

UNIVERSITY NEWS



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

Maynooth Education Forum 'Transforming Curricula: Empowering Learners'

On Friday, 27 June the second Education Forum over 100 strategists, policy makers, researchers and practitioners in education gathered to debate the theme of 'Transforming Curricula: Empowering Learners'.



Dr Kerry Murphy Healey, President of Babson College; Prof Philip Nolan, NUI Maynooth President and Prof Bob Lingard, University of Queensland.

Policy makers must move away from evidence-based policy to evidence-informed policy, according to **Professor Bob Lingard** from the University of Queensland, Australia. He also argued that social inequality needs to be addressed by education policy, redistribution of funding to schools serving the poorest communities, and through broader public policy reforms. Speaking at the Forum, **Dr Kerry Murphy Healey**, President of Babson College, Massachusetts, one of the world's leading entrepreneurial institutions said: "20 years ago people said you had to be born an entrepreneur, ...but things have evolved significantly and now we focus on entrepreneurial thought and action. How do you approach problem solving in an innovative way? How do you learn to take action, fail, and then pivot to get it right next time. A curriculum needs to constantly evolve in order to stay relevant."

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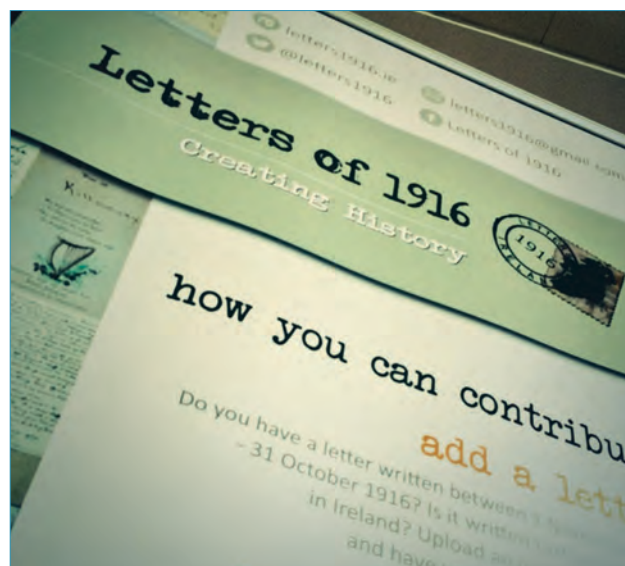
Launch of the 'Letters of 1916' Project

The 'Letters of 1916: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times' event took place on campus on Thursday, 8 May.

The Kildare Launch of the 'Letters of 1916' project, led by Susan Schreibman, Prof of Digital Humanities in An Foras Feasa is bringing a local element to the first public humanities project in Ireland.

The 'Letters of 1916' project which entered its next phase at An Foras Feasa, seeks to track down surviving letters and photographs from the Kildare area, regardless of their subject matter, written at that time.

The Letters of 1916 Project was delighted with the attendance and interest shown as the public contributed their old letters and photographs to this new digital archive aimed at recreating life in Ireland in 1916. The documents will be scanned and transcribed as part of the project and the online archive, created by the public and accessible to the public, will be officially launched in November 2015.



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High Rankings Continue

NUI Maynooth has been recognised as one of the leading new universities in the world, ranked #67 in the Times Higher Education (THE) 100 under 50 rankings.



The ranking, which lists top 100 universities less than 50 years old, aims to highlight the next generation of leading universities in the world. 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 President, Professor Philip Nolan said, "While rankings are subjective in nature and built largely on opinion, this achievement is recognition of the scholarly reputations of our staff, the quality of our research, and our collective efforts to provide an outstanding education for our students."

FROM THE EDITOR

I hope you enjoy the final Newsletter for this academic year which highlights the breadth of activity from students and staff across the campus.

Hope you all have an enjoyable summer and the next Newsletter will be out in October.

Lisa McVann,

Senior Executive Assistant

Phone: 01-7086160

email: lisa.mcvann@nuim.ie

General: communications@nuim.ie

If you currently receive your newsletter by post and would like to receive it by email please contact the office at 01-708 6160 or email: communications@nuim.ie

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Memorial Wall Commemorates Famine Emigrants

A memorial wall commemorating the Famine was unveiled by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny at Strokestown Park on Sunday, 11 May.

Conceived by Dr Ciaran Reilly from the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses & Estates, the memorial wall contains the names of 1,490 people from 275 families who were sent to Canada in 1847. The names were extracted from the Strokestown

Park Archive on loan to the OPW/NUI Maynooth Archive & Research Centre.

An exhibition, *Emigrant Faces from County Roscommon*, designed by Dr Reilly details the lives of some of the famine emigrants who went abroad.



An Taoiseach Enda Kenny unveiling the Memorial Wall.

National Youth Policy Conference

The Department of Applied Social Studies held a conference on 26-27 June to mark the 30th anniversary the publication of the Costello Report on National Youth Policy.

Speaking about publication of the Costello Report, Jean Monnet Professor Maurice Devlin commented that "although Ireland in the early 1980s in some ways seems a distant place – with much less cultural diversity, and no hint as yet of a Celtic Tiger to come – the issues that prompted the establishment of the Costello Committee were in some ways strikingly similar to today. Minister Charlie Flanagan was on campus to highlight the new National Policy Framework for Children and Young People, *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*, launched recently. The conference also saw the launch of the Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence in Youth Work at NUI Maynooth, an award bestowed by the European Commission. This is the first such award in an Irish university since 1999, and the first in the youth work field in any country.

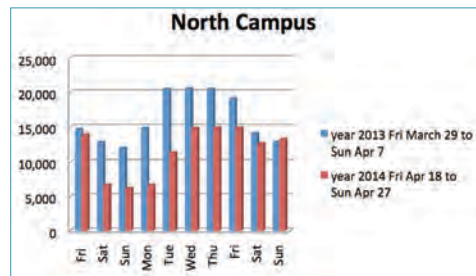


Charlie Flanagan TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs with Anastasia Crickley and Professor Maurice Devlin.

