

UNIVERSITY NEWS



Ministers Open New €14.1 million School of Education at Maynooth

The Maynooth University School of Education was officially opened on Thursday 21 February.



Prof Marie McLoughlin, Froebel Dept; Dr Mary Ryan, Dept of Adult and Community Education; Minister Joe McHugh TD; Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD; President Philip Nolan and Prof Sharon Todd

The outstanding contribution of Maynooth University to the education system and teaching profession in Ireland was underlined at the official opening of its €14.1 million School of Education by two of its proud alumni - Minister for Education and Skills Joe McHugh, TD, and Minister of State for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD.

The building provides an important centre for Maynooth to build on its strength in providing outstanding teacher education, innovative education research, and in preparing a new generation of education leaders. It is providing capacity for the rapid growth in student enrolment to the University's three education departments, which has expanded from 700 to 1,400 since 2014.

With a history in teacher education dating back to 1926, Maynooth University is unique in Ireland as the first institution providing the full spectrum of teacher education from early childhood to adult education. Many retired staff and alumni returned on campus to celebrate this significant milestone.

MU receives €9 million for doctoral training at new SFI Centres

Maynooth University has been named a partner in two highly innovative Science Foundation Ireland Centres for Research Training

The €9 million funding, which is part of an investment of more than €100 million in six new SFI Centres for Research Training in the fields of ICT and data analytics, will provide training for more than 70 doctoral students at Maynooth in areas of identified skills need for Irish society and its economy.

The SFI Centre for **Research Training in Foundations of Data Science** is a joint initiative of Maynooth University, University College Dublin and the University of Limerick, with the support of Skillnet Ireland underpinning its industry and enterprise engagement. The Centre was awarded a total of €21 million, including industry and university contributions, to train 139 PhD students towards a world-class foundational understanding of Applied Mathematics, Statistics, and Machine Learning. This represents the largest ever investment in mathematical sciences research in Ireland.



Pictured at SFI announcement: Dr Deirdre Desmond, Department of Psychology, Prof Mark Ferguson, SFI, Dr Caroline Brophy, Department of Mathematics and Statistics and Prof Ken Duffy, Hamilton Institute

in this issue

IRC Laureate Awarded to Prof Patricia Palmer

Prof Patricia Palmer, Maynooth University Department of English, has been awarded prestigious €1 million Irish Research Council Advanced Laureate 2019



Prof Pat Palmer

The poets, patrons and political activists of the most culturally rich and tumultuous period of Ireland's history will be digitally mapped for the first time in a project created by Maynooth University's Prof Patricia Palmer.

The MACMORRIS (Mapping Actors and Contexts: Modelling Research in Renaissance Ireland in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century) project sets out to recover the vibrancy and complexity of Ireland's transformative years between Henry VIII's assumption of the kingship of Ireland in 1541 and the Flight of the Earls in 1607.

It is a radically new digital humanities project creating the first annotated and interactive digital map of all cultural players—from poets, patrons, and pamphleteers, to translators, travel-writers, and administrators—of this rich period in Irish history.

Speaking about the IRC Laureate Award, Prof Palmer said: "MACMORRIS allows us to tap into a diverse, multilingual world that reminds us just how rich and complex the wellsprings of Irish culture are."

FROM THE EDITOR

University News is published three times a year by the Maynooth University Communications and Marketing Office. For questions, or to submit stories and ideas any time of the year, contact Communications@nuim.ie.

Spring Conferings at Maynooth

On Friday 21 March more than 550 were conferred on campus, including 18 PhDs, spread over the three Faculties

Included among them were four Writing Centre tutors – Alan Carmody, Brandt Dainow, Matthew Fogarty and Sarah O'Brien. In tandem with their doctoral studies these colleagues have contributed to the Writing Centre in terms of supporting students in one-to-one appointments, facilitating writing workshops and seminars, and conducting research into writing practices.



Pictured (l-r); Matthew Fogarty, Sarah O'Brien, Brandt Dainow, Alan Carmody, tutors with the Writing Centre

MaynoothWorks Spinout Avectas Raises \$10m Investment



Dr Shirley O'Dea, co-founder and Chief scientific officer at Avectas

MaynoothWorks spinout Avectas has received its single largest investment of \$10 million for its ground breaking cell therapy technology, bringing total fundraising to over \$20 million

Cell and gene therapies are considered the next important advance in pharmaceuticals, with the potential to transform the way diseases, particularly cancer, are treated.

The \$10 million financing led by leading pharmaceuticals investor Seamus Mulligan is expected to fund the company to the point where its technology will be positioned for clinical trials. Avectas expects to add to its 24 staff following the new investment.

Avectas is working on cell engineering technology that allows cells to be taken from people, who are often critically ill, and returned to them after they have been genetically engineered to address their illness.

Avectas' Solupore® technology increases cell permeability in a way that is gentler on the cells and more cost efficient than rival approaches. It also means the engineered cells can be returned to the host patient more quickly.

New Fulbright Ambassador at MU

The Fulbright Commission recently announced that Dr Catherine Leen is the new Fulbright Alumni Ambassador for Maynooth University



Dr Catherine Leen, Head of Dept of Spanish and Latin American Studies

Dr Leen received a Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research at the Chicana/o Studies Centre at the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2008. Her current teaching and research interests centre on Mexican and Chicana/o literature and cinema, as well as Argentine and Paraguayan literature and visual cultures. Dr Leen takes up the mantle from Sinéad Murnane who has served as Ambassador at MU for the last two years and contributed greatly to enhanced engagement on campus.

The Fulbright Commission in Ireland annually awards grants for Irish citizens to study, research, teach or lecture in the USA and for Americans to do the same in Ireland.

SFI Investment in doctoral training

(continued)

Dr Deirdre Desmond, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Psychology, will lead Maynooth's participation in the SFI Centre for **Research Training in Advanced Networks for Sustainable Societies**. The Centre was awarded more than €13.8 million, rising to €18 million including industry contributions. The partnership Centre will train doctoral students to seek solutions to the technical and societal challenges of global hyper-connectivity; 24 of the CRT's 120 students will be based at MU.

Five Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) are collaborating in this Centre: Maynooth, CIT, UCC, TCD and TU Dublin. Local authorities, companies, NGOs, and an international network of collaborators will also take part in the initiative to meet the technical and societal challenges of global hyper-connectivity.

Maynooth University and Intel Ireland sign MoU

In March, MU and Intel Ireland signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a strategic partnership for research and innovation, and to nurture future talent



Eamonn Sinnott, General Manager of Intel Ireland and Maynooth University President, Professor Philip Nolan

Building on already strong relationships between Intel and Maynooth, the MoU will establish a more comprehensive and structured format for creative collaborations in key areas of research.

The agreement was signed by Maynooth University President, Professor Philip Nolan, and Eamonn Sinnott, General Manager of Intel Ireland and Vice President Technology Manufacturing Group, marking a new chapter in the relationship between Ireland's fastest growing university and the global leader in manufacturing and technology.

