

UNIVERSITY NEWS



Maynooth University Breaks into Top 50 Young Universities in the World, #1 in Ireland

Maynooth University has been recognised as one of the leading new universities in the world with *Times Higher Education* (THE) ranking it #49 in its latest Young University Rankings



The ranking is the highest position ever achieved by Maynooth, and is the highest position achieved by an Irish university ever.

The Young University Rankings, previously the "Top 150 Under 50," are based on 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. Maynooth jumped 18 places since last year and is ranked as the number one young university in Ireland. The announcement comes as Maynooth University prepares to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its foundation in June this year.

Commenting on the new ranking, Maynooth University President, Professor Philip Nolan, said: "This is a huge endorsement of the University's strategy to see Maynooth performing so strongly in terms of its perception by its international peers. It is just 20 years since Maynooth University was established as an independent institution by the Universities Act of 1997, and this is a huge endorsement of the hard work, research impact, and exceptional teaching on the part of the entire university community."

Minister Richard Bruton Launches Social Sciences Institute

Minister for Education and Skills, Richard Bruton, TD launched the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI)

The Institute was established as part of the implementation of Maynooth's Research Strategy (2012 – 2017), and will lead two of the University's six strategic research priorities: People, Place and Environment; and Social and Economic Transformations.



Minister Richard Bruton, TD; Prof Philip Nolan and Prof Linda Connolly

The Social Sciences Institute builds upon the longstanding success of several existing research institutes and centres at Maynooth, including the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) and the National Centre for Geo-computation (NCG). It also supports critical national data infrastructure including the All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO) and the Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA).

The Institute brings together researchers from across Law, Geography, Anthropology, Computer Science, and Sociology. To date more than 300 researchers have been affiliated to MUSSI partner projects, which have received external funding totalling €55 million since 2001. These awards have generated cutting-edge research for policy and society in a wide range of areas.

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"Maynooth University has tremendous momentum as an institution, and our success has been built upon a willingness to challenge the norms and assumptions of higher education in Ireland. Our researchers are confronting some of the most difficult problems facing society today; we are a progressive force in addressing the pressures of the points race, offering a unique proposition to undergraduate and post graduate students in Ireland; and we have grown into a global university with more than 1,500 international students from more than 85 countries. I think this achievement signals how well-placed we are to build on our success for years to come as a leading international university rooted in and serving the needs of changing country and changing world," added Professor Nolan.

Discussing Maynooth University's success, Phil Baty, *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* Editor, said: "The Times Higher Education Young University Rankings use the same exacting and tough 13 performance indicators as the traditional THE World University Rankings, covering teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook, so making the world top 50 is an exceptional achievement."

"Maynooth has particular strength in its "international outlook" - ensuring it attracts global talent and collaborates in research with universities across the world. This has helped it achieve a strong score also for its global research impact too," added Baty.

Earlier this year Maynooth University recorded its highest-ever level of CAO first preference applications, with more than 3,400 students selecting Maynooth as their university of choice for the 2017-18 academic year. This figure represents a 5% increase on applications from 2016, which was itself a record-breaking year for Maynooth. Maynooth University's Bachelor of Arts continues to be the most popular course in the country, with first preference applications increasing by 2%.

FROM THE EDITOR

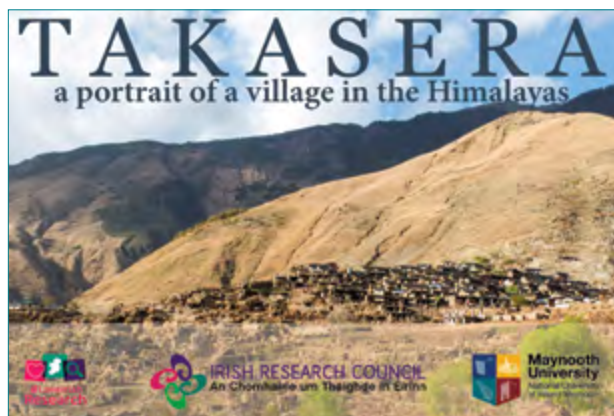
University News is published three times a year by the Maynooth University Communications and Marketing Office. For questions, or to submit stories and ideas any time of the year, contact Communications@nuim.ie.

Anthropology Student's Film Showcased at IFI

Takasera, a documentary film by Matjaz Pinter and Eva Pivac, was selected by the Irish Film Institute (IFI) for its 'Irish Focus' series, and screened at the IFI in Dublin on 31 January

Filmmaker Matjaz Pinter, a doctoral student in the Maynooth Anthropology Department, is an Irish Research Council/ Government of Ireland postgraduate scholar. Pinter's PhD research project in Western Nepal has a distinctive visual anthropology component – thus he will be making a full-length ethnographic film as well as writing a conventional doctoral dissertation. *Takasera* is an observational documentary, following everyday life in the remote Nepali village of that name, a centre of Kham Magar culture as well as a former stronghold of Maoist guerrillas.

Pinter is currently in Nepal conducting extended fieldwork. The screening of his film was introduced by his doctoral supervisor, Dr Chandana Mathur



of the Maynooth Anthropology Department. In the discussion that followed, several of the film enthusiasts present commented on the evidently close and respectful relationship between the filmmakers and the villagers that underlay the film.

More recently, Pinter and Pivac have crowd sourced an initiative to take *Takasera* and three other documentaries back to mid-western Nepal to hold screenings for the local residents whose lives have been portrayed in these films. An example of engaged social research, the initiative has received favourable attention in the national media in India.

SFI Awards for Maynooth University Researchers

Two Maynooth University researchers have been awarded €2.3million by Science Foundation Ireland

Dr Neil Trappe, Department of Experimental Physics, was awarded €680,000 for development of a high frequency Terahertz measurement and characterisation facility; and Dr Tim McCarthy, National Centre for Geocomputation, was awarded €315,000 for the development of an imaging and sensor pod for drones and light aircraft. SFI awarded a further €1.3mn for research infrastructure.

Dr Neil Trappe will establish a Centre of Excellence in high frequency terahertz (THz) measurement which will facilitate the development of future 5-6G communication systems; beyond current 4G communication networks, higher frequency terahertz wireless networks will offer extraordinary data capacity rates.