Maynooth Unplugged

Maynooth Green Campus has thanked and congratulated staff for their response to the *Maynooth Unplugged* initiative carried out over the Easter Vacation and May Bank Holiday.

Staff were asked to unplug anything that uses electricity that will not be in use during the holidays- PCs, Printers, Chargers, Lights, Kitchen Appliances, AV equipment, anything with a plug that is regarded as "non essential". Each small individual action has added up to a considerable saving in energy costs and a reduction of the University's carbon footprint. There was a reduction of over 46,000 KWh used as compared with last year.



Alumni Summer Soirée 2014

The Alumni Office hosted their annual event for its alumni in the Library on Thursday, 29 May featuring music, politics and literature.

The event attracted alumni from across the world. Amongst the attendees was alumnus and former TD Mary O'Rourke who read from her recently published autobiography "Just Mary", and Music Graduate Emmanuel Lawler, the internationally acclaimed Irish tenor who performed a number of classics on the night. Emmanuel's distinguished classical music career has seen him perform

with some of the most famous orchestras in the world including the London Symphony Orchestra, The English Chamber Orchestra, The Chicago Symphony and The National Symphony of Ireland, as well as collaborating with more contemporary acts including U2 and actor Mel Gibson.

Mary O'Rourke was a member of the first lay graduating class, completed a HDip in Education in 1967. She described how her lecturer, Brother Seamus Ó Súilleabháin, Professor of Education, told her, as a student teacher, not to be afraid to stretch young people's minds; "don't be afraid to give them more knowledge than they can cope with – their minds are elastic." Describing the affection she still holds for Maynooth today the former Minister for Education



A Cup, Collingwood Champions and Craic at the Alumni Summer Soirée!

said that "while Maynooth has developed over the decades since I was a student here the University remains a special place and has carved out a unique place in the Irish educational landscape."

President, Professor Philip Nolan said: "NUI Maynooth takes great pride in the achievements and contributions of our alumni both in Ireland and abroad. Our alumni are an integral pillar of the NUI Maynooth community and their successes continue to inspire and inform our own teaching and pursuit of excellence. We are therefore delighted that so many of our alumni view their time spent here with such fondness and affection.

Photography Book wins Prize

Northern Ireland: 30 Years of Photography by Dr Colin Graham senior lecturer in the Department of English and curator of the Illuminations Gallery has been awarded the 2014 Michael J Durkan Prize for Books on Language and Culture by the American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS).

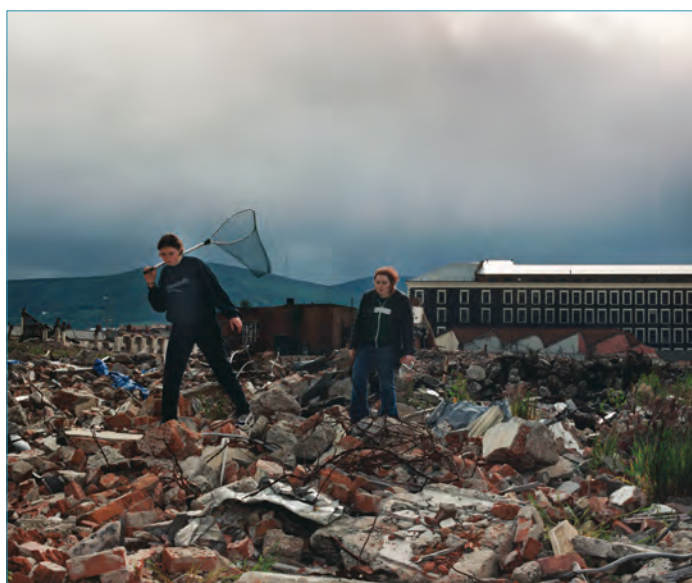


Photo 'Butterfly Catchers'(1999) ©Hannah Starkey, Courtesy of Maureen Paley Gallery.

Taking a historical and thematic approach, the collection brings together significant works by over fifty photographers to examine the phenomenon of new photographic practices in Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland: 30 Years of Photography was published in conjunction with an exhibition of the same title, staged at Belfast Exposed and the MAC in June 2013. It was *The Observer's* Photography Book of the Month for June 2013.

Royal Irish Academy Admits Maynooth Alumnus

Geraldine Byrne Nason was admitted as a Member of the Royal Irish Academy continuing a 229 year Academy tradition of recognising outstanding achievement.

Geraldine Byrne Nason is Secretary General at the Department of the Taoiseach and one of Ireland's most distinguished diplomats and civil servants. She graduated from NUI Maynooth with a BA in English and Irish in 1980 and completed a MA in English in 1981. Her career has spanned numerous political administrations, government departments, the OECD, the UN and representation at the EU.

NUI Maynooth honoured Ms Byrne Nason in 2010 when she received the President's Alumni Award. Geraldine is a current member of Maynooth Alumni Advisory Board (MAAB). It was recently announced by the Department of Foreign Affairs that she will take up the role as Ambassador to France in August 2014.



Professor Mary Daly, RIA President; Prof Aidan Raftery, Honorary Member, RIA and Geraldine Byrne Nason, Alumnus NUI Maynooth.

Business Students Receive Marketing Excellence Awards

Transport provider Dublin Coach announced the winners of their inaugural *Marketing Excellence Awards*.

These awards held in association with the School of Business related specifically to an in-depth Market Research Project, briefed by the company to the 1st Year BBS Marketing group as part of their Consumer Behaviour Module.

Under the guidance of Dr Christina Donnelly, Programme Director for BBS Marketing, the group worked on a three month exercise related specifically to core Dublin Coach Market Research objectives. The overarching objective of the Market Research was to capture current attitude, behaviour and perception towards Dublin Coach. The group worked in teams of four/five and the winning team was announced by John O'Sullivan, CEO Dublin Coach and included: Brian Dempsey, Katie McHugh, Cian Spillane and Lucy Teevan. The outstanding individual award was won by Conor O'Neill.