As a commitment to developing the relationship between two major employers and contributors to enterprise, research and education policy, the MoU offers the potential for Intel and Maynooth to enhance their strategic presence in the fastest growing demographic region of Ireland by working in a more comprehensive and structured format.

The two organisations will co-operate to identify, optimise and nurture research and innovation in areas of growth potential, such as Maynooth's U-Flite project on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (co-funded by SFI and industry partners), artificial intelligence, design and innovation.

The partnership also will seek to explore ways to work together on topics such as emerging skills and talent needs, and extending diversity in education, including the representation of women in STEM-related education programmes and STEM careers.

Dr Mary Murphy Appointed by President to the Council of State



President presents warrants of appointment to Dr Mary Murphy at Áras an Uachtaráin on 16 April

Dr Murphy is among seven new appointees to the Council of State

She will be joining former Taoisigh, former presidents Mary Robinson and Mary McAleese, as well as the Chief Justice Mr Frank Clarke and the Attorney-General Séamus Woulfe SC.

A senior lecturer in Irish Politics and Society in the Maynooth University Department of Sociology, Dr Murphy co-ordinates the BA in Politics and Active Citizenship. Her research interests include public policy, labour markets and social security, power and civil society and gender.

Dr Murphy said: "I am very honoured to be entrusted with this role and to be included among the seven nominees of President Michael D Higgins and I particularly welcome the commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion which underpinned his selection of nominees. I very much look forward to the work of the Council of State over the next years."

A key contributor to national debate on social policy, Dr Murphy was a member of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission 2013-2017 and a member of the National Expert Advisory group on Taxation and Social Welfare 2011-2014.

Department of Biology Work with Clarins Ireland on Bee Survival Project

Researchers in the Dept of Biology at Maynooth University are working with Clarins Ireland on a project that examines the susceptibility of bees to disease

The research will be conducted by Rachel Ward under the supervision of Professor Kevin Kavanagh and Dr Mary Coffey (University of Limerick). The project will examine the immune response of winter bees, which can live for up to six months, but may be susceptible to infection. The project will also analyse the effect of different treatments on the immune system of bees and identify the optimum time for treatment to ensure survival of hives through the winter.

Professor Kevin Kavanagh said: "Honey bee populations are under serious threat from disease and toxins in the environment. This project which is supported by Clarins Ireland, will examine the immune system of over-wintering honey bees and help develop new strategies to enable them survive the effect of pathogens and toxins. It will make a significant contribution to reducing the losses of bee hives each year in Ireland."



Pictured (l-r); Rachel Ward, MSc student; Marrita Coyne, PR & Communications Manager, Clarins Ltd; and Eoghan O'Sullivan, General Manager Ireland, Clarins Ltd

Prize-giving Ceremonies Celebrate Outstanding Academic Achievements

A total of 309 departmental prizes were awarded at the annual Prize-giving Ceremonies in March

New prizes added this year were the Liam Carey Prize (for highest mark in Thesis element of Degree) and Prize for Highest Mark on the Higher Diploma in Further Education, (both Dept of Adult and Community Education; the John O'Connor Memorial Award for Excellence in Business Teaching (Education Dept), sponsored by the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland; the A&L Goodbody Aviation and Transport Finance Internship and the French Government Medal and NUI Prize for Distinction in Collaborative Degrees (Dept of Law); First place, Second Year Robotics and Intelligent Devices Prize (Dept of Engineering); the Huxley Prize – Euclidean Geometry (Dept of Mathematics and Statistics); and the Maynooth University Teaching Studentship (Graduate Studies).



Pictured at the Ceremony are Dept of Biology prize winners; Andrea Woodcock, Cathal Ryan, Trynise Kemmy, Philip Ryan, Aimee Traynor, John McAndrew, Thomas Phelan and Emma Devereux, with Dr Rebecca Owens, Lecturer in Biology and Prof Aidan Mulkeen, Vice-President Academic

Innovation and Transformation Programme Funding for MU

Maynooth University has been awarded more than €2.8 million from the Innovation and Transformation Programme 2018

The awards, announced in February by Minister for Education Joe McHugh, TD and Minister of State for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, are for a number of high-impact innovation projects to transform student experiences, build competitiveness and deliver value for the education sector and Irish society more broadly.

Almost €1.5 million has been awarded for the development of the “Future Ready” programme, which increases employability through innovations in the curriculum. Since Maynooth introduced its ground-breaking undergraduate curriculum in 2015 students have been able to select subjects across different disciplines and avail of a critical thinking module to increase their future adaptability. This has been highly successful and will now be expanded and developed further.

More than €810,000 has been awarded for the development of “Mi-Lab – the Maynooth University Innovation Lab,” which will harness Maynooth’s unique expertise to apply design thinking to current problems and issues in the education sector, including the structure of and access to postgraduate studies to improve pathways and outcomes for students.

Just over €563,600 has been allocated for the enhancement of supports for students in the areas of computer technology and mathematics post-entry. This builds on Maynooth’s international leadership role in maths and ICT while also making these skills more accessible to students across the University.

Maynooth is also a partner in the “Enabling Change” project led by the Irish Universities Association, which has received almost €3 million for enhancing the digital capacity in teaching and learning at Irish universities.

MU Part of IUA Scholarship Agreement with Indonesia

Maynooth University joined other Irish universities in Jakarta, Indonesia recently at the unveiling of a new joint agreement that will see an increase in the number of Indonesian students coming to Ireland for their PhD studies



Delegates from the Irish Universities, IUA and MoRTHE at the event in Jakarta

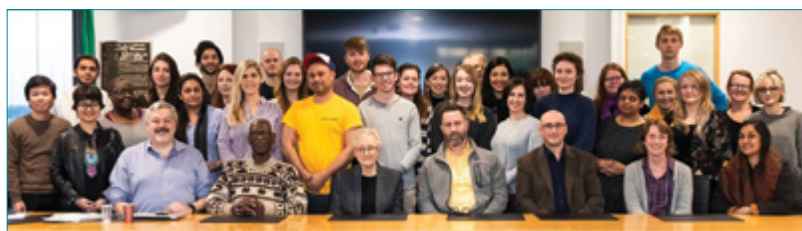
The Irish Universities Association, on behalf of the seven Irish universities, signed an agreement with the Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education in Indonesia to participate in a scholarship that will place PhD candidates currently lecturing at Indonesian universities into Irish universities. Fiona Reynolds, Interim Director of the International Office at Maynooth University attended the event. The agreement follows on from the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in higher education and research, signed by the Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education in Indonesia (MoRTHE) with the Department of Education and Skills in Ireland in September 2018.

There are over 4,000 public and private universities in Indonesia and since 2008, over 2,000 lecturers from Indonesia have been sent abroad to undertake PhD doctoral training.