Dr Tim McCarthy is developing an imaging and sensor pod for drones and light aircraft, which will enable the development of decision support services for better management of our natural resources, transportation, energy and communication services,



Dr Neil Trappe, Dept of Experimental Physics



Dr Tim McCarthy, NCG

as well as for monitoring longer-term climate-change impacts.

The investment is part of €47.4 million announced for 36 research infrastructure and facilities projects. Announcing the awards, Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor, said: "investment in infrastructure by Science Foundation Ireland is an investment in the future of research and development in Ireland. It forms a key part of implementing our science and technology strategy – Innovation 2020. Top quality infrastructure combined with our talented workforce further increases Ireland's appeal in the global market."

Social Sciences Institute Launch

(continued)

Commenting at the launch, Professor Linda Connolly, Director of the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute, said: "Today is a proud day for the Institute. Our researchers are working on some of the most

pressing issues facing Irish society today and the Institute will provide the resources and platforms to build on this in the coming years."

An Taoiseach on Campus to Launch New National Planning Strategy

An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny TD, launched the Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework on 2 February at Maynooth University

The plan represents a new approach to planning that will enable political, civic, and business leaders to guide our society and economy over the next 25 years.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is a high-level and long-term initiative intended to coordinate the strategic planning of urban and rural areas, to secure overall proper planning and sustainable development, and to set out regional spatial and economic strategies and city and county development plans.

Maynooth University has played a key role in the development of the framework, with Professor Jim Walsh, Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI) and the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA), credited as a “driving force” behind the project from its earliest stages. Dr Chris van Egeraat, Maynooth University Department of Geography, is on the NPF advisory panel and heads up the Regional Studies Association in Ireland.

NIRSA led the way on documenting and mapping the spatial distribution of vacant residential units, and on identifying the scale and distribution of the phenomenon known as “ghost estates.” Other Maynooth researchers have



Prof Jim Walsh, MUSSI; Damien English TD, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal; Prof Linda Connolly, Director of MUSSI; Prof Philip Nolan, President; An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD; Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government; Dr Chris Van Egeraat, Dept of Geography; Justin Gleeson, AIRO

identified and mapped the diversity and plurality of economic and social structures throughout rural Ireland, and another group has carried out extensive research on the social aspects of living in the suburbs and commuter towns.

AIRO, the All-Island Research Observatory, also based at Maynooth University has played a central role in facilitating evidence based decision making. It provided easily accessible geographical datasets to support decisions in relation to local economic and community plans and the forthcoming Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies. It will have a key technical support role to help decision making by the NPF team as the project progresses.

Strategic Planning Process Launched

The process of shaping the Maynooth University Strategic Plan for the next 5 years, 2018-22, was launched by the President on 15 March 2017



The strategic planning process has three phases. The first phase, running from March to June 2017, is an open consultative phase aimed at generating ideas, with Heads of Department and Units leading discussions on the goals, objectives, actions and initiatives to be included in the plan. The second phase sees University Executive using these ideas and proposals to create a first draft of the University Strategic Plan 2018-22. The final phase three comprises a formal consultation on the draft plan from October to December 2017 with a view to completing the plan by the end of the calendar year. Learn more and find out how to contribute at www.mu.ie/about-us/university-strategic-plan.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Convenes Meeting on Brexit at Maynooth

The need to secure “special status” for Northern Ireland in the Article 50 Brexit negotiations was an argument underscored by Professor John O'Brennan at the meeting on 13 February

Professor O'Brennan was speaking at a special All-Island Civic Dialogue on Human Rights under the Good Friday Agreement, convened by Minister for Foreign Affairs Charles Flanagan TD and hosted by Maynooth University.

“The protection for reciprocal rights for Irish and British citizens in both jurisdictions is critical to the functionality of the Good Friday Agreement,” argued Professor O'Brennan. The protection fostered by the Agreement impacts a large range of issues from pension provisions and child benefit rights to cross-border policing and security cooperation. He said a “Hard Brexit” scenario that does not take into account the unique status of Northern Ireland, particularly when it comes to human rights, would completely undermine the intent of the Agreement.

The Maynooth University event included participation by approximately 100 representatives from civil society organisations and relevant stakeholders from across the island of Ireland.



Prof John O'Brennan, Minister for Foreign Affairs Charles Flanagan TD, and President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan

Junior Cert Business Students Awards

The Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting in collaboration with the School of Business and the Department of Law hosted the annual Junior Certificate Business Studies awards night on 24 January in the Aula Maxima

The event recognised more than 540 students from more than 90 schools across Ireland in the 2016 examination. The new curriculum for Business Studies at Junior Certificate level focuses on developing skills for life, work and further study through three inter-connected strands: Personal Finance/Accounts, Enterprise, and the Economy. The University is particularly interested in these strands because of their alignment with the teaching and research interests within the Maynooth University School of Business.



Prof Aidan Mulkeen, Vice-President Academic, Registrar & Deputy President, Maynooth University; Martina Rodgers, Business Studies Teacher Representative from St Columba's College, Stranolar; Rachel Foy, student and award recipient from St Columba's College, Stranolar; Prof Maurice Devlin, Dean of Social Sciences, Maynooth University.

Book Launch on The Irish Welfare State in the 21st Century



Pictured at the launch of the 'The Irish Welfare State in the Twenty-First Century: Challenges and Change' are co-editors Dr Mary Murphy, Maynooth University Dept of Sociology, and Dr Fiona Dukelow, UCC; with Dr Helen Johnston, National Economic & Social Council (NESC); who launched the book in the Oak Room at the Mansion House on Wednesday, 29 March

Commercialisation Office Award



Pictured are (l-r): Alison Campbell, Director of Knowledge Transfer Ireland (KTI), presenting the KTI Special Recognition Award to Lorraine Kane, Office Manager, Commercialisation Office on 30 March at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham. The award acknowledged Lorraine's consistent high performance across the Maynooth University Technology Transfer Consortium of four higher education institutes and her contribution and support nationally to the development of the Knowledge Transfer system in Ireland.