Dr Christina Donnelly, John O'Sullivan, Dublin Coach CEO; Conor O'Neill, Lucy Teevan, Brian Dempsey, First Year BBS Marketing Students; Phil Donnelly, Dublin Coach Marketing Director; Cian O'Sullivan, BBS Marketing Student and Professor Peter McNamara, Head of the School of Business.

Disability Policy Seminar

An innovative cross border group hosted a seminar entitled *Joining the dots: an integrated approach to supporting people with disabilities in education, employment and society* in the Mansion House Dublin on Tuesday, 13 May.



Siobhan Barron, National Disability Office; Rose Ryan, Director of Access; Myra Berloff, Director of the Massachusetts Office on Disability; Angie Smith, US Embassy; Kevin Doherty, Interim Chief Executive, Disability Action, Northern Ireland.

It reviewed the various strands of disability policies and to examine policy developments in Ireland and other jurisdictions. Topics explored included the development of policies to support people with disabilities in Northern Ireland and the US and the lived experiences of people with disabilities in education and employment. Speakers included Siobhan Barron, Director of the National Disability Authority and Jennifer Doran, Head of Research and Communications for the National Council for Special Education.

The Seminar brought together a range of agencies and organisations concerned with equity of opportunity and outcome for people with disabilities. Rose Ryan, Director of Access at NUI Maynooth outlined how in times of economic difficulty it is more important than ever that "we seek the opportunity to leverage the better use of resources; the greater sharing of expertise and the development of shared strategic objectives synergised across different agencies, sectors and jurisdictions in order to support pathways for people with disabilities in education, employment and society".

Connect Networking Event



Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and Dr Alison Campbell.

"Open Innovation 2.0 – the paradigm for innovation partnership".

The NUI Maynooth Commercialisation Office held its annual networking event at Carton House Hotel on Monday, 7 April for over 100 delegates. The key message of how businesses can benefit from linking with higher education and research institutes was emphasised by keynote speakers Prof Martin Curley (Head of Intel Labs Europe) and Dr Alison Campbell OBE (Head of Knowledge Transfer Ireland).

Prof Curley emphasised how Open Innovation 2.0, the merging ecosystem model of open collaboration driven by partnerships across Industry, Government, Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) and Individuals has become a real driver of innovation and the global economy. Dr Campbell outlined how the Technology Transfer system has involved in Ireland over the last 10 years and how the newly established cTTO will embed technology transfer as a partnership across Government, HEIs and industry, to drive research commercialisation in public institutes for the benefit of society, private industry and the economy.

Anthropology Department Hosts Dr Drażkiewicz-Grodzicka

Dr Elżbieta Drażkiewicz-Grodzicka has been awarded the prestigious Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship for her research project titled *The Second World in the Third: Polish Aid to Sudan and Nigeria from Comecon to EU Accession*.

Dr Drażkiewicz-Grodzicka arrived in Maynooth in February 2014 and is working with Dr Patty A. Gray in the Department of Anthropology. Combining historical and anthropological approaches, this research will critically examine the socio-political relations linking African recipients of foreign aid with Poland, an Eastern European donor in the Soviet Bloc, with the aim of considering the implications for the current development cooperation between North and South and the re-

emergence of new EU Member States as foreign aid donors. The results will help us understand the search for development alternatives outside of Western aid regimes, both during the Cold War era as well as in the current context of 'emerging donors' and South-South Cooperation.



Dr Drażkiewicz-Grodzicka.

SFI Success for NUI Maynooth

Dr Emmanuelle Graciet, Department of Biology and Professor John Ringwood, Dept of Electronic Engineering have been awarded project funding as part of a new €47 million research fund delivered by Science Foundation Ireland Investigators Programme (SFI).



Dr Emmanuelle Graciet.

The Programme will provide funding for 36 different research projects involving over 200 researchers. These projects were selected on the basis of their potential to improve Ireland's economic and societal development, and were chosen by competitive peer review by 400 international scientists, focusing on excellent research with a potential impact.

Dr Emmanuelle Graciet has been awarded €799,910 for her research into sustainable food, focusing primarily on agricultural issues such as crop yield and the potentially catastrophic impact of plant infections

causing food shortages in the developing world. Amongst the anticipated outcomes of the project is the development of improved turnip and rapeseed plants which are more resistant to infections.

Professor of Electronic Engineering John Ringwood's project for innovative research into wave energy development was awarded €1,479,862 toward the development of the next generation of controllers for wave energy devices.

The Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Richard Bruton TD also recently announced funding to support five new industry-academia partnerships through the **SFI Industry Fellowship Programme** at NUI Maynooth.

Conor Cahalane, NCG, **Mohammad Karzand**, Hamilton Institute, **Paul Lewis**, NCG, **Gavin McArdle**, NCG and **Timothy McCarthy**, NCG have all secured SFI Industrial Research Fellowships. The SFI Industrial Fellowship gives the opportunity to gain important first-hand experience in a commercial research environment, while also providing industry with access to highly specialised trained researchers. The aim of the programme is to increase levels of collaboration between industry and academia.

Career Development Centre Hosts AHECS Biennial Conference

NUI Maynooth Career Development Centre hosted the Association of Higher Education Careers Services (AHECS) Biennial Conference on 26-27 June, with the theme of *Supporting Students, Supporting Careers Professionals, Promoting Excellence*.



Conference organisers Marie Kieley, Brendan Baker and Maria Brown with keynote speaker Dr Paul Redmond.

AHECS membership comprises 26 higher education institutions, universities and institutes of technology throughout the island of Ireland. The conference was an opportunity for careers professionals to explore and discuss new trends in Graduate Recruitment and Employment, how to embed Employability in the curriculum, and to hear the reports of task groups on topics such as Work Placement, Labour Market Trends, Employability and Continuing Professional Development. The two day event included talks by Marie Bourke from the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs, Charles Handy of LinkedIn and Mark Mitchell of Gradireland.