Annual Ethnography Winter School

The Department of Anthropology recently hosted world-renowned anthropologist, Marilyn Strathern as a guest during its annual Ethnography Winter School

This was the sixth year of the school, which is an immersive one-week PhD module focused on contemporary thinking about ethnographic research and writing. The School draws students studying in diverse disciplines from many universities in Ireland and elsewhere, and this year students came to Maynooth from NUI Galway, DCU, the University of Florence, University College London, and UCC. Strathern was the William Wyse Professor of Social Anthropology at Cambridge University, where she is currently Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology. She is known world wide for her



Attendees at the Winter School

theoretical innovations drawing on decades of ethnographic work in Papua New Guinea. Her work has made paradigm-shifting contributions to studies of kinship, gender, property, law, audit culture, and more. She is widely regarded as one of the most important anthropologists of the last 50 years.

Maynooth University Receive IRC COALESCE Funding

Five Maynooth University projects were successful in the 2018 Irish Research Council COALESCE Fund

On 26 March, the Irish Research Council launched the 26 projects funded under the 2018 COALESCE research call. This new funding scheme seeks to fund excellent research addressing national and European/global national challenges as set out in the challenge frameworks now in place. The call is run in partnership with a number of government departments and agencies, who fund or co-fund specific strands.

Professor Mac Maclachlan, Dept of Psychology and ALL Institute was awarded a grant of €350,000. This research project works with government and other key people, especially people with disabilities, to help them develop a national assistive technology policy and to identify what changes need to be made to the existing situation, to allow the policy to be effectively implemented.

Dr Aileen O'Carroll, Social Sciences Institute was awarded €99,968. This project asks how civil society organisations that are combating social exclusion and discrimination use the new forms of digital technology available. It seeks to uncover the best practices with which successful advocacy groups deploy Digital Organising Tools (DOT). The project will contribute to capacity building in these civil society organisations, and to the development of policy and practices around social media usage.



Some of the Maynooth University award winners, including Dr Thomas Strong; Dr Mary Murphy and Dr Aileen O'Carroll at the launch.

Dr Thomas Strong, Dept of Anthropology received €97,867. His project aims ethnographically to describe and analyse the contemporary sexual worlds of gay men in Ireland, in order to better to guide public health interventions in this area.

Dr Mary Murphy, Dept of Sociology, MUSSI was awarded €119,988. This research seeks to consolidate the theoretical and practical foundations of a national public employment service (PES), in post-crisis Ireland,

and examine its capacity to support the development of a strong labour force, rather than just reducing unemployment.

Dr Conor Murphy, Dept of Geography, ICARUS (and co-led by Dr Arlene Crampsie, UCD) were awarded €219,960. The project entitled: "Irish Droughts: Environmental and Cultural Memories of a Neglected Hazard" looks at the increasing likelihood of the frequency and/or severity of droughts in Ireland in the coming decades. To address this challenge, this project will bring together researchers from physical and human geography, history and environmental studies, to reconstruct historic Irish droughts, examining their severity, geographical extent and impacts and will contribute to future climate adaptation strategies.

Winning Entrepreneurial Ideas at the EDEN Grand Finale

A record-breaking 81 entries to the 2019 Eden Ideas Competition



Pictured at the EDEN Ideas Competition Final 2019 are judges and winners

After a showcase of Maynooth University's entrepreneurial spirit, Fergal Murray (4th year Product Design Student) was announced €5000 First Prize Winner of the 2019 Eden Ideas Competition for his innovative solution for sports concussion detection, 'Tremor'. Second place prize of €2500 went to Molly Hackett's 'Wills.ie' (a service solution to allow solicitors to effectively manage wills) and €1500 third place to Damon Flynn, Jane Carroll and Damian Mulhern, with 'Alter' (an adaptive piece of furniture specifically designed for open plan offices).

The Judging Panel comprised of Jacqui McNabb, Head of Enterprise at Local Enterprise Office, Kildare; Mark Ellis, Senior Associate with McCann Fitzgerald; Leon Diop, President of MSU; Prof. David Prendergast, Acting Head of the Department of Design Innovation.

The Eden Ideas Competition carries a prize fund of €10,000 and is among the most established and richest student enterprise competitions in any Irish university. Eden are indebted to the joint sponsors; McCann Fitzgerald and Kildare Local Enterprise Office for supporting the competition and continuing to encourage our student's entrepreneurial mind-set.

Dr Gerard McCarthy Awarded International Early Career Scientist Medal

Dr Gerard McCarthy of the ICARUS Climate Research Centre and Department of Geography received an Early Career Scientist medal by the International Association for the Physical Science of the Oceans



Dr Peter Heffernan, CEO of the Marine Institute; Dr Gerard McCarthy, ICARUS; Minister Michael Creed, TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine

The IAPSO Early Career Scientist Medal honours Early Career Scientists for their outstanding research in the physical or chemical sciences of the oceans, and for their cooperation in international research.

The 2019 IAPSO medal in physical ocean science was awarded in recognition of Dr McCarthy's "outstanding contribution to research on the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation and its role in Earth's climate system."

In December 2018, funding of €2 million for a major project led by Dr McCarthy on Atlantic climate change was announced by the Marine Institute and the European Regional Development Fund.

Eco-Friendly Gym Equipment Wins Innovation Competition

The Library Innovation Competition *If Students Did Libraries* is now in its second year. This year's final was held on Tuesday, 19 March. There was a fantastic morning of pitches from all of our finalists in front of a panel of Library Dragons – Cathal McCauley (MU Librarian), Alison Hood (Dean of Teaching and Learning), Leon Diop (MSU President), Marian Higgins (Kildare County Librarian) and Lorna Dodd (Head of Academic Services, MU Library). Our winner was Darragh Gilleece, a Master's student of Musicology and Performance. His winning idea is to install eco-friendly gym equipment that generates electricity for the library. Well done to all involved and congratulations to Darragh!



Finalists with the Dragons

Death Row Letters exhibited by Kildare Library and Arts Service



Councillor Sean Power, Mayor of Country Kildare, Sister Majella McCarron (OLA) and members of the exhibition team

On Tuesday, 22 January, Councillor Sean Power, Mayor of County Kildare, opened an exhibition from the Maynooth University Ken Saro-Wiwa Archive, at Athy Public Library.

The archive contains the death row letters and poems of the Nigerian writer and activist to Sister Majella McCarron (OLA) and was donated to Maynooth University in 2011.

The exhibition includes four panels telling the Ogoni story, letters to Sister Majella, poems and photographs relating to Saro-Wiwa and his work. Kildare is the first of what is hoped to be a number of exhibitions in public libraries throughout Ireland.

Inaugural Library Alumni Reading



Writer Mary O'Donnell

On Tuesday, 2 April, renowned Irish novelist, poet, essayist, short story writer and Maynooth alumna, Mary O'Donnell read to a packed audience of university staff, Maynooth Alumni and members of the local community in the John Paul II Library. This is the inaugural reading in an annual series that will be hosted by the Library. Each year a Maynooth University alumna with an international reputation in creative writing will be invited to deliver this reading. The event was introduced by Deputy Librarian Helen Fallon, who

noted Mary's international standing as a writer of poetry, short stories, novels and essays. Mary who graduated from St Patrick's College Maynooth in 1977, with a degree in German and Philosophy, read a selection of poems and extracts from her latest book "Empire." The reading was followed by a reception.