Maynooth kicks off *Darkness into Light* Fundraising and Awareness Event

Volunteers, supporters and local organisers gathered on Tuesday, 29 March, to launch the community's third annual *Darkness into Light* event

Last year, an estimated 4,000 people participated in the Maynooth event, which raised €60,000 for Pieta House, a suicide and self-harm crisis centre. Pieta House's flagship fundraising and awareness walk/run – will take place in 150 locations across Ireland, north and south, and all over the world this year on Saturday, 6 May.

Now in its ninth year, *Darkness Into Light* (DIL) – again supported by Electric Ireland – is a unique, early morning experience which begins in darkness at 4.15am, when thousands of people walk or run a 5km route while dawn is breaking. In addition to raising much-needed funds, *Darkness Into Light* is also about awareness, solidarity and local communities.

Speaking at the launch were: Maynooth Committee Chairwoman Elaine Bean; Maynooth University Deputy President and Vice-President, Academic Aidan Mulkeen; Orla Fitzsimons, a Kilcock native who was a member of Ireland's 2014 Women's Rugby World Cup squad; and Aishling McNeill, Maynooth University student and president of the University's Mental Health Society.



Pictured, from l-r, are: Brian McEvoy of Pieta House; Maynooth University Deputy President Aidan Mulkeen; Members of the Maynooth DIL Committee: John McElligott; Mary MacCourt; Melanie Oliver (Secretary), Elaine Bean (Chair), Ger Breslin (Volunteer Coordinator), John Ryan (Treasurer), and Brendan Ashe

"*Darkness into Light* is more than a fundraising event," said Professor Mulkeen. "It is a powerful gesture of solidarity and support for those who have been touched by suicide. It is helping to bring the issue of suicide out of the darkness, and enabling people to talk more openly and seek support."

Online registration and further details: www.facebook.com/darknessintolightmaynooth or on Twitter: @DILMaynooth.

Y1Feedback - Enhancing Feedback in First Year Symposium

On Friday, 27 January, the Y1Feedback project hosted the *Enhancing Feedback in First Year Symposium* at Maynooth University

Led by Lisa O'Regan of the Centre for Teaching and Learning, Y1Feedback is collaborative initiative between Maynooth University, Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT), Dublin City University (DCU) and Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT). It is funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement for Teaching and Learning.

Attended by more than 130 delegates, the symposium was opened by Prof Philip Nolan, President, who welcomed keynote contributions from international experts in assessment and feedback: Prof David Carless, Dr Naomi Winstone, Prof Tansy Jessop, and Emeritus Prof David Nicol.

The event also showcased Y1Feedback case studies of technology-enabled feedback approaches for first year. Maynooth University presenters included: Prof Mary Corcoran, Dr Mary Murphy, Dr Pauline Cullen and Philip Finn (Dept of Sociology); Dr Tatiana Andreeva and Dr Olga Ryazanova (School of Business);



Pictured (l-r); Y1Feedback Team - David Cranny, DKIT; Dr Morag Munro, Maynooth University; Seamus Ryan and Nuala Harding, AIT; Dr Moira Maguire, DKIT; Lisa O'Regan, Centre for Teaching and Learning, Maynooth University – Y1Feedback Project Lead; Orna Farrell and Prof Mark Brown, DCU; Gerry Gallagher, DKIT

Dr Seamus McLoone (Dept of Engineering), Dr Aidan Mooney, Dr Susan Bergin and Emlyn Hegarty Kelly (Dept of Computer Science); Dr Julie Rodgers and Brigitte McNeely (Dept of French) and Dr Brian McKenzie (Centre for Teaching and Learning).

For more information on the Y1Feedback project, visit www.y1feedback.ie.

Social Research on Water

The symposium *Crosscurrents: Shifting Flows in Social Research on Water Issues* was jointly sponsored by the MA programme in Anthropology and Development and the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI)



Dr Daniel Etongo, MUSSI; Prof Honor Fagan, MUSSI; Prof Veronica Strang, Durham University; Prof Andrew Spiegel

Coinciding with World Water Day, the event was organised by anthropologist and MUSSI Principal Investigator, Dr Chandana Mathur. Distinguished international speakers included Professor Veronica Strang, Executive Director, Institute of Advanced Study, Durham University, and Emeritus Professor Andrew 'Mugsy' Spiegel, University of Cape Town.

The symposium highlighted the social science agenda of the EU Horizon 2020 funded WaterSPOUTT project, based at MUSSI. This was presented by Professor Honor Fagan, Social Science Work Package leader for WaterSPOUTT, and by Dr Daniel Etongo Bau, MUSSI Postdoctoral Fellow. The event attracted participation across disciplines within Maynooth University, but also beyond academia, from voluntary organisations and industry.

Maynooth Leadership Symposium

The 2017 Leadership Symposium entitled '*Right Things?* Questioning Moral Leadership in Practice' took place on 18 March

The now annual Leadership Symposium is a very important event in the Department of Education calendar and this year saw almost 500 teachers

from all over Ireland attending. Keynote speakers included Tomás Ó Ruairc, Director of the Teaching Council, and John West-Burnham, Honorary Professor of Education, University of Worcester.

Opening the event, President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan took the opportunity to formally announce the new Maynooth Future Leaders Programme, which will commence in September 2017. The Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership and Management (Future Leaders) is for teachers at all levels who seek, or are currently in, leadership roles.

Event organiser Paula Kinnarney from the Maynooth University Department of Education announced that next year's Leadership Symposium will take place on Saturday, 3 March 2018.



Tomás Ó Ruairc, Director of the Teaching Council and John West-Burnham, Honorary Professor of Education, University of Worcester

Department of Ancient Classics Marks New Publication



Dr Eoghan Moloney, Dr Kieran McGroarty, Head of Maynooth University Dept of Ancient Classics and Dr Michael Williams

On Friday, 24 March, the Maynooth University Department of Ancient Classics marked the publication of *Peace and Reconciliation in the Classical World* (Routledge, 2017)

The volume is edited by Dr Michael Williams, Lecturer in the Department of Ancient Classics, and Dr Eoghan Moloney, Alumnus and Senior Lecturer in Classical Studies at the University of Winchester (UK).