Dr Naji Receives Fulbright Award

Pictured is Dr Jeneen Naji, Department of Media Studies who has received a 2014 Fulbright Award. Dr Naji is the Digital Media Programme Coordinator in the Department of Media Studies at NUI Maynooth. As a Fulbright TechImpact Scholar Jeneen will be visiting Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. She will be based in the department of Literary Arts in order to make a multicultural digital poem in their immersive 3D CAVE.



Brakes 4 Kids Wins Student Enterprise Competition, Hosted by Eden

The 5th annual NUI Maynooth Student Enterprise Competition, held on Tuesday, 13 May saw the top four aspiring entrepreneurs put through their paces in front of an expert panel to determine how the €10,000 prize-money would be distributed.

The Competition, sponsored by McCann Fitzgerald and Bank of Ireland kicked off with a call for entries, in January was organised by EDEN, the University's Centre for Entrepreneurship, Design and Innovation. In a departure from previous years, students were asked to enter the competition even if their idea was not fully market-ready or at the stage of a final business plan.

According to Peter Robbins, Centre Manager for EDEN, 'Part of the role of EDEN is to develop a university-wide community of bright people with smart ideas – and to help them convert their ideas into action. The student enterprise competition is a wonderful way of sending a depth charge through the university to flush out people with ideas who might want help in bringing them to fruition.'

This year there were 90 entries to the competition; triple the number in prior years. Once the students entered the competition, they were enrolled in a series of five evening workshops that helped them develop a business model; helped them create a tangible, testable concept; helped them create commercial assumptions and put together realistic projections; helped them learn visual thinking and sketching to enhance their creativity and finally, they learned how to make the perfect pitch.

The winner was a mature student, Paddy Devine who will graduate this year from the Product Design BSc programme with his idea, *Brakes 4 Kids*.



Prof Piero Formica, Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship, Eden Centre; Dr Peter Robbins, Eden Centre Manager; Conor Boyce, Hanna Moore & Curley; Conor Mallaghan, Carton House Hotel; Patrick Devine, Winner; Noel Mc Cluskey, Bank of Ireland; Paul Lavery, McCann Fitzgerald and Dr Frank Devitt, Director Eden Centre.

Exercise Viking



Professor Philip Nolan, President at the Irish Military Exercise Headquarters, Curragh Camp with Dr Graham Heaslip and MSc students.

Recently students of the MSc in Humanitarian Logistics and Emergency Management participated on Exercise Viking 2014 in the Curragh in April.

VIKING 14 is a Command Post Exercise/Computer Assisted Exercise in the "Spirit of Partnership for Peace" combining six different militaries, 13 different nationalities, four UN agencies and over 20 non-governmental organisations. The Exercise is built on a fictitious scenario, BOGALAND, involving several countries in deep crisis in the need of Joint Combined Civilian and Military Peace Support. The MSc students performed the role of the UNWFP and were the Logistics Cluster Lead in the exercise. As part of the exercise students experienced joint and interagency coordination challenges, performed assessments of the logistical needs of the humanitarian community as well as being responsible for the movement of food in the exercise

EU Mediation and Dialogue Course



The large scale mediation simulation was conducted with the Irish Defence Forces in the Army field training area in the Glen of Imaal, Wicklow.

From 19-23 May 30 diplomats, military personnel and civilians from nine EU Member States along with the African Union and Morocco undertook a high level EU Mediation and Dialogue Course in Maynooth.

This International Course was delivered by the Edward M Kennedy Institute for Conflict Intervention under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College. The Kennedy Institute is the Irish Representative on the Academic Board of the European Security and Defence College. Developed by practitioners in mediation and academics, the International Course will give participants a deep understanding of mediation and negotiation and the capacity to apply these techniques in conflict zones throughout the world.

The EU has recognised the urgent need to develop crisis management skills, including mediation, for the EU diplomats, military personnel, and civilians participating in these Missions. The centre piece of the Course was the simulation of a large ethnic conflict in a part of the world where an EU Peacekeeping Mission is deployed. The diplomats, military personnel and civilians on the course used mediation to control, manage and resolve the conflict.

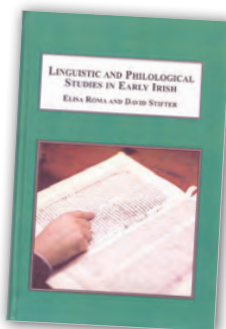
Teangeolaíocht na Gaeilge XVI

The School of Celtic Studies organised a conference in May entitled Teangeolaíocht na Gaeilge / Linguistics of the Gaelic Languages XVI.

The event included a launch of a book, *Linguistic and Philological Studies in Early Irish*, edited by David Stifter and Elisa Roma with proceedings of a previous conference at Maynooth in 2011.

The event's speeches had an international dimension with talks given by Raymond Hickey (Universität Duisburg-Essen); Orit Eshel (Hebrew University in Jerusalem); Peadar Ó Muircheartaigh (Edinburgh University); Marina Snasareva (Moscow State University); Elisa Roma (Università di Pavia); - Juan García Castillero (Universidad del País Vasco); Elliott Lash (Universität Konstanz); Bernhard Bauer and Aaron Griffith (Universität Wien) amongst others.

NUI Maynooth was represented by Ruairí Ó hUiginn, Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh, Liam Mac Amhlaigh, Eoghan Ó Raghallaigh, Brian Ó Catháin and David Stifter.



New Director of NCG

The National Centre for Geocomputation (NCG) has a new director.

Professor Chris Brunsdon commenced his post in January. He joins Maynooth from University of Liverpool where he served as Professor of Human Geography. As one of the developers of the widely used Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR) data analysis technique, Chris joins forces again with the NCG's Martin Charlton and Dr Tim McCarthy to build on the NCG's profile as the principal centre for Geocomputation and spatial analyses in Ireland, combining a strong focus upon fundamental research and partnerships with industry.