Library Abolishes Fines

Maynooth University has become the first Irish academic institution to abolish fines on all standard loans in its library, allowing students greater accessibility to key resources and materials for their studies.

Croatian Ambassador Visits Russell Library



Pictured: His Excellency Ivan Mašina, Dubravka Popić, Barbara McCormack and Professor Terence Dooley at a visit to the Russell Library in December

Student and Staff Art Exhibition



Commendation:
Walking in the rain by Alan Monahan (Photograph)



Commendation:
Dream by Monireh Astani (Watercolour, pen and ink)

The Maynooth Student and Staff Art Exhibition saw 51 entries from current students and staff of Maynooth University and St Patrick's College. The art works were exhibited in the Library foyer from 28 February to 11 March 2019. The exhibition was organised by the Library with Maynooth Students' Union and Maynooth University Art committee, all of whom sponsored the prizes.

The exhibition contained an array of subjects where portraits, landscapes, still life were well represented. A variety of media was also used including watercolours, oils, pencil, gouache, acrylic, pyrography, photography, photogram and a 3D mask made from clay, mirror and compact discs. The exhibition was open to the public.

A lunchtime Lecture, which coincided with the exhibition was delivered by Anne Hodge, Curator of Prints and Drawings at the National Gallery of Ireland on "Canaletto and the Art of Venice: A Curators Perspective".

Saro-Wiwa Collection Launched

The second edition of the letters, poems and contextual essays was published as *Silence Would be Treason: Last Writings of Ken Saro-Wiwa* (edited by Íde Corley, Helen Fallon and Laurence Cox) in November 2018 and launched at the annual Maynooth University Ken Saro-Wiwa seminar in November 2018. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to fund the Ken Saro-Wiwa Research Bursary. In 2018 Maynooth University signed a contract with an American Film company who plan to use the book in the making of a film about the life of Saro-Wiwa.

Visitor Recalls Illustrious Maynooth Alumnus



Professor Luis Ortiz

The first distinguished visiting scholar to the Maynooth University Human Health Institute was Professor Luis Ortiz from the University of Pittsburgh, USA

Prof Ortiz is a clinician and scientist specialising in lung diseases. During the three weeks he was on campus in Maynooth he collaborated with Professor Bernard

Mahon on new cell therapies for the incurable condition Idiopathic Lung fibrosis (IPF). In a partnership with the Irish lung Fibrosis Association, he delivered a public lecture on 13 March in the Royal College of Physicians in Dublin.

Prof Ortiz began his talk by recalling how the disease was first described by a nineteenth century alumnus of Maynooth College, Sir Dominic Corrigan. However, it was his description of a new understanding of cell circuitry in the lungs and the latest approaches to new therapies for IPF that captured the attention of the many patients, scientists and physicians attending.

GPA Graduation at Maynooth

24 talented inter-county GAA players graduated from The Jim Madden GPA Leadership Programme at Maynooth University in January



Paul Flynn, CEO of the GPA; Neil McManus, Antrim hurler; Maria Kinsella, Carlow footballer and Prof Aidan Mulkeen, Vice President Academic

A further ten players graduated from the Special Purpose Award in Professional Leadership – an optional accreditation pathway for those who have already completed the initial programme.

Leadership success continues as a further 32 participants completed their first day of the fifth year of the programme which is designed to develop crucial leadership skills among inter-county Gaelic football, hurling, ladies football and camogie players. Participants gain skills which they can draw on in their personal, sporting and professional lives.

The Jim Madden GPA Leadership Programme is tailored to athletes performing at an elite level with each student working with a professional life coach to address their individual development needs and help them reach their personal goals.

EU Careers Highlighted on Campus

Minister for European Affairs Helen McEntee TD visited Maynooth University on 3 April to outline the EU career opportunities open to MU students on graduation

It proved a great opportunity for Maynooth University students to learn about the range of careers on offer throughout the EU institutions and provided details on how the recruitment process works. Minister for European Affairs Helen McEntee discussed the fact that there is a decreasing number of Irish people working in the EU institutions, and that this needs to be replenished, to avoid a demographic cliff-edge.



Claire O'Doherty, Maynooth University EU Student Careers Ambassador and Minister for European Affairs Helen McEntee, TD

Junior Cert Business Studies Awards

The annual Junior Certificate Business Studies awards ceremony took place on Tuesday 29 January



Pictured are Prof Philip Nolan with students, Alex Webb, Luke Sullivan, Heather Jones, Cian O'Malley, Ewan Tushkanov, Kimberly Abejide and their teacher Ms Fitzpatrick, from Old Bawn Community School

The Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting, the School of Business and the Department of Law hosted the awards. The event which took place in the renovated Aula Maxima hosted students from 101 secondary schools from all over Ireland who were awarded the Excellence in Junior Certificate Business Studies Certificate.

Maynooth University in association with the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland publicly recognise the schools' contributions to the teaching and promotion of excellence in the discipline, while also acknowledging all students who achieved an 'A' grade in their 2018 higher level Business Studies Junior Certificate exam.

Highest Ever First Preference Applications for MU

Maynooth University has experienced its highest-ever level of first preference applications, with almost 3,600 students selecting Maynooth as their university of choice for the 2019-20 academic year

This figure represents a 7% increase on applications from 2018. The increases in first preferences are recorded right across the University's degrees, particularly the broad entry degrees in Science (17%), Arts (16%), Law (29%), and Business (6%). Demand for the University's primary education degree has

risen by 9%. Maynooth University's Bachelor of Arts continues to have the largest intake and is the most popular course in the country.

Maynooth's sector-leading growth comes at a time when overall CAO application figures have remained relatively flat, increasing by 1%.

Rath ar Ghaeilgeoir Mhá Nuad i dToghchán Náisiúnta

Tá ríméad ar mhac léinn Máistreacht na Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, Clíodhna Duffy, tar éis di bheith tofa mar Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge le hAontas Náisiúnta na Mac Léinn le déanaí. Is ag Comhdháil an Aontais i gCaisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo ag tús Mhí Aibreáin a toghadh Clíodhna don phost bliana agus glacfaidh sí seilbh ar an ról fíor-thábhachtach seo do Ghaeilgeoirí ar an tríd leibhéal ar an gcéad lá de Mhí Iúil tar éis do Leas-Uachtarán na bliana acadúla seo, Aoife Deasy, bogadh ar aghaidh.



