

UNIVERSITY NEWS



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

September 2012 Conferring Ceremonies



Professor Philip Nolan congratulates Alaine O'Connor and Ellen O'Dwyer on receiving their BA Double Hons degrees.

September 5, 6 and 7 saw over 1,900 students being conferred on campus during one of our better weather weeks of summer 2012.

Professor Philip Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth, has called on graduates of the University to put the gifts that their lives and education has given them to "the task of building a society we can be proud to live in". Continuing he urged graduates to use their education to "make sense of and understand the world... to question, to argue, to think creatively and to imagine new things...to speak out when you see something wrong or a better way of being and doing." Included this year for the first time were graduates from two new BSc programmes: BSc Multimedia and BSc Science Education and a new Bachelor of Business Administration degree (Business and Management). Among the graduating classes were the first graduates of the Higher Diploma in Primary Education at NUI Maynooth. This is the first year that students from the Froebel College of Education have been conferred with the NUI Maynooth Higher Diploma in Primary Education.

Hamilton Institute Celebrates 10 years of Research Excellence

"On Coincidence", a public lecture which addressed the influence of chance on our daily lives, was delivered by Persi Daconis, Professor of Statistics and Mathematics at Stanford University, on Monday, 3 September to mark the 10th anniversary of the Hamilton Institute at NUI Maynooth.



Prof Robert Shorten, Hamilton Institute; Prof Philip Nolan, President; Prof Persi Diaconis, Stanford University; Prof Mark Ferguson, Director General, SFI and Prof Doug Leith, Hamilton Institute.

Established over a decade ago, the Hamilton Institute has become one of the world's leading mathematical research centres, providing a bridge between mathematics and its applications in ICT, biology and other disciplines. Researchers at this multi-disciplinary institute have been using maths to analyse fundamental real world problems including internet congestion, making our cities and transport systems more environmentally friendly and deciphering the immune system.

continued on page 2

in this issue



Chuck Feeney Honoured



Teaching Fellowships Launched



New Digital-Visual Exhibition Space



Golf Team Win Barton Shield

PhD Student in Canada

Seán Mac Risteaird, a John and Pat Hume Scholar and tutor in the Department of Modern Irish, has been awarded an Ireland Canada University Foundation (ICUF) Irish language award.

Seán is teaching Irish language in St Thomas University, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada during this academic year to undergraduates; with an interest in learning languages and Irish Studies. The course focuses on writing, listening and speaking Irish, as well as the socio-linguistic elements of the Irish language.

On a voluntary basis he is also teaching Irish language classes in various retirement centers in the city of Fredericton in New Brunswick and is working closely with the St. Patrick's day committee in Fredericton.



Jimmy Deenihan, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht with Seán Mac Risteaird, at the ICUF Awards Ceremony 2012.

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome back to staff and students and good luck to all our new recruits. As can be seen in the next few pages it is brimming with staff and student achievements, and I'm sure this is by no means a complete list. Congratulations to all those mentioned and I look forward to receiving the news, even a quick line by email to those of you who are not featured in this edition. We embrace all that is great about NUI Maynooth!

Lisa McVann,
Senior Executive Assistant
Phone: 01-7086160
email: lisa.mcvann@nuim.ie
General: communications@nuim.ie

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

Published four times a year by:
The Communications Office,
NUI Maynooth.

Pioneering Third Level Education in Local Libraries

Professor Philip Nolan, President presented certificates of participation to 32 students who completed a 20 week course enabling them to experience university level learning in their local libraries.



Participants with their certificates pictured after the award ceremony on campus.

This pilot initiative, run by the Department of Adult Education at NUI Maynooth and An Chomhairle Leabharlanna (Library Council of Ireland) saw almost 50 library users study modules in Local History, Community Development, Reading Enrichment and Sociology delivered by academics from NUI Maynooth in their local libraries.

Prof Philip Nolan, praised the participants who completed the course saying that "this initiative offers greater engagement and partnership between the University and the community we serve and further helps to open the door to lifelong learning opportunities." Derek Barter, Academic Co-ordinator of Continuing Education at NUI Maynooth,

commented on the success of the initiative saying that "feedback from the participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with each of the partners in the project gaining from the inter-agency and multi-disciplinary approach taken. The model of the programme can be easily replicated and it is anticipated that it will be rolled out to libraries across the country."