Professor Chris Brunsdon has published extensively with contributions to spatial data analysis and geocomputation, and has particular interest in Geographical data visualisation, Geocomputation and the R programming language and applications of these to crime, health and housing data.



Professor Christopher Brunsdon.

Regulating for Decent Work

Esther Lynch, ICTU and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Law at NUI Maynooth addressed fairness deficits and promotion of decent work standards at the lecture entitled 'Regulating for Decent Work - Combating Unfair Terms in Employment Contracts'.

The lecture which reflected on what fairness at work means saw Ms Lynch discuss the prospects for worker empowerment and worker protection took place on campus on Tuesday, 6 May. It was attended by various representatives from the legal profession and members of the business community.



Professor Philip Nolan, President; Justice Mary Laffoy, Judge of the Supreme Court of Ireland and Honorary Adjunct Professor of Law at NUI Maynooth; Esther Lynch, Honorary Senior Lecturer in Law at NUI Maynooth Legal and Legislative Officer at the ICTU; Justice Peter Kelly, Judge of the High Court of Ireland and Honorary Adjunct Professor of Law at NUI Maynooth and Professor Michael Doherty, Head of the Department of Law at NUI Maynooth.

Student Plus Awards



Pictured are 40 First year undergraduates who received the Student Plus Certificate of Achievement in recognition of their commitment to the programme. Student Plus aims to support first year students in their transition to higher education. Through participating in weekly group-based sessions, students learn about and further develop some of the core skills required to undertake academic tasks at university. This year, Student Plus has been piloted as a mainstream initiative by the Centre for Teaching and Learning and the Access Office, with the sessions taking place in the Library.

International Research Award to Biology PhD Student

Stephen Dolan BSc, a second year PhD student in the Department of Biology was awarded a best poster prize at the International *Asperfest* Meeting which was held in Seville, Spain in March.



Stephen Dolan BSc.

This meeting was attended by over 200 fungal genetics researchers from across the globe and the winning poster addressed the topic "Exploring the Enzymatic Mechanism and Biological Function of Gliotoxin S-methylation in *Aspergillus fumigatus*."

Stephen's work is funded by an Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship to Stephen and an SFI Principal Investigator award to Professor Doyle. Stephen presented his research on the chemoenzymatic modification of a toxic biomolecule, called gliotoxin, from the pathogenic fungus *Aspergillus fumigatus*, which can cause severe disease in immunocompromised and cystic fibrosis patients. His work has demonstrated a new biological phenomenon whereby gliotoxin can be enzymatically modified by a new class of fungal enzyme, which in turn has many biomedical and biotechnological implications. The work was facilitated by access to the superb instrumentation infrastructure, including HPLC and LC-MS equipment on campus.

Froebel Project Explores Children's Literature

Two lecturers from the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Dr Patricia Kennon and Dr Liam Mac Amhlaigh were finalists for the 2014 Jennifer Burke Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning.



Pictured are Dr Mac Amhlaigh and Dr Kennon giving a poster presentation on their project at the Teaching and Learning Showcase on Friday, 6 June.

The Jennifer Burke Award, awarded annually by the Irish Learning Technology Association (ILTA) and DCU recognises and rewards the innovative use of ICT for educational purposes and creative practices in teaching and learning in Ireland.

The shortlisted project, "Using multimodal technology to bilingually and critically explore literature for children", is believed to be a first in Irish teacher-education: a dual-language, blended-learning elective

on children's literature which supports student teachers to create enriching links between theory and practice. The elective design developed students' sensitivity to the pedagogical potential of story, scaffolding assessment for learning and the students' identities as reflective practitioners in the study of literature for younger readers.

12th Annual Historic Houses of Ireland Conference

The Annual Historic Houses of Ireland Conference on Thursday, 8 May entitled *The Country House and the Great War: A European Experience* was in keeping with the 'Decade of Commemorations' celebrations.

The conference explored the role Irish country houses played in Irish and European history at the turn of the 20th century, focusing particular attention on the influence of these houses and families on the outcome of the Great War. History Lecturer Dr David Murphy shared new research into the early life of Lawrence of Arabia, the product of an affair between Sir Thomas Chapman of South Hill Estate in Westmeath and the young governess to the South Hill household, Sarah Lawrence.

Director of the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses & Estates Prof Terence Dooley delivered a lecture on Aspects of Irish Aristocratic Life: Essays on the Fitzgeralds and Carton House, charting the turbulent rise and fall and subsequent rise again of the Carton Estate. Other highlights included seminars on "Women and the Great War" and "Sons of Ulster: the Great



Prof Terence Dooley; Prof Marian Lyons, Head of the Department of History and Hon Desmond Guinness at the 12th Annual Historic Houses of Ireland Conference.

War and the Big House in Ulster Politics". Prof Dooley and Dr Chris Ridgway, curator of the Castle Howard stately home in North Yorkshire were guests of *The History Show* on RTE Radio 1 on Sunday, 4 May as they discussed how the landed gentry were affected by the war.

Education Forum *(continued from page 1)*

Other speakers included **Professor Gary Granville**, Professor of Education, National College of Art & Design, **Dr Anne Looney**, Chief Executive, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and **Professor Emer Smyth**, Research Professor and Head of Social Research Division at the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI). Addressing attendees, **Professor Philip Nolan**, President: "Today's Forum was designed to provide an opportunity to think about curriculum at all levels in the education system and provide an opportunity to debate alternatives, and to refine our thinking on the changes that could benefit the sector over the coming years."

The FitzGerald Book Launch



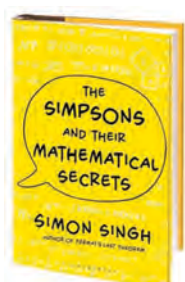
Prof T Dooley signing copies of the launch of *Aspects of Irish Aristocratic Life - Essays on the FitzGerald and Carton House*. The book was edited by Dr Patrick Cosgrove, Prof Dooley and Dr Karol Mullaney-Dignam.