Clíodhna Duffy le feiscint ar dheis tar éis di bheith tofa mar Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge le hAontas Náisiúnta na Mac Léinn ag a gcomhdháil bhliantúil i gCaisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo. Sa phictiúr leí tá Aoife Deasy, Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge na bliana acadúla seo agus Aodhán Ó Deá ó Chonradh na Gaeilge

As Droim Ing i gContae Lú ó dhúchas, tá Clíodhna ag tabhairt faoin Máistreacht sa Nua-Ghaeilge faoi láthair tar éis di céim a bhaint amach in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad sa Nua-Ghaeilge agus sna Meáin. Is é ábhar a tráchtais ná an caidreamh idir na meáin shóisialta agus cur chun cinn na Gaeilge, ag díriú ach go háirithe ar ghluaiseachtaí iomráiteachta ar nós an Pop-Up Gaeltacht. Is Oifigeach na n-Iarchéimithe ar choiste feidhmiúcháin Chuallacht Cholmcille í Clíodhna i mbliana agus ní ise an t-aon duine amháin ón goicte úd a raibh rath orthu i dtoghchán le déanaí.

Toghadh Ciarán Watts, Cisteoir na Cuallachta, mar Leas-Uachtarán don Leas agus Ruairí Weiner, Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí na Cuallachta, mar Oifigeach na Gaeilge agus Gnóthaí Cultúrtha ar Aontas na Mac Léinn anseo in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad don bhliain acadúil seo chugainn.

Bláthnaid Faoi Agallamh Linn



Bláthnaid Ní Chofaigh ag caint le mic léinn de chuid Ollscoil Mhá Nuad tar éis di dul faoi agallamh don tsraith nua agallamh le Gaeilgeoirí aitheanta “Mise agus an Ghaeilge”. Sa phictiúr leí tá a hagallóir Sinéad Scully, Róisín Ní Mhaoláin, Rachel King, Lucy Masterson agus Dúlra Ní Áinle

Cuireadh tús le sraith nua agallamh “Mise agus an Ghaeilge” anseo ar champas Mhá Nuad nuair a tháinig an láithreoir raidió agus teilifíse agus feachtasóir Gaeilge aitheanta Bláthnaid Ní Chofaigh amach chugainn le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2019. Tá sé i gceist ag Oifig na Gaeilge cuirí a thabhairt do phearsaí poiblí éagsúla sna blianta amach romhainn chun labhairt linn faoina saolta gairmiúla go dtí an pointe seo agus faoina gcuid eispéireas mar Ghaeilgeoirí os comhair an tsaol mhóir.

Ba í an t-agallóir oille don oíche ná Sinéad Scully, múinteoir bunscoile faoi oiliúint leis an Roinn Froebel agus Leas-Uachtarán Chuallacht Cholmcille. Chaith Bláthnaid go fial flaitiúil le Sinéad agus leis an lucht féachana a bhailigh le chéile chun í a chloisint, idir mhic léinn agus bhaill foirne, ó thaobh a hama de agus ó thaobh a scéalta de.

I measc na n-ábhar a clúdaíodh, bhí an aithne a chuir ise agus a teaghlach ar an bhfile ceiliúrtha Caitlín Maude agus í ag fás aníos i nGaeltacht Ráth Chairn, an sceitimíní a bhí uirthi agus ar a cíorcal cairde Oíche Shamhna 1996 nuair a seoladh TnaG agus an t-inní a chuireann an dearcadh cúng a bhíonn ag cainteoirí dúchais áirithe i leith na bhfoghlaiméoirí, fiú amháin sa lá atá inniu ann, uirthi

Motherfoclóir Ar Cuairt go hOllscoil Mhá Nuad

Mar chuid den cheiliúradh do Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2019 anseo ar champas Mhá Nuad, thug muintir Motherfoclóir cuairt orainn chun dhá eagrán dena bpdchraoladh mór le rá faoi chuile ghné den Ghaeilge mar a théann sí i bhfeidhm ar ár saolta a thaifeadadh. Tháinig lucht leanúna an phodchraolta amach, bíodh siad lonnaithe i Má Nuad nó lonnaithe sna ceantair timpeall orainn, chun tacaíocht a thabhairt don taifeadadh beo nach ndéantar ach ar ócáidí speisialta.

Bhí tríúr ón bhfoireann reatha san Ionad in Aontas na Mac Léinn don ócáid agus chomh maith le Peadar Ó Caomhánaigh, a stiúraigh an oíche dúinn, saineolaí dlí an phodchraolta Gearóidín McEvoy agus saineolaí meánaoiseanna an phodchraolta Eimear Duffy bhí Osgar Ó Ciardha, a bhunaigh an Pop-Up Gaeltacht in éineacht le Peadar, ann mar aoi speisialta. Ba é an téama don chéad eagrán ar a ndearna siad taifeadadh ná stádas na mban mar a leagadh amach é i mBunreacht na hÉireann sa bhliain 1937 agus céard go díreach is bí leis an ráiteas conspóideach “Is sa bhaile atá áit na mná”.



Peadar Ó Caomhánaigh, Eimear Duffy agus Gearóidín McEvoy lena n-aoi speisialta Osgar Ó Ciardha ag an taifeadadh beo dena bpdchraoladh Motherfoclóir san Ionad in Aontas na Mac Léinn ar champas Mhá Nuad le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2019

Ina dhiaidh sin, ba é an téama don dara eagrán ná na tríoblóidí agus torthaí aiféiseacha a eascraíonn as bheith ag dul i muinín Google Translate chun cáipéisí de chuile shaghas a aistriú go Gaeilge, ficsean earótach san áireamh. Ba ócáid fhille í do bheirt den fhoireann óir chaith Peadar seal mar Uachtarán ar Chuallacht Cholmcille agus é ag déanamh staidéir dá bhunchéim i Má Nuad agus bhain Eimear Máistreacht amach le Roinn na Sean-Ghaeilge i Má Nuad dhá bhliain ó shin.

Mic Léinn Mhá Nuad i Ráth Chairn

Den chéad uair le fada an lá thug mic léinn ó Ollscoil Mhá Nuad cuairt i Mí Feabhra ar an gceantar Gaeltachta is gaire dóibh nuair a bhailigh muintir Scéim Chónaithe Ollscoil Mhá Nuad 2018 – 2019 leo, in éineacht le hOifigeach na Gaeilge Brian MacMaghnúis, go Gaeltacht Ráth Chairn i gCroílár Chontae na Mí don deireadh seachtaine.



Muintir Scéim Chónaithe Ollscoil Mhá Nuad 2018 – 2019 ag leac cuimhneacháin Dharach Uí Chatháin i gCroílár Gaeltacht Ráth Chairn i Mí Feabhra na bliana seo in éineacht le hOifigeach na Gaeilge Brian MacMaghnúis ar chlé

Cuireadh fáilte is fiche rompu agus bhí clár láidir imeachtaí pleanáilte dóibh a dhírigh isteach ar stair spéisiúil na háite ó bunaíodh an Ghaeltacht sa cheantar sa bhliain 1935 agus ar scileanna damhsa agus amhránaíochta ar an sean-nós, atá go mór chun tosaigh inti chomh maith céanna leis an nGaeilge labhartha. Dar leis an Ollamh Fionntán de Brún, Ceann Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad, is iontach tábhachtach an rud é turas den saghas seo a fheiscint arís mar ba cheart dúinn teacht i dtír ar an saibhreas atá díreach taobh linn agus na nascanna seanbhunaithe idir an ollscoil agus Gaeltacht Ráth Chairn a dhaingniú arís.