The volume consists of essays and case studies by scholars of the classical world based in Ireland, the

UK, continental Europe and the USA. Their aim is to direct attention away from the traditional focus on warfare in the ancient world and towards the pioneering efforts to imagine, establish and institute peace in societies ranging from archaic Greece to the later Roman Empire, and in authors from Homer and Xenophon to Augustine of Hippo.

In understanding peace as a positive enterprise embracing diplomacy, conflict resolution and long-term reconciliation, the volume makes clear that ancient practices and principles continue to resonate in the modern world.

Bua portraidí.ie sna Eir Spiders

Ghnóthaigh www.portraidí.ie an chéad áit sa chomórtas náisiúnta Eir Spiders don suíomh gréasáin is fearr i nGaeilge in Éirinn sa bhliain 2016

Tá Ronan Doherty ina chomhairleoir teicniúil agus deartha ar an suíomh. Tá Céim Dhochtúra sa Nua-Ghaeilge á chríochnú ag Ronan in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad.



Panti Bliss; Ronan Doherty, Portráidí na Scríbhneoirí Gaeilge; agus Anna Davitt, Foras na Gaeilge; ag an searmanas bronnta i mBaile Átha Cliath

Gradam an Chonartha bronnta



I mí Feabhra, d'éirigh le Cumann Gaelach na hOllscoile, Cuallacht Cholmáille, an chéad áit i gcomórtas d'institiúidí tríú leibhéal a bhaint amach ag Ard-Fheis Chonradh na Gaeilge 2017. Bronnadh an gradam seo ar mhic léinn na Cuallachta mar aitheantas ar an obair atá déanta acu ar son na teanga. Sa ghrianghraf: Dúlra Hanley, Éabha Flanagan agus Kevin Boushel (baill de choiste na Cuallachta).

Rath ar 'Sing for Simon'



Étáin Ní Churraoin (mac léinn na hOllscoile), Ollie Durack (Seirbhísí Campais) agus Saille Ní Dhroighneáin (Lárlonad na Gaeilge). Ghlac an triúr páirt sa cheolchoirm Nollag ar an 15 Nollaig. Ócáid dhátheangach a bhí ann ar mhaithe le Clann Shíomóin. Bailíodh breis agus trí chéad euro ag an ócáid.

Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh Speaks to Retired University Staff

The Retired Staff Association of Maynooth University & SPCM hosted a talk given by Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh, Gaelic Games commentator



Tom Maher, Chairperson, Retired Staff Association; Marie-Therese Power, Events Co-ordinator, Retired Staff Association; Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh; Brian Byrne; Mary Weld, Treasurer, Retired Staff Association

A large group of, members, associated members and friends listened to Mícheál discuss the GAA, from its birth in 1884 right up to the present day on Wednesday, 15 February in Renehan Hall. A native Irish speaker, Mícheál has always shown an interest in the promotion and development of the Irish language.

Mícheál with his distinctive voice and easy manner has travelled the world commentating on GAA games. He surprised the audience by informing them that Ireland was the first country in the world to broadcast any sporting event on radio, the 1926 game between Galway and Kilkenny.

The Retired Staff Association have another busy year with trips to the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Sligo and Lisbon organised.

Portráidí nua le réiteach



Tá an Dr Tadhg Ó Dúshláine, iarléachtóir sinsearach le Nua-Ghaeilge in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad, file agus scríbhneoir acadúil, ar dhuine d'ocht scríbhneoirí a chuirfear leis an gcartlann Portráidí na Scríbhneoirí Gaeilge i mbliana. Cuirfear sraith d'ocht bportráidí nua leis an mbunachar sa chéad sé mhí de 2017. Seolfar na portráidí nua agus fógrófar liosta 2018 i mí na Nollag 2017.

Tugann foireann Raidió na Life cuairt ar Ollscoil Mhá Nuad



Muiris Ó Fiannachta, Niamh Ní Shúilleabháin, Pádraig Ó Conghaile (Raidió na Life) agus Alwyn Hennessy Doyle (ar chlé, Cuallacht Cholmáille). Thug Muiris Ó Fiannachta (BA Idirnáisiúnta, 2004) agus foireann Raidió na Life cuairt ar Ollscoil Mhá Nuad le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge le clár raidió a thairfead le mic léinn na hOllscoile. Rinne Muiris staidéar ar an Nua-Ghaeilge agus ar an Spáinnis in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad. Thosaigh sé ag obair mar Bhainisteoir Raidió na Life i 2007.

Seachtain na Gaeilge Ollscoil Mhá Nuad seolta ag Síomha Ní Ruairc



Síomha Ní Ruairc (sa lár), Feidhmeannach Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus Feachtais Feasachta, Conradh na Gaeilge; Maria Schärer (sa lár, ar chlé), Comhordaitheoir na Mac Léinn, Conradh na Gaeilge; Orla Bradshaw, Oifig na Gaeilge (ar chlé); agus baill de Chuallacht Cholmcille, Cumann Gaelach na hOllscoile.

Ar an 6 Márta, seoladh Seachtain na Gaeilge Ollscoil Mhá Nuad sa Leabharlann. Chuir na mic léinn siamsaíocht den scoth ar fáil – damhsa agus amhránaíocht ar an sean-nós, filíocht, ceol córuil agus popcheol

Bhí Síomha Ní Ruairc, Feidhmeannach Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus Feachtais Feasachta le Conradh na Gaeilge, ina haoi speisialta ar an lá. Labhair sí faoi na cuimhní atá aici ar a laethanta mar mhac léinn in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad agus faoin obair atá ar siúl aici anois le Conradh na Gaeilge agus le Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Seoladh sceideal na seachtaine ag an ócáid – ‘Pop Up Gaeltacht’ in Aontas na Mac Léinn, ceolchoirm thraidisiúnta, tráth na gceist boird, comórtas talainne ‘An Gael Is Fearr’ agus ceardlann amhránaíochta ar an sean-nós san áireamh. Grianghraf ó na hócáidí le feiceáil ar www.facebook.com/OifignaGaeilge/

“We say in Irish, ‘Tá Gaeilge agam’. Well, I wanted to have Irish, too.”