Berkeley Lecture 2014

The third Berkeley Lecture, held on campus on Thursday, 1 May was given by Dr Simon Singh, a British author who has specialised in writing about mathematical and scientific topics in an accessible manner.

This year's title is *The Simpsons and Their Mathematical Secrets*, which explored mathematical themes hidden in The Simpsons. Singh also discussed how writers of Futurama have similarly made it their missions to smuggle deep mathematical ideas into the series.

The Berkeley Lecture is an annual event in which a talk in the general area of mathematics and philosophy is 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.



Human Resource Notes

NEW APPOINTMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following appointments:

School/Departments	Appointees
Campus Services	Ms Sharon Walsh, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)
Human Resources Office	Ms Ashley O'Donoghue, Equality Officer
Library	Ms Ciara Joyce, Archivist
Oifigeach Na Gaeilge	Ms Siún Ní Dhuinn, Irish Language Officer (Contract Post)
Research Development Office	Ms Elaine McCarthy, Research Development Officer Ms Eilish Lynch, Research Development Officer (Contract Post)
Office of VP Research	Ms Sharon Dillane, ISCP China Coordinator (Contract Post)
Department of Adult & Community Education	Dr Camilla Fitzsimons, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)
Department of Electronic Engineering	Dr Le-Nam Tran, Lecturer (Contract Post)

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**

Shakespeare in the Digital Age

Department of English lecture, Dr Stephen O'Neill's new book *Shakespeare and YouTube: New Media Forms of the Bard* (Arden Shakespeare/Bloomsbury), was recently published.

In its analysis of YouTube Shakespeare, Dr O'Neill shows the importance of the video-sharing platform to the 21st century's reception and adaptation of Shakespeare's work.

Emphasising the need for critical media literacy, it also analyses the site's usefulness as a pedagogical resource within Shakespeare studies. The book provides practical guidelines on using YouTube in the classroom, including detailed assignments designed to facilitate interactive, student-centred learning.



TEDxFulbrightDublin 2014

Dr Moynagh Sullivan from the Department of English, School of English, Media & Theatre Studies gave a TEDx talk at the TEDxFulbrightDublin 2014 event at Smock Alley on Saturday, 5 April.

The theme was Creativity and Innovation and Dr Sullivan's talk was entitled "Creative Play and Transformation in Emma Donoghue's Room" and it looked at the importance of motherhood in literature and art. Dr Sullivan held the Fulbright and Department of Foreign Affairs Fellowship in Irish Literature and Culture at UC Berkeley, California in 2009.



Around the World Conference



Dr Mark Maguire, Dept of Anthropology; Dr Aphra Kerr, Dept of Sociology; Dr Maria Murphy, Dept of Law; Michael Baume, Associate Director of Risk Management International (RMI) and Sadhbh McCarthy, Centre for Irish and European Security.

On Wednesday, 21 May NUI Maynooth hosted Ireland's contribution to 'Around the World' online Conference.

The online, live-streamed conference which had inputs from Ireland, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Nigeria and the United States, took place throughout the day.

The theme of the conference was privacy and surveillance in the digital age and speakers from NUI Maynooth included Dr Maria Helen Murphy, Department of Law and Dr Mark Maguire, Head of the Department of Anthropology, NUI Maynooth. The Irish element of the conference was co-chaired by Prof Susan Schreibman, Director of An Foras Feasa and Dr Aphra Kerr, Department of Sociology. *Around the World* is co-ordinated by the Kule Institute of Advanced Study at the University of Alberta.

Media Analysis of European Elections

The recent elections to the European Parliament produced some dramatic political theatre across the European Union as far-right parties made tremendous gains in Denmark, France, the United Kingdom and other member states.



Dr John O'Brennan.

The significance of this lies in the fact that the European Parliament is now a very powerful actor in EU politics, acting as it does as a 'co-legislator' with the Council of the EU and the outcome of the elections will have a significant bearing on EU politics in the future.

NUI Maynooth faculty were prominent in analysing the campaign and the outcome of the elections on local and national media. Dr Adrian Kavannagh and Dr Claire McGing of the Department of Geography and Dr John O'Brennan, Director of European Studies and Lecturer in European Politics within the Department of Sociology all featured regularly on radio and television throughout the campaign and helped to provide members of the public with expert analysis of different elements of the unfolding drama. The University has deep expertise on Europe across a range of faculty boundaries and this expertise is now making a considerable contribution to public debate on European integration.

2014 IAFA Spring Seminar

NUI Maynooth hosted the 2014 Irish Accounting and Finance Association (IAFA) Spring Seminar in March, which was the first time that NUI Maynooth hosted an IAFA event.

The event was attended by IAFA delegates from many of the third level academic institutions in the country. The theme of the seminar was "Accounting and Social Theory" and was presented by Prof Lisa Jack from the University of Portsmouth. Prof Jack's research interests lie in management information for decision-making, including accounting communication and education. She is particularly interested in the use of social theory to investigate the reasons why accounting tasks are done in the way they are and why they might be done differently.



Prof Bernard Mahon, VP for Research, NUI Maynooth; Dr Bridget McNally, Dept of Economics, Finance and Accounting, NUI Maynooth; Prof Lisa Jack, University of Portsmouth; Hilary Qualter, Fionnuala Doris, AnnMaire Bennett and Michael Hayden, Dept of Economics, Finance and Accounting, NUI Maynooth.

Campus Engage Symposium



Pictured are Anastasia Crickley and Ciara Bradley (centre) from the Department of Applied Social Studies representing NUI Maynooth at the 'Campus Engage Symposium, Campus-community partnerships: conversations for change' on June 17 in Dublin Castle. Also pictured are community partners Helen Lowry, Migrant Right's Centre Ireland and Rosaleen McDonagh and Hilary Harmon, Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre; Kate Morris, Campus Engage National Coordinator; Prof Barbara Holland, Portland State University and Senior Scholar, Indiana University - Purdue University and Sir David Watson, Professor of Higher Education at the University of Oxford and Principal of Green Templeton College, keynote speakers at the symposium.