The Library initiative was carried out in partnership with two library authorities; Dublin City Council and Kildare County Council. Co-operation in the project also came from two Partnership companies Northside Partnership, Coolock, in Dublin and Kildare LEADER Partnership.

Teaching Council Approves Higher Diploma in Further Education

NUI Maynooth's Higher Diploma in Further Education (HDFE) offered by the Department of Adult and Community Education has been approved by the Teaching Council of Ireland.

The Higher Diploma is a teaching qualification designed to meet the needs of further education practitioners in Ireland, equipping them with the necessary knowledge, skills and competences to carry out their teaching role and responsibilities.

Welcoming the Teaching Council's approval for the programme, Josephine Finn, Head of the Department of Adult and Community Education, said: "the Department has delivered teacher training since the mid 1970s, preparing teachers to work with adult learners in a wide range of educational settings. The Higher Diploma in Further Education is built on this

long tradition of teacher training which promotes theories and practices of education that acknowledge the impact on learners of social and cultural forces. In particular how these forces can exclude specific population(s) from access to education and from contributing to the knowledge-creation process.

The programme was designed to meet the requirements of the Teaching Council. The approval gives it formal recognition as a professional qualification for further education teachers and makes it one of the first such courses approved in the state.

Hamilton Institute Celebrates 10 Years

(continued from page 1)

Professor Philip Nolan, speaking at the event noted the many successes of the researchers in the Hamilton Institute and the extremely important contribution they have made to the advancement of knowledge; "almost fifty research fellows and students have worked with the Hamilton Institute over the last decade, all of whom have gone on to

success with some of the leading institutions and companies around the world."

Researchers at the Institute have strong industry links and through its projects, the Institute has partnered with organisations such as Science Foundation Ireland and multinationals such as Intel, Cisco, IBM, Mercedes, Merck and Bayer Schering.

The Universities of Ireland Honour Chuck Feeney

The Universities of Ireland, North and South - including NUI Maynooth - have jointly conferred an honorary Doctorate of Laws (LLD) on Charles F "Chuck" Feeney, founder of The Atlantic Philanthropies.

The universities have come together to honour and to thank Chuck Feeney's remarkable contribution to Irish society, and in particular to the universities. This is the first time such an honour has been conferred jointly by all the Universities on the island of Ireland.

Chuck Feeney's philanthropic purpose in Ireland has been to create a brighter future and a better society for the people of Ireland. Since 1989, Atlantic has donated nearly €800 million to Irish universities, North and South. The Atlantic Philanthropies (www.atlanticphilanthropies.org) is a limited life foundation and has recently announced that it will complete its grant-making in 2016.

Professor Philip Nolan congratulates Chuck Feeney on his Honorary Doctorate.



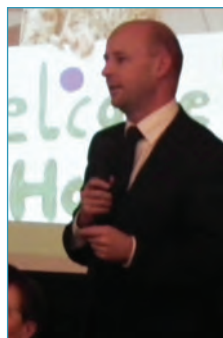
NUI Maynooth Embraces the Gathering



The Gathering is a government initiative intended to generate a net additional 325,000 overseas visitors to Ireland in 2013.

NUI Maynooth will participate in this initiative by linking a number of University events that are planned by various Departments to The Gathering. These events will be featured on a new webpage which will be launched in the coming weeks, and which will link into county-wide and national information sources that are in place as appropriate. Some of the events already included on the University's Gathering Programme include a Conference on Irish Diaspora and Revolution 1845 to 1945 at the end of this month; workshops on Local History (Nov 2012), the launch of the Morpeth Roll in Spring 2013 and the Illuminations Series which will run over the remainder of this academic year.

NUI Maynooth has also joined Kildare County Council along with a number of other local organisations on a county steering body which is overseeing the compilation of a calendar of Gathering events for Kildare. Speaking at a public meeting in Naas last month arranged by Kildare County Council and attended by almost 200 representatives from community groups throughout the county, President Nolan affirmed NUI Maynooth's support for The Gathering and confirmed that the University looked forward to assisting local groups to work on a wide variety of events.