Mar chuid de Sheachtain na Gaeilge, thug Lárionad na Gaeilge agus Institiúid Edward M. Kennedy cuireadh do Brian Ervine agus do Linda Ervine teacht ar cuairt

Labhair siad ar an téama ‘An Dílseoir agus an Ghaeilge i dTuaisceart Éireann’. Thug Brian, deartháir le David Ervine nach maireann, iar-cheannasaí an Pháirtí Aontachtach Forásach, píosa spleodrach greannmhar cainte ar a chúla agus ar an dearcadh a bhí aige féin agus ag a mhuintir ar an Phoblacht, ar chúrsaí Gaeilge agus ar fhéiniúlacht an dÍlseora. Mhínigh sé an tábhacht atá leis an iolrachas cultúir agus leis an iolrachas féiniúlachta i dtír ar bith, go háithrid sa lá atá inniu ann.

Don dara leath den ócáid, chuir mic léinn na hOllscoile agallamh ar Linda Ervine, i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla, faoina saol féin agus faoin turas teanga a thug i dtreo na Gaeilge í. Labhair Linda ar bhealach paiseanta ionraic faoin dóigh a d’fhill sí ar an oideachas agus faoin tionchar dearfach a d’imir sé seo ar a saol. Agus í ag dul i mbun taighde ar a seanmhuintir,



Anna Ní Ghallachair, Lárionad na Gaeilge; Brian agus Linda Ervine; mic léinn na hOllscoile; Aisling Ní Bheacháin, Lárionad na Gaeilge; Aoife Ní Ghloinn, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge; Peter Cassells, Institiúid Edward M. Kennedy

d’fhoghlaim sí go raibh Gaeilge agus Béarla acu agus shocraigh sí féin filleadh ar an Ghaeilge, rud a thug isteach i saol nua eile í agus a thug tuiscint níos fearr di ar a muintir agus a timpeallacht féin.

ALUMNI NEWS

Carol Service

In keeping with annual tradition, the Alumni Office played host to a mulled wine reception after the Carol Service on 12 December in Renehan Hall. A significant number of alumni applied for tickets to this highly sought-after evening at which Emeritus Professor Gerard Gillen and Dr John O’Keeffe from the Department of Music together with Professor Philip Nolan mingled with alumni to celebrate the festive season.

Joining **MAAB** (Maynooth Alumni Advisory Board) for their inaugural meeting were alumnae Ann Marie Brennan (BA 1995) and former Maynooth Students’ Union (MSU) VP, Síona Cahill (Bachelor Civil Law, 2014). At the first meeting of 2017, MAAB was updated on the latest developments in the University’s development and Alumni Office plans for 2017.

SU Reunion

Former SU Officers from the 1970s returned to campus on 17 February to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Maynooth Student Union (MSU). 1977 SU



1977 SU President, John Gallagher (BA, 1976); 1977 SU Vice-President Dr Bríd Connolly (BA, 1977); 2016 SU President Dillon Grace and 1978 SU President Anne Noonan (née Keogh) (BA, 1979)

Vice-President, Dr Bríd Connolly (BA, 1977) together with fellow SU officers and classmates from the 1970s and 1980s. The group, including former Geography staff member and alumnus Dr Proinsias Breathnach, enjoyed an Alumni Office guided tour of the campus before joining up with current SU President, Dillon Grace, and Welfare Officer, Karen Kane, for a celebratory anniversary drink in the Students’ Union Bar.

Library Innovation Competition - “If students did libraries...”



Brian Crinion receiving his award from Cathal McCauley, University Librarian



Participants in the Library Innovation Award

The Library at Maynooth University, in conjunction with the Student’s Union and the Department of Design Innovation, ran an Innovation Competition for students

A workshop run by Dr Peter Robbins, Department of Design Innovation, brought seven finalists to pitch ideas to the Library. The seven pitched their innovation concept to the judging panel in a “Dragons’ Den” final on 21 March. Brian

Crinion, a first year Engineering student, won the €1000 award for his library sleep pods idea.

Award Winning Library Staff



Val Payne receives Fellowship of LAI from Dr Philip Cohen, President



Elizabeth Murphy receives Associateship of LAI from Dr Philip Cohen, President

Val Payne was recently awarded the Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI), the highest accolade of the Association, while **Elizabeth Murphy** was awarded the Associateship of the LAI. The awards recognise their contribution to the library profession and their high level of expertise and professional development in the area of librarianship.



Yvette Campbell was awarded first prize in the Library Association of Ireland (LAI) Academic and Special Libraries Annual Poster Competition on 17 February for her poster on “Cataloguing the Fermoy Gaelic manuscripts.”

Yvette Campbell wins national poster competition

Library Publications Festival 2017

On Tuesday, 24 January, the Library hosted the annual Publications Festival

This year’s event celebrated publications from the MU Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy and St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth. Opening addresses were delivered by Professor Philip Nolan and Reverend Professor Michael Mullaney. Guest lectures were delivered by Hugh Murphy, PhD student and Senior Librarian, Collection Management Services; *Using Library Sources as a foundation for a doctoral study in History* and Fintan Keegan, PhD student with Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge; *Modern Irish manuscripts as primary sources: Examples from the Russell Library*.



Cathal McCauley, Librarian; Prof Philip Nolan, President; Reverend Prof Michael Mullaney, President, SPCM; Lorna Dodd, Senior Librarian; Prof Victor Lazzarini, Dean of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy

Peadar Ó Laoghaire Archive

This major archive of pioneering Irish scholar and writer Peadar Ó Laoghaire (1839-1920) is now available for consultation in the Library Special Collections and Archives Reading Room. O’Laoghaire, an advocate for the Irish language and member of the Gaelic League, published numerous books, articles and Irish translations of the gospels.



Africa Day at Maynooth University Library

The Maynooth Africa Society hosted their annual Africa Day on Wednesday, 8 March in the Library

Diplomatic representatives from the embassies of Lesotho, Kenya and South Africa attended the event, where Miss Nigeria Ireland – in full regalia – mingled among the guests. The representatives visited the Maynooth Library Special Collections Reading Room, where they viewed the Ken Saro-Wiwa Archive. The online Ken Saro-Wiwa Library Guide, recently developed by the Library, was launched at the event. This gives access to the death-row correspondence of Ken Saro-Wiwa to Sister Majella McCarron (OLA), among other resources. The guide was welcomed by his daughter, Noo Saro-Wiwa, who sent a thank you message on behalf of the family.