Maynooth Access Programme Second Level Awards



Director of Maynooth Access Programme, Rose Ryan and Head of NUI Maynooth Kilkenny Campus, Maeve O'Byrne present awards to inspirational students and teachers.

President of NUI Maynooth, Professor Philip Nolan and Director of Maynooth Access Programme, Rose Ryan, presented awards for exceptional achievement to over 100 second level students and 25 teachers from schools linked to the NUI Maynooth Access Programme in a second level awards ceremony recently.

The *NUI Maynooth Access Programme Second Level Awards* are granted annually to students who have shown outstanding application, dedication and progress at school, often in the face of challenging circumstances.

The *3rd Year Special Awards* this year were granted to 77 students who have demonstrated exceptional effort and advancement in one particular subject area, English, Irish, Languages, Mathematics or Science.

25 senior students received the *6th Year Inspirational Student Award* for their position as role models to other students as a result of outstanding achievement in school.

Inspirational Staff Awards were granted to twenty five teachers, nominated by the 6th year Inspirational Student winners, for their particular support and motivation to these students.

Head of NUI Maynooth Kilkenny Campus, Maeve O'Byrne, and Director of Maynooth Access Programme, Rose Ryan, presented awards to a further 16 students from schools in Co. Kilkenny at an awards at a ceremony on the Kilkenny Campus on Wednesday, 7 May.

Maths Support Centre Highlighted at Campus Engage Initiative

The Mathematics Support Centre (MSC), a free campus and community service providing informal, friendly additional support to NUI Maynooth undergraduate and secondary students was highlighted a recent conference in Dublin.

The service was used as a case study to highlight volunteering in the community at a recent event held by Campus Engage, the national network for promotion of civic and community engagement in higher education.

The MSC Manager, Dr Ciarán Mac an Bhaird, attended the event and said that the Maynooth maths initiative was very well received. Professor Ray O'Neill, Vice President for Innovation, visited the MSC in May with the MSC Manager and MSC Director, Dr Ann O'Shea. He commented: "The positive atmosphere generated by both students and staff is immediately obvious and very impressive. The MSC is an excellent example of Maynooth's dedication towards supporting both the needs of our own students and students in the wider community.

The fact that HEIs in Ireland, the UK, Australia, Canada and the US are asking Maynooth's advice regarding their own MSC services highlights the excellence of the service they provide."

Further information: <http://supportcentre.maths.nuim.ie/>

Imagine Cup 2014 Finals

Access Earth, an app designed by students of NUI Maynooth, has been selected to compete in the Microsoft Imagine Cup 2014 World Finals in Seattle at the end of July.

The app, designed by Department of Computer Science students Matthew McCann, KC Grant and Jack Gallagher, provides information on buildings' accessibility for those with mobility impairments.

Access Earth allows people to make an informed decision on whether or not a building is wheelchair accessible by providing information on facilities including ramps and wheelchair accessible toilets alongside an overall building accessibility rating. It does this by harnessing the local knowledge of volunteer networks across the world to catalogue individual building's mobility points.

Team Access Earth is among only 35 teams to be selected from a total of 170 semi-finalists from 72 different countries to compete in the finals. The team has been nominated for the 'global citizenship' category, a category that recognises those who have demonstrated an innovative application of technology for social good.

This is Access Earth's second time competing in the Microsoft Imagine Cup, having finished runners up in Ireland in 2013.



Professor Philip Nolan, Matthew McCann, KC Grant and Jack Gallagher.

Clubs and Societies Awards

On Thursday, 3 April the Students' Union celebrated 20 years of the Clubs and Societies Awards.

The Clubs & Societies Awards presentation night is one of the biggest nights in the student life calendar. The night saw the return of past SU Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Brian Gormley, former Director of Student Services who celebrated with alumni staff and students.



The Dance Society celebrating as they win the Best Society.

The 2014 winners are as follows:

Society Person of the Year - Danielle O Sullivan; **Best Society** - Dance Society; **Best Society Event** - Mini Musical Festival, MAD Society; **Most Improved Society** - Pride Society; **Best New Society** - Enactus; **First Year Society Person** - Matthew Kavanagh, Pride Society & Johto University; **Best Poster** - Ultimate Frisbee; **Most Improved Club** - Basketball; **Best Club** - Ultimate Frisbee; **Club Executive of the Year** - Eric Lawless, Lifesaving; **Club Event of the Year** - Meet Your GAA Hero Day, GAA Clubs; **Athlete of the Year** - Sean Hoare, Soccer; **Best 1st Year Athlete** - Maddie Siegmund, Fencing Club; **Pastoral Award** - SVP; **Clubs and Societies League Table** - St Vincent De Paul

This year for the first time the Give A Little Do A Lot Award for the Club or Society that raised the most money for charity, went to the Mental Health Society, fitting as the charity of the year was a suicide based charity SOSAD - Save Our Sons And Daughters.

Maynoothopoly

Maynooth Students' Union (MSU) unveiled their own version of Monopoly, 'Maynoothopoly' prior to students sitting their exams.

The initiative which promoted positive mental health during the exam period was the culmination of an ongoing mental health campaign by MSU.

A limited number of bespoke boards were created by MSU Vice President Malachy Callan featuring well-known venues throughout the university campus and Maynooth Town, and a teaser video was released encouraging students to tweet "#Maynoothopoly" to be in with a chance of receiving their own board. Students received the board, a property guide, user manual, the all important Maynoothopoly money and witty Chance & Community Cards. However students have to use some creativity of their own for the houses, hotels & playing-tokens required to complete the game.



The bespoke Maynoothopoly Board and rules book.