Professor Philip Nolan.

Jean Monnet Chair and Irish Research Council Funding for Dr Maurice Devlin



Dr Maurice Devlin.

Dr Maurice Devlin of the Department of Applied Social Studies has been awarded a Jean Monnet Professorship by the European Commission.

The award recognises Dr Devlin's contribution to youth studies, youth work and youth policy at a European level. It comes with three years' funding to support teaching, research and public engagement related to European integration and youth.

This is the first Jean Monnet Chair awarded in an Irish university for nine years, and the second in the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth (Emeritus Professor Séamus Ó Cinnéide received the award for his work on European social policy in 1994).

Professor Devlin, who is Director of the Centre for Youth Research and Development (CYRD), also secured a research award in the Irish Research Council's recent Research Development Initiative scheme. With CYRD colleagues Dr Kathryn McGarry and Dr Hilary Tierney, he will conduct research into volunteer-led youth work in Ireland, in collaboration with Professor Fred Powell and colleagues in the Department of Applied Social Studies at University College Cork.

Surge in CAO First Choice Applications

NUI Maynooth has seen further growth in points for degree courses this year as the University continues to receive greater numbers of CAO first choice applications.

More than 3,500 applicants picked NUI Maynooth as their first choice this year – up from 2,000 five years ago. Points for Computing, Science and Science Education in particular have risen sharply. New courses introduced by NUI Maynooth this year have proved particularly popular, with Computational Thinking registering at 500 points and Mathematics Education at 495 points.

The World University Rankings, recently published by Times Higher Education (THE), show NUI Maynooth retaining its position among the top 400 universities in the world. Earlier this year, NUI Maynooth was also named

by THE as the leading new Irish university (64th in the world) in its global survey of institutions less than 50 years old. The rankings are based on 13 separate performance indicators designed to capture the full range of university activities including teaching, research volume and influence, industry income and international outlook.



Teaching Fellowships 2012-13 Launched

As part of NUI Maynooth's ongoing commitment to enhancing the student experience and the learning environment, the Centre for Teaching and Learning has awarded seven Teaching and Learning Fellowships for 2012-13, with two Fellowships being awarded by the Access Office. These Fellowships will support innovative activity in Teaching & Learning across the campus.



Dr Victor Lazzarini, Jeneen Naji, Dr Joe Timoney and Professor Philip Nolan.

Professor Philip Nolan, President presented the awards to this years recipients, namely; Dr John Cullen, School of Business; Dr Neil Trappe, Experimental Physics Dept; Dr Graham Heaslip, School of Business; Dr Trinidad Velasco Torrijos, Chemistry Dept; Dr James Power, Computer Science Dept; Dr Joe Timoney, Computer Science; Dr Victor Lazzarini, Music Dept; Jeneen Naji, Centre for Media Studies; Angela Rickard, Education Dept; Dr Bob Lawlor, Electronic Engineering Dept; Dr Alistair Fraser, Geography Dept; Dr Aidan Mooney, Computer Science Dept; Dr Shelagh Waddington, Geography Dept and Dr Susan Bergin, Computer Science Dept.

Professor Philip Nolan, also introduced the report on completed Fellowships projects for 2011-12, praising the recipients "we should as a university community be very proud of their achievements and contributions to the enhancement of student learning. It is heartening to see the range of disciplines in which projects have been taken."

Prof Kitchin wins Cantemir Prize

Prof Rob Kitchin, NIRSA, was recently awarded the 2012 Cantemir Prize by Prince Radu of Romania on behalf of the Berendel Foundation in a ceremony at Trinity College, Oxford University.



Prof Rob Kitchin and Prince Radu of Romania.



The prize was for the book, *The Map Reader*, published by Wiley-Blackwell, which was recognized for its significant interdisciplinary contribution to the theoretical and practical understanding of maps and cartography.

NUI Maynooth Hosts Irish Academy of Business Conference

The Irish Academy of Management annual conference was recently hosted by the School of Business at NUI Maynooth.