This was followed by a celebration of African culture in the library foyer with music, dance, poetry and samples of African food.



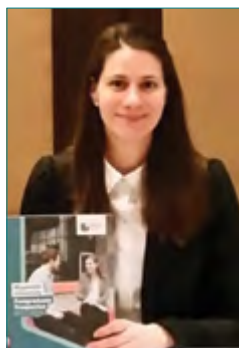
Visit to Special Collections Reading Room

French, Language of Dictionaries



Pictured are (l-r); Frédéric Rauser, Attaché Culturel, French Embassy, Dr Francesca Counihan, Dr Kathleen Shields, Dr Vilmos Bardósi (ELTE Budapest), Bernard Cerquiglini, and former director of Trésor de la Langue Française, Dr Éamon Ó Ciosáin at a visit to the Russell Library to view an exhibition of rare French dictionaries. The visit followed a joint public seminar on 'Le français, une langue de dictionnaires'.

Number of Indian Students Expected to Rise in 2017



Alena Jurikova,
International Officer

Postgraduate Indian students are more likely to pursue their degree at Maynooth University with the introduction of a 2-year, stay-back graduate visa

A welcome recent development for both international students and graduate employers is the news that the Irish government has agreed to extend the Third Level Graduate Permit Scheme for non-EU/EEA students at level 9 and above.

The new permission will double the 'stay back option' for Masters and PhD students from 12 months to 24 months. This will allow eligible graduates who have studied in Irish higher education institutions, and whose award is granted by a recognised Irish awarding body at Masters or PhD level, to remain in Ireland for two years to seek employment.

Speaking after a series of education fairs in India organised by Enterprise Ireland, Alena Jurikova from the International Office reported an increase in interest from Indian students.

"Indian students are predominantly interested in taught postgraduate programmes, with the MSc Data Science & Analytics; the MSc Computer Science in Software Engineering and the MSc Business Management proving most popular this year," she said.

Maynooth University Calls for Action on Traveller Participation in Higher Education



Anastasia Crickley, former Head of the Department of Applied Social Studies; Professor Maurice Devlin, Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences; Maria Joyce, MU Graduate and Coordinator National Traveller Women's Forum; Rose Ryan, Director of Maynooth University Access Programme; and Martin Collins, Co-Director Pavee Point consider the "Travellers in Higher Education Seminar Report" produced by the Department of Applied Social Studies and the Maynooth University Access Programme

Maynooth Green Campus Welcomes Steps in Fossil Fuel Divestment

Maynooth University has no investments in the fossil fuel sector, and, in 2015, was the first university in Ireland to adopt a fossil-free policy investment policy

Maynooth University, with Trócaire and Saint Patrick's College Maynooth, who collaborate on best practice through Maynooth Green Campus (MGC), organised a major Conference on Climate Justice in June 2015 and a Workshop on Ethical Investment in Feb 2016 (proceedings from both events are online).

In December 2016 Maynooth Green Campus issued a press statement welcoming the decisions of TCD and NUIG, to follow suit and divest from fossil fuel funds in the near future. MGC, along with 24 other civil society organisations, recently called for full divestment of the Irish Strategic Investment Fund from fossil fuels within the next five years and the adoption of a 100% renewables policy for energy investments. The effort is part of a national campaign, which saw the passage through the second stage of the Fossil Fuel Divestment Bill 2016. Assuming the bill goes through all stages, Ireland could become the first country in the world to divest its sovereign wealth fund, worth over €8 billion, from coal, oil and gas.

MGC are committed to further progressing the divestment movement. Future opportunities in Ireland will arise with the proposed Papal visit in 2018, which will provide a context for campaigning for divestment by faith organisations, for which the prospects should be good, given the position adopted by the Papacy in Laudato Si.



Phil Kingston, Grandparents for a Safe Earth; Bishop Theotonius Gomes, Auxiliary Bishop of Dhaka; Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, Vice-Chair, IPCC; Cara Augustenborg, UCD; Éamonn Meehan, Trócaire; Bishop William Crean, Cloyne; Oisín Coughlin, Friends of the Earth; Joe Larragy, Maynooth University; Lorna Gold, Trócaire; John Sweeney, Emeritus Professor, Maynooth University; pictured at Climate Justice Conference 2015 at Maynooth.

New Experiential Learning Office Opened under Dean of Teaching and Learning

Under the direction of the Dean of Teaching and Learning Alison Hood, and resulting from recommendations put forward as part of the new Curriculum Initiative, The University this year opened a new office of Experiential Learning

Initially the Office will focus on Community Based Service Learning; Enquiry/Project Based Learning; Undergraduate Research and Community Engagement and Volunteering, in conjunction with the Student Engagement Officer.

Aisling Flynn, the new Experiential Learning Officer, is appointed to support the enhancement of student opportunities for short-term work placement, service learning, community engagement, and undergraduate research, as informed by the University Strategic Plan.

Also new to the Dean of Teaching and Learning Office is an enhanced focus on student engagement. Student Engagement Officer, Ian Russell who has joined the Office from Student Services, will focus on the transition of students to third level, creation of opportunities for volunteering and community engagements activities, and co-ordination of the *Extra-Curricular Awards Scheme*.