2014 World University Golf Championships



Pictured carrying the Irish flag is Sinead Sexton (3rd Year Business & Management) at the opening ceremony of the 15th World University Golf Championships at Crans-sur-Sierre Golf Club in Switzerland. Also representing Ireland are NUI Maynooth Golf Scholars Declan Loftus (2nd Year Business & Management), Conor O'Rourke (2013 Alumnus).

Galway Cycle 2014



Pictured are some of the 250 cyclists took part in the Maynooth Students for Charity annual Galway Cycle on their homecoming in March. It is the 27th year of the cycle form Maynooth to Galway and back. The event which sees students, staff, alumni and friends of the University come together for the fund raising, fun weekend. This year the nominated charity is Prader Willi Syndrome Association of Ireland. The event has raised in excess of 1 million euro for good causes such as Jack and Jill Children's Foundation, Headstrong and Cystic Fibrosis Association of Ireland.

Schedule of Dates for Meetings in 2014-2015

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 (TWO EXCEPTIONS)	ACADEMIC COUNCIL* at 15.00 hours	GOVERNING AUTHORITY at 14.30 hours
1 September 2014 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	2 September 2014 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	8 September 2014 Boardroom JHB	22 September 2014 Renehan Hall	25 September 2014 Boardroom JHB
6 October 2014 Boardroom JHB	7 October 2014 Boardroom JHB	6 October 2014 (11.00) Boardroom JHB	20 October 2014 Renehan Hall	6 November 2014 Boardroom JHB
17 November 2014 Boardroom JHB	18 November 2014 Boardroom JHB	24 November 2014 Boardroom JHB	8 December 2014 Renehan Hall	11 December 2014 Boardroom JHB
12 January 2015 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	13 January 2015 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	19 January 2015 Boardroom JHB	2 February 2015 Renehan Hall	19 February 2015 Boardroom JHB
9 March 2015 Boardroom JHB	10 March 2015 Boardroom JHB	9 March 2015 (11.00) Boardroom JHB	30 March 2015 Renehan Hall	23 April 2015 Boardroom JHB
11 May 2015 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	12 May 2015 Boardroom JHB	11 May 2015 Boardroom JHB	30 May 2015 Renehan Hall	11 June 2015 Boardroom JHB

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

NUIM Barnhall Named Leinster Senior Club of the Year

NUIM Barnhall RFC was awarded the Canterbury NZ Senior Club of the Year after a successful season from Mini's to Youths to our Senior Men's and Women's teams.



Pictured is the NUI Maynooth Rugby Club Freshers' team with Dennis Bowes, Paul Davis and the coaches celebrating after winning the Student Sport Ireland Freshers' League Final in May by defeating IT Carlow.

It was the first time our Club has been awarded this honour and it reflects how the Club is growing. The Senior team also recently won the Leinster Senior Shield by defeating Naas RFC 48-0.



NUIM Barnhall RFC President Michael Mousley with Leinster Rugby President Paul Deering.

Formula 24 Success

Andrew Meehan, lecturer with the Department of Engineering mentored a team of Transition Year students from Maynooth Post Primary School with the support of Intel as they recently became the first school in the Republic of Ireland to compete in a GreenPower Formula 24 event.



Andrew Meehan, Department of Electronic Engineering pictured at the GreenPower event with Wheel Deal.

Earlier this year the TY student group were split into sub teams with specific focus areas with the technical sub-team began work on building the electric powered car in March with the Engineering Department. There was also a PR sub-team of students who were responsible for fundraising and raising awareness of the project in the media.

The aim of the project was not only to build and race the car electric powered car but also to expose students to the vast world of Engineering. The annual GreenPower event took place in Belfast on Saturday, 31 May. Having passed all safety and design checks the car, named the 'Wheel Deal' lined up with five other teams for two 90 minute races. All cars start the race with the same batteries. The object is to cover as much ground as possible and hopefully last until the end of the race. The 'Wheel Deal' was placed runner up in the overall race but 1st in its class and the team were awarded the Siemens award for Innovation and Design. They have qualified for the GreenPower Formula 24 Final at the Goodwood race track in the UK in October.

Sports Scholarship Celebration

On Wednesday, 9 April, an inaugural Sports Scholarships Celebration took place in Pugin Hall which honoured 35 final year students.

These students who have contributed to high-performance sports scholarship programmes in Soccer, Golf, Rugby, GAA football, Camogie and hurling on campus were presented with awards by Prof Philip Nolan and Master of Ceremonies for the evening, George Hook. It was attended by the scholars' families, invited guests and representatives of sports bodies partnered with the sports scholarship programmes such as the Royal Dublin Golf Club, GUI, St Patrick's Athletic FC, NUIM Barnhall RFC and the GAA.



Prof Philip Nolan, President; Sean Hoare, Soccer Scholar and George Hook, Master of Ceremonies.

Outstanding successes over the last few years were celebrated including the Harding, Farquhar, Crowley and Collingwood Cup wins in soccer, the Ryan and Giles Cup wins along with the great recent Sigerson Cup campaigns in the GAA, NUIM Barnhall RFC's ascendancy in the All Ireland League and golf's achievements both at home, in inter-varsity competition and the Barton Shield, and in the international arena.

Harrington Golf Scholar was Leading Amateur at the Irish Open

NUI Maynooth's Gary Hurley was the top Irish amateur at the 2014 Irish Open at Fota Island.

Gary was the first Paddy Harrington golf scholar to compete at the Irish Open, where he competed against two of the NUI Maynooth's honorary doctorate recipients in Paddy Harrington and Paul McGinley.

Gary was awarded a spot in this year's field due to string of performances at International amateur events this year. In January, he finished 15th at the Patriot All America in Arizona comprising the best collegiate golfers in the United States. In South Africa in the same month, he notched up tied fifth at the Free State & Northern Cape Stroke Play and tied eleventh at South African

Amateur Stroke Play. In March, he was part of the Ireland team who finished tied third at European Nations Cup in Spain.

Subsequently, Gary has been selected to represent the 6 man Ireland team for the European Amateur Team Championship in Finland from July 8-12.

Gary Hurley.