The chair of the conference, Dr Graham Heaslip addressed the theme of *Transforming Management Research and Education*.

The President, Professor Philip Nolan, in his opening address stressed that in light of the global financial crisis, and the looming environmental crisis, management researchers need to respond to repeated calls for the renewal of management education and practice. Professor Nolan congratulated the academy on returning to the fundamentals of management theory at a time when management may be associated with corporate greed and unethical behaviour.



Dr Graham Heaslip, Chair IAM Annual Conference; Dr Alma McCarthy, President IAM and Professor Martin Curley, Vice-President of Intel Corporation.

Professor Martin Curley, Vice-President of Intel Labs Europe and co-director of the Innovation Value Institute at NUI Maynooth addressed the topic of creating value with his opening presentation 'Industry-Academic Partnerships: Using Open Innovation to Accelerate Development'. Professor Peter McKiernan, Professor of Management at the University of Strathclyde Business School explored the future of higher education from a European base and addressed the challenging times ahead in his talk 'The 21st Century Academic Career'.

The academy acknowledged the sterling work of Dr Thomas O'Toole, Head of the School of Business at WIT by presenting him with a Fellowship. Kieran Mulvey, Chief Executive of the Labour Relations Commission was honoured with the Whitaker award.

For more on the Irish Academy of Management conference see <http://iamireland.ie/conference>

Study Undertaken for Irish Red Cross



The Influence of Formal First Aid Training in Emergency Situations study was undertaken by: Bernie Stevenson, Irish Red Cross; Dr Paul Donovan, Linda Chadwick and Vincent Muldoon of the School of Business.

The study carried out by NUI Maynooth on behalf of the Irish Red Cross shows that 95% of people surveyed would not respond in an emergency situation, such as a traffic accident or cardiac arrest, as they feared not being competent enough to offer assistance, even if they have been trained in first aid.

The study also showed that a fear of being sued and a lack of practice are key inhibitors which affect the likelihood of a person assisting in a situation requiring first aid.

Findings Published in Nature Immunology journal

The possibility of new treatments for debilitating diseases such as Multiple Sclerosis has been opened up with a breakthrough discovery by a research team at NUI Maynooth.

Its findings have been accepted and published in the prestigious 'Nature Immunology' journal.

The research findings follow almost three years of intensive research by a team of 10 scientists led by Professor Paul Moynagh, Director of the Institute of Immunology at NUI Maynooth. The team has discovered the critical function of a gene, 'Pellino3', in regulating the amount of protective proteins called 'interferons' produced in response to a virus. The function of Pellino3 in the body had previously been undetermined.

Discussing the findings, Professor Moynagh said: "Our conclusion on the role of Pellino3 in controlling interferons is a very significant breakthrough in viral immunology. The research has much potential for the treatment of major autoimmune diseases and the next step is to determine how the exploitation of Pellino3 can physiologically impact on specific conditions. The ultimate objective of our project is the development, production and commercialisation of pharmaceuticals which can help to combat immune-mediated diseases such as Multiple Sclerosis. Our results demonstrate the importance of continued investment in basic research, which feeds the pipeline through which pharmaceutical development and disease treatment can occur".



Professor Paul Moynagh.

Maynooth Celebrates the Birth of Pugin



Professor Philp Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth; Jimmy Deenihan, TD and Monsignor Hugh Connolly, President, St Patrick's College, Maynooth.

The 200th anniversary of the birth year of Gothic architect A.W.N. Pugin was celebrated on 12 September with an exhibition and the launch of a booklet.

The conference was launched by Jimmy Deenihan, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

The exhibition, curated by Penny Woods, in the Russell Library contains a display of a large private collection of sketches - watercolours and drawings - by Pugin that have been loaned for the duration of the exhibition by members of the Meldon family, direct descendants of Pugin. The Irish Architectural Archive have also provided on loan original Pugin drawings from their collection and the National Archives have provided copies of plans for Maynooth in the OPW Archive. Also the collections of the Russell Library and the archives of St Patrick's College have been mined to create a visual display using large illustrated books and pamphlets, together with original plans and letters by Pugin. The booklet, Pugin at Maynooth edited by Professor Marian Lyons was also launched.