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 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adult and Community Education | Dr Fergal Finnegan, Lecturer | Graduate Studies | Dr Zoe Mulroy-Hehir, Senior Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| Alumni Office | Mr Jonathan Carroll, Administrative Officer II (Contract Post) | | Ms Hazel Keane Lavelle, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| An Foras Feasa | Mr Fabiano Pallonetto, Senior Technical Officer (Contract Post) | International Office | Ms Jenny Coonan, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| | Ms Fionnuala Gilmartin, Senior Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | | Ms Pauline Di Girolamo, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| Biology | Dr Manuel Lopez Vernaza, Lecturer (Contract Post) | IT Services | Mrs Gráinne Coughlan, Administrative Officer I |
| | Ms Abigail Maher, Lecturer (Contract Post) | Kilkenny Campus | Ms Diane Ryan, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| | Ms Clementina Sidoli O'Connor, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | Law | Dr Elaine Burroughs, Senior Executive Assistant |
| Campus & Commercial Services | Mr Stephen Seaman, Grounds Supervisor (Contract Post) | Library | Ms Aine Carey, Assistant Librarian – Grade II (Contract Post) |
| Bursar | Mrs Jennitia Casey, Executive Assistant | | Ms Helen Farrell, Assistant Librarian – Grade II (Contract Post) |
| | Ms Neisha Hanley, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | | Ms Maureen Finn, Library Assistant (Contract Post) |
| Centre for Teaching and Learning | Dr Sharon Tighe Mooney, Administrative Officer II (Contract Post) | | Ms Saoirse Reynolds, Library Assistant (Contract Post) |
| | Mr Jonathan Brown, University Tutor (Contract Post) | Mathematics & Statistics | Dr Sonia Balagopalan, Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| Chemistry | Dr Michelle Sands, Technical Officer | Media Studies | Ms Sarah Arnold, Lecturer |
| | Dr Lisa Greene, Administrative Officer II (Contract Post) | Medical Centre | Mrs Kathryn Troy, Administrative Officer I (Contract Post) |
| Commercialisation Office | Dr Kathleen McClean, Senior Administrative IV (Contract Post) | Music | Dr Laura Anderson, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| Communications & Marketing | Mr Peter Martin, Senior Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | Office: Director of Registry | Dr Adrienne Kendlin, Administrative Officer I |
| Computer Science | Dr Peter Mooney, Lecturer | Philosophy | Professor William Desmond, Professor & Interim Head of Department of Philosophy (Contract Post) |
| | Mr Joseph Duffin, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) | | Dr Gaven Kerr, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| | Mr Emlyn Hegarty Kelly, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) | Residence Office | Ms Aoife Loughnane Molloy, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| | Mrs Philomena Dully, Executive Assistant | | Ms Bridie O'Neill, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) |
| Creche | Ms Aileen Caldwell, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | School of Business | Dr Richa Chugh, Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| Edward Kennedy Institute | Ms Treasa Kenny, Assistant Lecturer | | Ms Gillian Moran, Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| English | Professor Geraldine Higgins, Professor | | Dr Bastian Rake, Lecturer |
| | Professor Patricia Palmer, Professor | | Dr Patrick Rigot-Müller, Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| | Dr Treasa De Loughry, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) | | Dr Paola Zappa, Lecturer |
| Examinations & Timetabling Office | Ms Catherine Crofton, Senior Executive Assistant | School of Celtic Studies | Ms Chantal Kobel, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| | Ms Anna Jankowska, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | School of Modern Languages, Literatures & Cultures | Dr Mirna Vohnsen, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post) |
| | Mr Martin Ryan, Executive Assistant (Contract Post) | | Mrs Helen Callanan, University Tutor (Contract Post) |
| Geography | Dr Helen Shaw, Lecturer | | |
| | Ms Una Holton, Executive Assistant (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**

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>

Schedule of Dates for Meetings in 2017-2018

| FACULTY OF ARTS, CELTIC STUDIES & PHILOSOPHY at 15.00 hours (THREE EXCEPTIONS) | FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING at 15.00 hours (ONE EXCEPTION) | FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES at 15.00 hours (ONE EXCEPTION) | ACADEMIC COUNCIL at 15.00 hours (ONE EXCEPTION) | GOVERNING AUTHORITY at 14.30 hours (ONE EXCEPTION) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 September 2017 (12.00) Boardroom JHB | 5 September 2017 Boardroom JHB | 4 September 2017 Boardroom JHB | 18 September 2017 Boardroom JHB | 21 September 2017 Boardroom JHB |
| 16 October 2017 Boardroom JHB | 17 October 2017 Boardroom JHB | 23 October 2017 Boardroom JHB | 6 November 2017 Boardroom JHB | 9 November 2017 Boardroom JHB |
| 20 November 2017 Boardroom JHB | 21 November 2017 Boardroom JHB | 27 November 2017 Boardroom JHB | 11 December 2017 Boardroom JHB | 13 December 2017 (16.00) Boardroom JHB |
| 15 January 2018 (12.00) Boardroom JHB | 16 January 2018 (12.00) Boardroom JHB | 15 January 2018 Boardroom JHB | 5 February 2018 Boardroom JHB | 15 February 2018 Boardroom JHB |
| 12 March 2018 Boardroom JHB | 13 March 2018 Boardroom JHB | 12 March 2018 (11.00) Boardroom JHB | 9 April 2018 Boardroom JHB | 26 April 2018 Boardroom JHB |
| 14 May 2018 (12.00) Boardroom JHB | 15 May 2018 Boardroom JHB | 14 May 2018 Boardroom JHB | 28 May 2018 (14.00) Boardroom JHB | 7 June 2018 Boardroom JHB |

International Women's Day 2017



Dr Brian McKenzie, Centre for Teaching & Learning; Prof Mary Corcoran, Dept of Sociology; Dr Fergus Ryan, Dept of Law; Dr Susan Giblin, Centre for Teaching & Learning; Lorna Dodd, Library; Rosaleen McCarthy, HR; and Dr Aphra Kerr, Dept of Sociology; pictured on Wednesday, 8 March at events sponsored by Maynooth University Human Resources Department and the Equality, Diversity and Interculturalism Committee to mark International Women's Day 2017.

Team Math Finals Held in Maynooth University

On Saturday, 4 March, the Team Math National Finals were held in Maynooth University for the first time

The competition is organised by the Irish Maths Teachers' Association (IMTA) and takes the form of a table quiz for teams of four students with questions based on the Leaving Certificate Higher Level Mathematics course. Regional Rounds were held nationwide by local IMTA branches during the year and 12 teams qualified for the final. This year's winning school is Christian Brothers' College, Cork, and runner-up prize went to Blackrock College, Dublin. The local organiser was Dr Ann O'Shea of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Dr David Malone entertained the teams with an engaging talk on problem-solving and Professor Tony O'Farrell acted as adjudicator.