Is ar aon intinn leis atá Brídóg Ní Chonaire, bainisteoir Chomharchumann Ráth Chairn, a d’eagraigh an turas ar fad agus a léirigh a cuid dóchais gur oilithreach bhliantúil a bheidh inti amach anseo. Bhí an turas maoinithe ina iomlán ag Lárionad na Gaeilge, atá faoi stiúir ag Anna Ní Ghallachair agus atá tiománta do shaol na Gaeilge a fhorbairt agus a fheabhsú do dhaoine go náisiúnta, go hidirnáisiúnta agus le tionscail áitiúla den saghas seo.

Seodra Gaeilge ar Taispeántas

Bhí an deis tugtha do Ghaeilgeoirí Ollscoil Mhá Nuad súil níos géire a chaitheamh ar an ábhar Gaeilge cuimsitheach sna bailiúcháin speisialta i Leabharlann an Ruiséalaigh agus Leabharlann Eoin Pól II nuair a seoladh taispeántas le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2019 darb ainm “Seodra Gaeilge Leabharlann Ollscoil Mhá Nuad”.



Eoin Ó Murchú agus Eoghan Ó Raghallaigh ó Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge i mbun spaisteoireachta ag an seoladh agus seimineár don taispeántas “Seodra Gaeilge Leabharlann Ollscoil Mhá Nuad” i Leabharlann an Ruiséalaigh

Is lonnaithe i Leabharlann an Ruiséalaigh atá an taispeántas go deireadh an tsamhraidh agus tá Barbara McCormack, leabharlannaí ar na bailiúcháin speisialta, den tuairim gurb iad cuid de bhuaicphointí an taispeántais ná leabhar urnaithe lámhphéinteáilte roimh thréimhse an Ghorta Mhóir, cóip ón ochtú haois déag de *Phoras Feasa*, cóip ón naoú haois déag den *Dán Breac* agus dréacht lámhscríofa de dhráma leis an bPiarasach, *The Master*, a léiríodh den chéad uair i Mí na Bealtaine 1915. Is ag freastal ar dhaoine a bhfuil dúil acu i saolta agus saothair Pheadair Uí Laoghaire agus Eoghain Uí Ghrannhaigh a bhíonn an taispeántas chomh maith agus clúdaíonn sé tréimhse níos déanaí ná Athbheochan na Gaeilge le hábhar a bhaineann leis an scéalaí, scríbhneoir agus siamsóir eisceachtúil as Contae Chiarraí, Muiris “Kruger” Kavanagh, a rugadh aimsir a bhí Ó Laoghaire agus Ó Gramhnaigh ina sagairt cheana féin. Tugadh léargas grinn ar ghnéithe éagsúla den taispeántas ag seimineár a chuir Oifig na Gaeilge in eagar le comhoibriú ó Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge chun é a sheoladh mar is ceart. Ba iad na saineolaithe a thug cainteanna astu ná an tOllamh Fionntán de Brún, an Dochtúir Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh, an Dochtúir Tomás LÓ Murchú agus mac léinn dochtúireachta leis an roinn, Fintan Keegan.

Leabhar Nua faoin Athbheochanas Foilsithe

Tá claonadh ag tráchtairí cultúrtha dul i mbun cainte agus díospóireachta faoi athbheochain áirithe – an athbheochan Ioslamach, an athbheochan Ghotach, athbheochan na Gaeilge, ar ndóigh – ach i leabhar nua-foilsithe atá scríofa ag Ceann Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad, an tOllamh Fionntán de Brún, leagtar an bhéim ar an méid a roinneann na gluaiseachtaí seo go léir, athbheochanas é féin.

Pléann an leabhar den teideal *Revivalism and Modern Irish Literature: The Anxiety of Transmission and the Dynamics of Renewal* stair na smaointeoireachta agus forbairt an athbheochanais i gcomhthéacs litríocht na Gaeilge le ceithre chéad bliain anuas. Measann an tOllamh de Brún gur tábhachtach an rud é le céad bliain caite ó thréimhse Athbheochan na Gaeilge an fhírinn a aithint go raibh ceannairí na hathbheochana sin, Yeats, an Bantiarna Gregory agus a gcomrádaithe, ag tarraingt ar thraidisiún an athbheochanais a théann chomh

fada siar leis an seachtú haois déag, i gcás na Gaeilge pé scéal é.

Is foilsithe ag Cork University Press atá *Revivalism and Modern Irish Literature* agus bhí sé seolta go hoifigiúil ag an Dr Gearóid Denvir le linn Léachtaí Cholmille na bliana seo, a raibh “Comóradaí an Leathchéid: Téamaí agus Tionscadail Taighde” mar theideal orthu agus a bhí ar siúl ar an 26ú agus 27ú de Mhí Aibreáin 2019.



An tOllamh Fionntán de Brún, ceann Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge agus údar *Revivalism and Modern Irish Literature*, ag oscailt oifigiúil Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2019 ar champas Mhá Nuad in éineacht le Róisín Ní Mhaoláin, Uachtarán Chuallacht Cholmille a thug bronntanas buíochais dó as an tseachtain a sheoladh dúinn

Scrúduithe TEG Faoi Bhláth

Tá borradh mór faoi TEG (www.teg.ie) faoi láthair agus lúcháir ar Lárionad na Gaeilge ina leith. Tháinig méadú mór ar iarrthóirí Theastas Eorpach na Gaeilge ó mhí Eanáir 2019 ar aghaidh. Tá an tsraith scrúduithe in úsáid anois ag cuid mhór institiúidí ardoideachais agus fostóirí chun caighdeán Gaeilge iarrthóirí agus mic léinn ionchasacha a mheas. Tabharfaidh tuairim is 1700 iarrthóirí faoi scrúduithe TEG idir Eanáir agus Meitheamh 2019.

I mbliana, den chéad uair riamh, tá scrúdú TEG Meánleibhéal 1 (B1) in úsáid ag institiúidí oideachais chun cumas Gaeilge na n-iarrthóirí ar na cúrsaí seo a mheas: an Máistir Gairmiúil san Oideachas (Bunmhúinteoireacht) (MGO) do na hinstitiúidí oideachais poiblí; an B.Oid trí Mheán na Gaeilge sa Bhunmhúinteoireacht (Institiúid Oideachais Marino) agus an M.Oid san Oideachas Lán-Ghaeilge agus Gaeltachta (Coláiste Mhuire gan Smál). Faoi láthair, is gá do mhic léinn atá ag



Anna Ní Ghallachair, stiúrthóir Lárionad na Gaeilge, le feiscint ar chlé ag imeacht ar champas i Mí Aibreáin na bliana seo a chuir gairmeacha le Gaeilge san Eoraip chun cinn os comhair ár mac léinn. In éineacht leis sa phictiúr tá Ciarán Murray ó *European Movement Ireland* agus an tAire Stáit do Ghnóthaí Eorpacha Helen McEntee, TD

tabhairt faoi chláir aistriúcháin atá maoinithe ag an Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta, Ardleibhéal 1 (C1) a bhaint amach mar riachtanas fágála. Beidh scrúduithe ar siúl againn go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta freisin i mbliana. Beidh na scrúduithe ar siúl den chéad uair riamh in Los Angeles i mí an Mheithimh. Anuas air sin, beidh scrúduithe ar siúl i bPáras agus in Washington D.C. Beidh iarrthóirí á meas freisin againn ar fud na hÉireann, in ionaid aosoideachais, in an-chuid scoileanna dara leibhéal, sa Ghaeltacht agus lasmuigh di, agus ar ndóigh anseo in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad (Alt: An Dr Seán Mac Risteaird, Lárionad na Gaeilge).