Opening of New Digital-Visual Exhibition Space

'In the Light Of' is the opening exhibition at NUI Maynooth's new digital-visual exhibition space (Illuminations) which has just been officially launched in Iontas.

'In the Light Of' is by poet Ciaran Carson, who has taken the theme 'Illuminations' as a conceptual point of origin, and rendered Arthur Rimbaud's prose poems from his nineteenth-century Illuminations collection into spectacular contemporary verse. A team of visual and sound artists have collaborated on the project, which is the first of a pipeline of artistic exhibitions which will be hosted at the new digital visual exhibition space. 'In the Light Of' is curated by Dr Colin Graham, Dept of English and runs until mid-October. The gallery space is built around eight LED screens, placed back-to-back in custom-designed cabinets and supplemented by two display units which can exhibit physical artefacts.

Upcoming events at Illuminations:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| » Prisons Memory Archive | 22 October 2012 - 15 November 2012 |
| » Irish Writers | 19 November 2012 - 13 December 2012 |
| » The Composites | 28 January 2013 - 21 February 2013 |
| » Publications | 25 February 2013 - 4 April 2013 |
| » Ken Saro-Wiwa's Letters | 8 April 2013 - 25 April 2013 |



The new digital-visual exhibition space in the Foyer of Iontas.

Shauna's First Book Published

Happiness Comes From Nowhere, Shauna Busto-Gilligan's first book was launched at NUI Maynooth by author Pat Semple and Head of the Department of Adult & Community Education, Josephine Finn.

Shauna juggles her full-time administration role in the Department of Adult and Community Education, being a mother to two children (5 and 8) with writing. She says of this "managing these different elements is down to time management; I dedicate time each evening to my creative writing and stick to that time (within reason) and I don't watch television! I love writing and great thanks is due to my family, friends, fellow writers and work colleagues who encourage me."

The book follows the lives of the Horn family: Mary, Sepp and Dirk. Their paths cross and intertwine with those of extended family, friends and acquaintances as journeys are made through the changing city of Dublin and further afield as they search for happiness.

Happiness Comes From Nowhere has received great reviews with Éilís Ní Dhuibhne declaring it "a truly impressive début from a writer of exceptional talent" and Sue Leonard (*The Irish Examiner*) stating that it is "Fresh and original... Shauna Gilligan is a name to watch." The book is available in the University Bookshop.



Shauna with her book.

Symantec Corporation Donates Eye Trackers



David Sward, Senior Director User Experience Design at Symantec Corporation, Cupertino, California presenting one of four Tobii 1750 eye tracking systems donated by Symantec Corporation to Dr Adam Winstanley and Dr Fiona Lyddy, Heads of the Computer Science and Psychology Departments, respectively. Also present at the presentation was Professor Ronan Reilly of the Department of Computer Science. The eye trackers will be used in psychological and cognitive science research in both Departments.

The Maynooth Studies in Local History Reaches Milestone

Professor Philip Nolan launched the most recent volumes of Maynooth Series in Local History on 7 September.

This series, which began in 1995, showcases the work of students in the MA programme in NUI Maynooth. Over the past twenty years of the series the books have ranged widely, both chronologically and geographically, over the local experience in the Irish past

Dr Raymond Gillespie of the History Department, General Editor praised the Series saying "they have demonstrated the vitality of the study of local history in Ireland and have shown the range of possibilities open to anyone interested in studying local history. These books convey the vibrancy and excitement of the world of Irish local history today." For a complete list of the 105 titles published by Four Courts Press to date please see <http://history.nuim.ie/publications/localhistory>



Berndette Cunningham's book, *Clanricard and Thomond, 1540-1640: provincial politics and society transformed* (2012) which was the 100th in the series.

Maynooth Scientists Discover Ice Age Survivor

Researchers at NUI Maynooth have discovered the first evidence that plants survived the great Ice Age in Ireland.

