the many challenges faced in the world today. The Software Design Competition encourages students to create applications and solutions that can be applied to real-life problems. Participating students are challenged to develop, test, and build their ideas into applications that can help solve some of the world's toughest problems, such as poverty, hunger, gender inequality, environmental sustainability, and access to education and healthcare.



Cosmin Siclovan, 2nd year CSSE; Donal O'Sullivan, 3rd Year, Astrophysics and Marie Farrell, 3rd year Computer Science pictured with John McGinnity, Admissions Officer.

The cloud-based application for use in a medical setting, which focuses on a doctor-patient synchronisation system features a personalised symptomatic journal and reminders for the patient along with client management features for medical practitioners. The DocTek team advanced to the second round of the finals in Sydney. They were placed in the Top 20 teams out of 72 competitors in the Global Final.

Schola Gregoriana Maynooth

Schola Gregoriana Maynooth performed at the Watou International Festival of Gregorian Chant in Belgium from May 18-21.

The Schola is a group comprised of current and former students of NUI Maynooth and St Patrick's College Maynooth. The Watou International Festival of Gregorian Chant is the world's foremost chant festival. The Maynooth Schola was the only group from Great Britain and Ireland to have been invited to participate at the 2012 festival. Schola Gregoriana Maynooth is a joint SPCM-NUI Maynooth project, founded in 2000 by Dr John O'Keeffe and Prof Gerard Gillen. It became an all-female choice in 2007 under the conductorship of Giovanna Feeley. The group is currently led by Hannah Evans.



Members of the Schola Gregoriana, Siobhán McGrath, Leanne Walsh, Niamh Owens, Hannah Evans, Emma Donnelly and Patrice O'Connor.

Graduate Student of Education Selected for Washington Ireland Program

Philip O'Callaghan, a Graduate student of Education at NUI Maynooth, was selected from more than 350 Irish applicants to participate in the Washington Ireland Program (WIP) this year.



Philip O'Callaghan.

WIP awards 30 students from Northern Ireland and the Republic a prestigious 2-month internship, ranging from placements on Capitol Hill to government agencies, entrepreneurial businesses and the not-for-profit sector. While in Washington DC, Philip will be interning for 'Achieve'. Achieve is a bipartisan, non-profit organization that helps states raise academic standards, improve assessments, and strengthen accountability to prepare all young people for postsecondary education, work, and citizenship.

Throughout its 17 year history, WIP has built strong links with political elites in Washington DC, with several interns working with then Senator Barack Obama, then Senator Hilary Rodham-Clinton and Senator John McCain. Philip O'Callaghan commented "I am really honoured and privileged to be chosen for the Washington Ireland Program. Working in Washington with other leaders is going to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I'm determined to make the most of it".

Congratulations also to Annita Brady from Co Cavan who was also selected to participate in the Program. Annita received an MA in Military History and Strategic Studies (2011) and BA in History and Geography (2010) from NUI Maynooth. During her four years in Maynooth, Annita played an active role in The Friends of Raphael's Society as Chairperson for two years.

Towards a Greener Campus

Spring Clean

On Wednesday, 2 May, 40 staff and students from NUI Maynooth joined forces in a litter pick in the town of Maynooth and on the University campus filling a trailer with a substantial quantity of separated waste. The initiative came from the campus environment working group recently established by the Faculty of Social Science. It had been planned for Wednesday 25 April as part of An Taisce's National Spring Clean in April, but was postponed for a week due to the heavy rain. The working group seeks to promote environmental awareness, the enhancement of the university campus as a landscape for learning and, in the longer term, more sustainable use of energy and resources. Over the coming period the group hopes to continue to promote these aims in keeping with the strategic plan of the University to develop NUI Maynooth as a "green campus".



Students and Staff on the South Campus

Green Awards 2012

NUI Maynooth reached the finals of the Green Awards 2012 in two categories – Green Travel Initiatives Award and the Green College Award. Given that the Awards attracted over 150 entries from all over the country, reaching the finals was in itself a great achievement.