Scóláirí na Sean-Ghaeilge Ag Caint san Acadamh Ríoga



An Dr Elizabeth Boyle, an Dr Deborah Hayden agus an tOll David Stifter ó Roinn na Sean-Ghaeilge in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad le feiscint i gcomhluadar na gcainteoirí eile ag an gcomhdháil lámhscríbhinní in Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann i Mí an Mhárta 2019 (Grianghraf: An Dr Bernhard Bauer, Chronologicon Hibernicum)

Ar an seachtú agus ar an ochtú lá de Mhí an Mhárta, bhí comhdháil lámhscríbhinní den teideal “A little remnant of the work of the ancients’ 23 N10: The Book of Ballycummin” ar siúl in Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann a d’eagraigh muintir an Acadaimh i gcomhar le muintir Roinn na Sean-Ghaeilge in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad. Ba é mórhéama na comhdhála ná lámhscríbhinn ón séú aois déag ar a gcuirtear Leabhar Bhaile an Choimín, ainmnithe don bhaile fearainn i gContae Ros Comáin inár scríobhadh é.

Pléadh conas mar a cuireadh Leabhar Bhaile an Choimín le chéile, conas mar a tháinig sé slán thar na blianta agus cé chomh luachmhar is atá sé ó thaobh scoláireacht na Sean-Ghaeilge de. S’éard atá tar éis bheith tugtha chun solais ag taighdeoirí ag obair ar Leabhar Bhaile an Choimín ná cuid den litríocht is sine a bhfuil fáil againn uirthi sa Ghaeilge chomh maith le téacsanna dlí, filíocht agus críonnacht.

Thug triúr léachtóirí ó Roinn na Sean-Ghaeilge cainteanna astu faoin Leabhar le linn na comhdhála agus ba iad sin an Dochtúir Elizabeth Boyle, ceann na roinne, an tOllamh David Stifter, príomhfhiosraitheoir ar an tionscadal “Chronologicon Hibernicum”, agus an Dochtúir Deborah Hayden, príomhfhiosraitheoir ar an tionscadal “Medieval Irish Medicine in its North-Western European Context”.

MU celebrates 10 years of the Master in Accounting Programme

On Tuesday, 16 April, alumni from the Master in Accounting programme came together to celebrate its 10-year anniversary.

The Master in Accounting programme in the Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting has seen 250 students graduate since its launch in 2008. Guests at the event had the opportunity to reconnect with past lecturers and fellow students. It is hoped that this event will strengthen the connections the accounting alumni have within their own group, and with the University more broadly.

Pictured at the event; the Masters in Accounting Team; Aodhdín Casey, Annmarie Bennett, Dr Bridget McNally, Hilary Qualter, Clifford Mongwe, Fionnuala Doris, Dr Fabrice Rousseau and Dr Michael Hayden



Geography Alumni Return for Careers Event

The Maynooth University Department of Geography, working with the Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO), held its first alumni-led careers event in Rhetoric Hall on 9 April.



Neil Marshal, Karen Till, David Flynn, Ann-Marie Keating, Ciaran O'Byrne and Jean Murphy

The event format was based on requests from both undergraduates for a careers event, and from taught Master's alumni for an opportunity for a reunion and networking. After welcomes from Department Head, Professor Gerry Kearns, and Postgraduate School Chair, Professor Karen Till, the keynote speaker was Emeritus Professor John Sweeney who spoke about the contribution geographers have made to national debates on Climate Change. Prof Sweeney explained why he and colleagues set up the first interdisciplinary Climate Change Master's degree 11 years ago, speaking of the necessity for training in both physical, and social sciences for a proper understanding of climate change and its many challenges. Following this, alumni from each of our postgraduate programmes - Aideen Croasdell from the MSc in GIS and Remote Sensing, Victoria Ramsey from the MSc in Climate Change, Dave Flynn from the MA in Geography, and Paul Alexander from the PhD in Geography - described how their geographical training had prepared them, in specialist and sometimes unanticipated ways, for the demands placed upon them in their current careers and employment.

The success of the event as an opportunity to connect means it is likely to become a highlight of the annual schedule of Geography and DARO events in the future.

2019 Maynooth Alumni Lecture



On 7 February in Dublin City Council's Wood Quay Venue, the first alumni lecture of 2019 from the Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy took place.

In a reprise of his 2018 professorial lecture entitled 'Leonard Cohen, philosopher', Professor Philipp Rosemann engaged a packed room of alumni and friends with his exploration of the rich philosophy in the music of Leonard Cohen through the lens of 'Steer Your Way', from Cohen's 2016 album, *You Want It Darker*.

Alumni enjoyed a wine and canapé reception before proceedings commenced and the relaunched 'Maynooth Philosophical Papers' were available on the night. Beginning with an appeal to alumni by Grace Edge (Disability Officer, Access Office) for alumni to support scholarships and bursaries for MU students, Professor Rosemann then took to the podium for an accessible and informative look at Cohen's musical musings.

The Development and Alumni Relations Office were ably assisted on the night by volunteers from the MU Access Programme. The next alumni event is the Maynooth Alumni Summer Soirée (the annual cultural event for alumni), which takes place this year on 20 June.

Galway Cycle 2019 Raises Funds for Vision Sports Ireland



Pictured are the cyclists and friends of the Galway Cycle in Eyre Square, who were blessed with the weather on this year's cycle. The group of more than 160 cyclists were welcomed back to Maynooth by a huge crowd which added to the wonderful weekend. This year the charity has raised more than €50,000 for Vision Sports Ireland. Text VISIONSPORTS to 50300 to donate €4

Computer Scientist Plays Pivotal Role in Molecular Computing Breakthrough



Prof Damien Woods

Professor Damien Woods co-leads a team that made a major breakthrough in the emerging field of molecular computing by using DNA to develop a multi-purpose, reprogrammable molecular computer

Professor Woods, who completed his PhD at Maynooth University in 2005 and recently joined the Hamilton Institute, is joint lead author of the study, which he largely carried out with his former

colleagues while at Caltech. Their work was published recently in the prestigious journal Nature.