Up to now most scientists agreed that Ireland's flora and fauna came here after the end of the Ice Age, some 15,000 years ago. This new discovery pushes back this date to a much earlier time, long before the Ice Age.

The team, led by NUI Maynooth Ecologist Dr Conor Meade, and with collaboration from Dr Colin Kelleher at the National Botanic Gardens Glasnevin, developed a new DNA analysis method to unravel the complex history of the Fringed Sandwort, a rare cold-loving herb that only grows on the high slopes of Ben Bulbin Co. Sligo. PhD students Xiaodong Dang, an NUI Maynooth Hume Scholar, and Emma Howard-Williams collected the plant on mountain peaks all over Europe, from Spain and Italy up to Svalbard in the Arctic Circle and then completed detailed genetic analyses.

The new analysis method, based on a process called *DNA melting*, greatly improves the accuracy of existing DNA analysis, and helped to reveal previously unknown levels of genetic diversity in the Irish populations. What emerged is that the plants on Ben Bulbin are just as genetically ancient as populations



Fringed Sandwort.

in Southern Europe, indicating that they must have survived the Ice Age intact in Ireland, just as they did in Spain and Italy. This pattern has never been seen before in Ireland, and is exceptionally rare in northern Europe.

Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Award

Dr Graham Heaslip has recently been awarded the James Cooper Memorial Cup by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

This award is for the best PhD in Supply Chain Management and Logistics in Europe.

Dr Heaslip's research marries partnership theory, networks, coordination theory and supply chain principles from different sectors (including commercial, non-governmental organisations, and military sectors) to benefit humanitarian logistics. The research presents a conceptual partnership framework that demonstrates a connection between the different actors and different phases in integrating civil-military cooperation in humanitarian logistics thereby alleviating logistics difficulties during relief operations. The proposed framework allows military and humanitarian organisations to develop strategic, tactical as well as operational plans for providing logistic support to humanitarian assistance programmes within their constraints and in the context of the respective complex political emergency.



Dr Graham Heaslip and with Robin Proctor, Group Supply Chain Director, Travis Perkins Group - the sponsor of the James Cooper Memorial Cup Award.

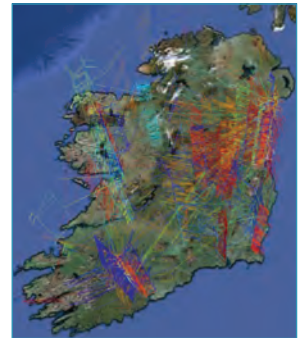
NCG/StratAG Masterclass on Trajectory Clustering

The NCG/StratAG Masterclass on Trajectory Clustering took place in the National Centre for Geocomputation in August.

During the masterclass, organised by Dr Gavin McArdle (NCG), Dr Seán McLoone and John Doyle of the Dept of Electronic Engineering, experts in the field of movement data analysis gave a series of talks concerning clustering techniques. Such techniques are used to identify trends and patterns in large movement datasets. Both data mining and visually driven approaches were discussed.

Dr Andrienko, Fraunhofer Institute for Intelligent Analysis and Information Systems, Dr Maike Buchin, Technical University Eindhoven, Dr Laurent Etienne, University of Dalhousie and Dr Brendan Morris, University of Nevada delivered insightful lectures and discussed their research in this area. 25 participants attended the two-day masterclass including researchers from NUI Maynooth, University College Dublin, NUI Galway and the University of Ghent.

Challenges such as the scalability of clustering techniques, the quality of clusters and the need to consider the use of semantics to describe movement data were identified as critical issues for future research in this area. The masterclass was funded by Science Foundation Ireland through the Strategic Research Cluster in Advanced Geotechnologies.



Clustering of sparsely sampled human trajectories based on the similarity of their regional mobility.

An Foras Feasa Organises Value of Humanities Symposium

A symposium entitled *Restating the Value of the Humanities in Contemporary Contexts*, co-organised by An Foras Feasa and the Irish Research Council, was hosted by NUI Maynooth on 18 April.