Sustainable Travel Competition

Congratulations to Emma Nicholson, Ciara McEnteggart, Benjamin Waldron and Justin Cullinane, winners of the Sustainable Travel competition pictured here with Frank Fitzmaurice, Director of Corporate Services and Colm Nelson, Campus Services Manager. The competition, open to students and staff asked entrants to come up with ideas on how best to promote sustainable travel on campus. A prize of €500 was offered to the two best ideas but such was the quality of entries four prizes of €250 were given to Emma, Ciara, Benjamin and Justin.



Pictured (l-r) Frank Fitzmaurice, Director of Corporate Services, Emma Nicholson; Benjamin Waldron; Justin Cullinane and Colm Nelson, Campus Services Manager.

Litter Award

On another positive note, according to a recent litter survey by Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) NUI Maynooth is litter-free and a model for other public places to follow. NUI Maynooth received an A grade which is "Clean to European Norms".

Clubs & Societies Awards 2012

The 18th NUI Maynooth Clubs & Societies Awards took place in the Glenroyal Hotel on the 28th March.



NUI Maynooth Alumni Officer Karen Kelly with members of the Ultimate Frisbee Club, winners of the Most Improved Club.

This annual event is designed to both reward and recognize the hard work put in by NUI Maynooth and St Patrick's students under the auspices of NUIM clubs and societies. The work of these groups forms an integral part of the 'Maynooth Experience' – the very heart of campus life.

The following is the list of winners on the night:

Society Winners

Best Society:	St.Vincent de Paul
Most Improved Society:	Anthropology Society
Best New Society:	Disney Society
Best Society Person:	Conor Hand (Anthropology)
Best 1st Year for a Society:	Niamh Keogh (L & D)
Society Event of the Year:	St. Vincent De Paul

National Society of the Year Awards

Anthropology Society won the national most improved society at the BICS National Society of the Year Awards.

Club Winners

Best Club:	Mens Soccer Club
Most Improved Club:	Ultimate Frisbee
Best 1st Year for a Club:	Gary Hurley (Golf)
Club Executive of the Year:	Liam Grimes (Rugby)
Athlete of the Year:	Gráinne Mc Glade



Athlete of the Year Gráinne Mc Glade with Tom Maher, GAA Officer for NUI Maynooth.

Students Fundraise for Pieta House

NUI Maynooth students presented a cheque to Ciaran Brady of Pieta House, which was chosen as *The Charity of the Year* by the Students' Union 2011-12.

Clubs and Societies held fundraising events throughout the year in aid of Pieta House. Fundraisers were held by the Gospel Choir and the Biology Society among others. Students raised a total of €4,000 for Pieta House.

Ciaran Brady of Pieta House with representatives of NUI Maynooth Clubs and Societies.



Maynooth Swimming Scholar on Irish Paralympics Team



James Scully representing Ireland at the Paralympic Games.

The University wishes James Scully, a second year Politics student at NUI Maynooth, the best of luck as he represents Ireland at the Paralympics in London this summer.

James will compete in the 50m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle Swimming at the London Paralympics Games.

GAA Officer Retires

The occasion of the 2012 GAA Awards was used to mark Tom Maher's retirement as NUI Maynooth's GAA Officer.

The full membership of all four GAA Clubs (Men's Football, Women's Football, Camogie and Hurling) along with all of his coaching and support teams were present to honour Tom's 15 years of work on behalf of sport at NUI Maynooth. Prof Philip Nolan, President NUI Maynooth, Suzanne Holmes, MBNA, dignitaries from Leinster GAA and colleagues past and present, attended to show Tom their appreciation.

Paul Davis, Sports Officer, paid tribute to Tom whose use of the uniform black-and-amber colours with the NUI Maynooth crest, across multiple teams, helped stamp a strong 'NUI Maynooth' identity in the world of third-level GAA. He was influential in the passing of the 1999 student/university levy for the establishment of the new playing fields and extension to the sports centre on the north campus.

Player commitment and programmes were strengthened after he struck a deal with MBNA for the MBNA/GAA scholarship scheme which has benefited some 220 students (including some senior inter-county all-stars) over 14 years. Tom was presented with a specially commissioned *Jarlath Daly* bronze sculpture by GAA commentator, Micheal O'Muircheartaigh.



Tom Maher and Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh.