Professor Woods said that the team's breakthrough takes inspiration from the pioneering work of Alan Turing in computing during the last century. The team, whose leadership also includes Professor Erik Winfree of Caltech and Professor David Doty of University of California, Davis, designed DNA molecules that can carry out reprogrammable computations, for the first time creating so-called algorithmic self-assembly in which the same hardware can be configured to run different software.

Think of them as nano apps," said Prof Woods. "The ability to run any type of software program without having to change the hardware is what allowed computers to become so useful. We are implementing that idea in molecules, essentially embedding an algorithm within chemistry to control chemical processes."

Biomedical Engineer Dr Bryan Hennelly Receives SFI funding

Dr Bryan Hennelly from the Dept of Electronic Engineering has received Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) funding of €112,672

The awards which come under the Technology Innovation Development Award (TIDA) programme was announced as part of a €4.5 million funding for 38 research projects to support the commercialisation of government-funded research.



Dr Bryan Hennelly

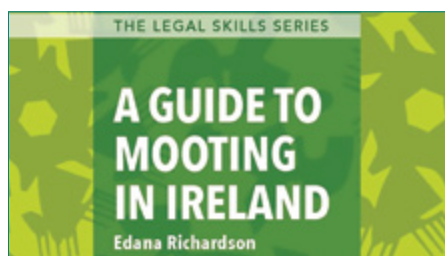
Some 47 research positions will be supported through the awards, in areas such as medical devices, cancer research, preterm infant care, agriculture, energy and food technologies, for a duration of 12 months.

Dr Hennelly received funding to develop an innovative microscope that has a number of key advantages over existing research microscopes used in life science.

Dr Hennelly's field of work has focused on developing optoelectronic microscopy systems for application in the area of clinical pathology.

He is also working on automated microscopy and spectroscopy systems for diagnosing early stage bladder cancer from urine samples, using a combination of holographic microscopy and Raman microspectroscopy.

Guide to Mooting Published



"A Guide to Mooting in Ireland," by Dr Edana Richardson from the Department of Law was released in January. The user-friendly handbook on mooting is specifically tailored for those involved in mooting in Ireland.

Human Resource Notes

NEW APPOINTMENTS

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

School/Departments	Appointees	School/Departments	Appointees
Admissions Office	Dr Laura Creevey, School's Liaison Officer	History	Ms Dorena Bishop, Administrative Officer
Arts and Humanities Institute	Ms Ann Donoghue, Administrative Officer	Human Resources	Ms Suzanne Ryan, Training and Development Manager
Biology	Dr Mark Robinson, Lecturer Dr Joanne Masterson, Lecturer	International Office	Mr Ben Finnegan, Administrative Officer
Conferring Office	Ms Rosemary Feeney, Executive Assistant	IT Services	Ms Joanne Madden, HR/Finance Business Analyst
Counselling Service	Ms Fidelma Curley, Student Counsellor	Law	Dr David Mangan, Lecturer Dr Tobias Lock, Professor Ms Helen Berry, Administrative Officer
Economics, Finance and Accounting	Dr Irene Mosca, Lecturer	Library	Ms Helen Farrell, Assistant Librarian (Teaching & Research Development) Ms Catherine Ahearne, Library Assistant
Education	Dr Zerrin Doganca Kucuk, Lecturer	Mathematics and Statistics	Dr Niamh Cahill, Lecturer Mr Peter Mulligan, Tutor
Examinations and Timetabling Office	Ms Antoinette Mooney, Senior Executive Assistant Ms Eleanor Shannon, Senior Executive Assistant Ms Melanie Hogan, Administrative Officer Ms Rachel Fagan, Examinations Officer	Music	Ms Catherine Crofton, Administrative Officer
Finance	Ms Ann Marie Muldoon, Executive Assistant	Registry	Ms Niamh Lynch, Assistant Registrar – Academic Administration
Froebel	Dr Leah O Toole, Lecturer	School of Business	Dr Audra Mckaitis, Professor
Graduate Studies	Ms Melissa Dunne, Academic Programmes Officer Dr Zoe Hehir, Postgraduate Applications Assistant	Student Records	Ms Emily Ryan, Executive Assistant

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

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

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

MSU Attend Conference in Boston



Pictured are some Maynooth Students' Union staff and officers at the ACUI (Association of College Unions) Region VIII Conference in Boston in November 2018. The delegates from MSU were joined by colleagues from other Irish Universities and Colleges, along with delegates from Scotland and Wales. They also had the opportunity of visiting American Universities to see how they operate, and what resources/services they offer their students

Coffee morning in MaynoothWorks



Pictured is Sheena Hopper of Navy Oak and the Beauty Buddies, a start-up based at MaynoothWorks, who hosted a charity fundraising coffee morning, and staff from Eolas. The event on 16 April was very well supported by the businesses at MaynoothWorks and raised €750 for the charity *My Canine Companion*. The charity trains service dogs for children who have autism

Clubs and Societies Awards 2019

Maynooth Students' Union celebrated the 25th Annual Maynooth University Clubs & Societies Awards on Thursday, 28 March

The MSU presented Barretstown, their charity partner for the year, with a cheque for €25,000. The awards ceremony is considered the most anticipated event in the student calendar as members of the clubs and societies on campus strive to win one of the prestigious titles.



The Business Society, winners of the "Give A Little Do A Lot" Award

WINNERS 2019

Best Video	Purpose Movement
Civic and Charity Award	Mental Health
Best Poster	Fencing
Give A Little Do A Lot	Business
Best Photo	Media
Best New Society	Philosophy
Best New Club	Rock Climbing
Best Society First Year	Aoife Hynes, Literary & Debating
Best First Year Athlete	Isabella Hughes, Boxing
Society Person of the Year	Rachel Beth Mc Fadden, Disney
Clubs League	Fencing

WINNERS 2019

Societies League	Games
Club Executive of the Year	Davin Barrett, Fencing
Society Event of the Year	Dominicon Live, Games Society
Club Event of the Year	Road Relays, Athletics
Athlete of the Year	Eimear Lafferty, Ladies Soccer
Most Improved Society	Computer Science
Most Improved Club	Basketball
Best Society	Disney
Best Club	Camogie

Maynooth Historian Presents her Book to the President



Pictured is President Michael D Higgins and Dr Jennifer Redmond, Dept of History, who presented her book on 'History of Emigration of Irish Women to Britain 1920 – 1950' at an event in Áras an Uachtairín to mark International Women's Day on 8 March

Marchathon on Campus

Maynooth Green Campus and Travel Management registered to take part in the NTA's Marchathon 2019

The Step Challenge from 4 – 29th March encouraged staff to get more active and increase their fitness whilst having competitive fun and logging their steps through www.activetravellogger.ie. The Marchathon was a great success with 21 teams of 3-6 people with more than 75 staff members taking part.



Pictured are the winning team - The Neurithmic Steppers from Department of Chemistry: John Lowry, Sean Doyle, Captain Michelle Doran, Kobi Bermingham, Gama Gnahore with Joe Larragy Chair MGC. Prizes included hand-made bird nesting boxes, made by Grounds Supervisor Stephen Seaman