The event was designed to facilitate reflection on current developments, changes and evolutions within and across the humanities. Over 80 attendees from 12 national and international universities attended. The day concluded with the launch of the European Science Foundation's Humanities Spring

Manifesto on 'Changing Publication Cultures in the Humanities', produced by a group of early-career researchers across Europe, and co-ordinated by An Foras Feasa. For a storify record of the day's discussions, see <http://storify.com/graemeearl/valuehums>



Dr Karol Mullaney-Dignam, Katie Overy, Graham Earl, Prof Margaret Kelleher, Vincent Woods, Prof Philip Nolan, Prof Francis O'Gorman, Tim Conlon, Gemma Middleton, Dr Eva Hoogland, Dr Orla Murphy and Professor Sean Ryder.

The seventh Annual Cardinal Newman Maynooth Lecture took place on 23 May.

The 2012 lecture was delivered by Rev Dr Benjamin J King, Assistant Professor of Church History, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, who spoke on the topic of "John Henry Newman and the Church Fathers: Writing Church History in the First Person". The response was delivered by Dr Janet Rutherford, Secretary, Patristic Symposium, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, and Irish Correspondent to the International Association for Patristic Studies.

The aim of the lecture series, arising from Cardinal Newman's historic relations with Maynooth, is to examine the diversity of his religious, educational, literary and historical writings in relation to issues relevant to the modern university. The lecture was jointly sponsored by St Patrick's College Maynooth, the Education Department and An Foras Feasa, NUI Maynooth.

2012 Accountancy Showcase



The Prizewinners (l-r): Cian Dolan (CIMA, 2nd year); Fionnuala Doris, Dept of Economics, Finance & Accounting; Daniel Ryan (KPMG, 1st year); Maria Byrd (Ernst & Young 2nd year 1st place); Philip O'Reilly (KPMG joint 1st place on the MAcc); Professor Rowena Pecchenino, Head of Dept of Economics, Finance & Accounting; Jonathan McDermott (KPMG joint 1st place on the MAcc); Paul Cervi (PWC 3rd Year), Robert Blake (IFS prize for best thesis, MAcc); Darren Roche (Deloitte HDip in Accounting) & Marina Volkova (RBK 2nd year 2nd place).

The annual Accountancy Showcase took place on Wednesday, 3 October in the Lontas Building.

All the leading professional firms including PWC, E&Y, KPMG and Deloitte attended as well as the Irish Accounting & Taxation Institutes, Glanbia, IFS and Intel.

As well as being an opportunity for students to learn more about a career in Accountancy it also showcased our students to the Accounting profession.

There are presently 300 students on the BA Accounting & Finance and the BA Business & Accounting degree programmes with 50 students completing either an MA in Accounting or a Higher Diploma in Accounting at postgraduate level.

Computer Science Department Celebrates

Phoenix Mezzanine on Friday, 21 September was the venue for alumni celebrations of 25 years of Computer Science at Maynooth.



Alumni and Staff mingling at the event.

Over 100 alumni, staff, former staff and postgraduates attended the evening. Speakers on the night included former heads of the Department, Professors Anthony O'Farrell and Ronan Reilly and President of NUI Maynooth, Professor Philip Nolan. Dr Adam Winstanley, current Head of Department warmly welcomed the guests and announced details of the Department's two new degrees; BSc in Computational Thinking and an MSc in Dependable Software Systems. Alumni from the 1990s to 2012 enjoyed a very social, memorable evening which continued afterwards in another alma mater - The Roost.

School of Business Research Kildare Tourism

On behalf of Co Kildare Fáilte and part-funded by Fáilte Ireland, NUI Maynooth conducted research to examine the visitor numbers and activity to the County during the key tourism period of August-September 2012.

Co Kildare Fáilte can now assess and review these statistics in order to pinpoint promotional strategies and campaigns to better meet the organisation's key objective of bringing more tourists to the county.

Under the guidance of Dr Christina Donnelly, Lecturer in Marketing at NUI Maynooth, and Project Supervisor, Maeve Kavanagh, 12 student researchers were deployed to conduct interviews at eleven different attractions/destinations locations across County Kildare. The findings of this report will be published shortly to all stakeholders within Co Kildare Fáilte and the tourism industry.



The NUI Maynooth researchers involved in the Kildare Fáilte Research Project.