Pictured are the students of Christian Brothers' College, Cork with their teacher Ann Barry-Murphy and Brendan O'Sullivan, President, IMTA

Maynooth Wave Energy Workshop

The Maynooth Wave Energy Workshop held in January has grown significantly since 2009

The 2017 event, with the continued support of Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), featured 93 delegates from 12 countries and speakers from Norway, Portugal, France, UK, USA, Canada and Denmark. A keynote talk was given by the highly renowned Prof Johannes Falnes (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, NTNU), who has been dubbed the 'father of wave energy.' Over one third of the delegates were from industry, which made the opening words by Dr John Scanlan, the Maynooth University Commercialisation Director, particularly relevant.

The technical programme featured 11 invited lectures and 13 posters and included an open forum discussion at the end with the theme, *Instabilities of wave energy converters – good news or bad news*, chaired by Prof Alain Clement of Ecole Centrale de Nantes.



Prof John Ringwood, Dr Josh Davidson and Tom Kelly of COER with speakers and delegates at the event

Success for our Soccer Teams

Maynooth University Soccer has had a very successful season with wins for both the Ladies' and Men's squads

Maynooth University claimed the Women's Intervarsities Cup in UCC in late March to complete a cup and league double for the season following their recent Premier Division title winning success. This is the first time Maynooth University have won this third level Premier Division Cup competition.

In early March the Maynooth University Men's Fresher Squad defeated UL 3-0 in the final of the Colleges & Universities Football League Division 3 held in Abbotstown.



Pictured is Maynooth University Ladies Senior Squad who won the CUFL Premier Division on 9 March at Athlone IT defeating Sligo IT 4-1. This is the 2nd time they have won the premier division in three years.

Snooker Club Success

Maynooth University Snooker Club success at both All-Ireland Snooker and Pool Intervarsities

In December 2016, Maynooth University Snooker Club won both the team and individual All Ireland Snooker Intervarsities.

Maynooth sent two teams. A team: Diarmuid O' Connor (C), Keith Fox, Niall Brady, Sean King, and Liam Twaddle. B team: Jack Arnold (C), Tom Duignan, Shaun McDonnell, Barry Sheehan, Gareth Walsh, and reserve Ben McCabe.

Both teams played well in the group stages and qualified for the semi-finals, where they ended up playing each other. It was a tough match with Maynooth B putting it up to Maynooth A, but the A team eventually won. Maynooth A then played NUIG in the team final, and some excellent snooker helped them win. This was Maynooth's first team title in five years.

The club added to their success in February at the Irish Pool Intervarsities when they won the Shield competition. The club has recently invested in new supreme pool tables, and hopes to build on this success in pool and cement its reputation as the best cue-sports institution on the island of Ireland.



The Maynooth teams pictured at the All-Ireland Snooker Intervarsities

Club and Societies Awards 2017

Maynooth University celebrated its Annual Clubs & Societies Awards on Tuesday, 4 April

The event recognises the hard work of the students involved with the societies and clubs on campus throughout the year. A joint initiative between the University and Maynooth Students' Union, the Clubs & Societies Awards are run by students for students. MSU Life, home to the 100 plus clubs and societies on campus, celebrated its first anniversary at the event.



Winner of the Clubs League (a league that is points based on a range of activities such as events, training, activities, attending council meetings, account-keeping) - MUCK

The 2017 winners are:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Best Video | MAD |
| The Pastoral Award | Mental Health |
| Best Poster | Ultimate Frisbee |
| Give A Little Do A Lot | Business Society |
| Best Photograph | Maths |
| Best New Society | Languages |
| Best Society First Year | Cornelia Schmitt, Language & Circus |
| Best First Year Athlete | Aoife Mc Nulty, Ladies Soccer |
| Society Person of the Year | Rhonda Mc Govern, Geography |
| Clubs League | MUCK (Maynooth University Canoeing and Kayaking Club) |
| Societies League | IESN (Erasmus Student Network) |
| Club Executive of the Year | Ciaran Breen, Hurling |
| Society Event of the Year | Dance, Maynooth Best Dance Crew |
| Club Event of the Year | Rovers, Glendalough Hike |
| Athlete of the Year | Amber Barrett, Ladies Soccer |
| Most Improved Society | Yoga |
| Most Improved Club | Ladies Gaelic Football |
| Best Society | Mars FM |
| Best Club | Ladies Soccer |

30 Years of the Galway Cycle

On Friday, 7 April more than 300 cyclists, collectors and support crew made the now familiar return journey from Maynooth to Galway, to raise funds for their nominated charity



Samantha Ward, President of the Galway Cycle, with Kerrie Leonard and Kathryn Thomas, along with Maynooth Students for Charity

This year celebrates the 30th annual Galway Cycle organised by Maynooth Students for Charity. Over the years the event has raised €1.5 million for charities with a special interest in supporting children, and this year's charity is the Paediatric Family Centred Rehabilitation (Paeds) Unit in the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH), Dún Laoghaire.

"This is a big year for us," said the President of the Galway Cycle, Samantha Ward. "In 30 years we have raised over €1.5 million and this year we are very eager and delighted to add to that total by fundraising for the Paediatric Unit of the NRH, where amazing work is done for young people."

The Paediatric Unit at the NRH delivers specialist interdisciplinary rehabilitation programmes to children and young people from throughout Ireland who have sustained an acquired brain injury, spinal cord injury, limb absence (congenital or traumatic), and a number other neurological conditions, as a result of an accident, illness or injury.

Success at St Andrews



Pictured are Stuart Grehan, Maynooth University Golf Scholar, winner of this year's R&A Foundation Scholars Tournament in St. Andrews, Scotland with some of the 17 Maynooth University Golf Scholars who competed, and Barry Fennelly, Golf Development Officer at Maynooth University. The tournament brings together the top student golfers in Europe, with the winner in the men's event earning a place on the European side to face the US in the Arnold Palmer Cup. Stuart had already been selected on the European team through earning a committee selection a few weeks ago. He was also part of last year's European team who defeated USA in the Arnold Palmer Cup at Formby, England.