2012 Chinese National Day Celebration

Chinese Studies Department at the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures organised the '2012 Chinese National Day Celebration & the Chinese Pairing Party 2012' on Thursday, 4 October.

Assisted by the Language Centre, Confucius Classroom, the International Office, and Chinese Student Society at NUI Maynooth, the event welcomed more than 80 students and staff. The Language Pairing Party is designed to match English-speaking students, who are learning Mandarin as part of the Chinese Studies programme, with Mandarin-speaking students. This enables native speakers of both English and Mandarin languages to help each other to become familiar and more fluent in the language they are learning for the first time.

Dr Arnd Witte, Head of the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures welcomed all participants with his opening speech focusing on the diversity of NUI Maynooth, through its emphasis on language as a unifier of different cultures and also as a signifier of the cultural enrichment of the University, which is progressing rapidly at both the national and international level.



Dr Arnd Witte opens the event.

The event offered a chance for students and staff to share their knowledge of languages, cultures and traditions within a relaxed multi-cultural setting.

Farewell to Margaret

Professor Margaret Kelleher's departure from NUI Maynooth was marked by a reception in An Foras Feasa on Tuesday, 25 September.



Professor Philip Nolan, Professor Margaret Kelleher and Dr John Keating.

Professor Kelleher has been the Director of An Foras Feasa since its foundation in 2007. During her 16 years in Maynooth, Margaret was originally with the English Department and more recently An Foras Feasa. She has been at the forefront of research and education in the Digital Humanities and Irish Studies in Ireland.

Professor Kelleher's contribution to research, education and university life was warmly acknowledged by the President, Professor Philip Nolan, Dr John Keating and an tOllamh Ruairí Ó hUiginn.

The reception was attended by colleagues past and present from across the University as well as Postgraduate Fellows from the An Foras Feasa Postgraduate Laboratory in the Iontas Building. An Foras Feasa was described by the President as Professor Kelleher's legacy to NUI Maynooth under the PRTL15 funding.

We wish Margaret every success in her new post as Chair of Anglo Irish Literature in UCD, and thank her warmly for her contribution to NUI Maynooth.

Promoting Our Conference Facilities

Fáilte Ireland, in conjunction with Maynooth Campus Conference & Accommodation, is planning a series of events to promote its Ambassador Programme to academic staff.

The aim is to increase awareness of financial and practical supports available to academic hosts and to build on NUI Maynooth's reputation as an international conference venue.

"NUI Maynooth provides an ideal location for holding a conference," says Dr Peter van der Burgt who hosted the POSMOL conference in 2011. "The campus is nice and self-contained, the lecture theatres, catering and accommodation facilities are excellent, and within walking distance of each other. POSMOL delegates came from all over the world and comments were very positive. Maynooth's small town atmosphere makes delegates feel very relaxed."

Recent developments, such as Iontas, have boosted the campus's credentials as a venue, while the ongoing refurbishment of south campus rooms is helping to attract more resident delegates.

The conference manager, Bill Tinley, looks forward to engaging with the academic community over the coming months. "There is huge potential at Maynooth. The prospect of unlocking that is very exciting."



Delegates at the EASA conference in 2010.

Human Resource Notes

INTERVIEWS HELD

3rd October 2012	Executive Assistant, Admissions Office (Contract Post)
26th September 2012	Library Assistant, Library (Permanent Post)
25th September 2012	Executive Assistant, An Foras Feasa (Contract Post)
12th September 2012	Financial Accountant x2, Finance Office (Permanent & Contract Post)
20th August 2012	Executive Assistant, Department of Spanish (Contract Post)
31st August 2012	Assistant Lecturer/Lecturer x2, Department of Electronic Engineering (Contract Post)

NEW APPOINTMENTS

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

Departments	Appointees
Examinations Office	Ms Justine Brunton, Executive Assistant
International Office	Ms Noreen Lucey, International Officer
Payments Office	Mr Edward Holden, Executive Assistant
Security	Mr Eddie Power, Security Officer
Anthropology	Dr Anthony Kelly, Assistant Lecturer
Business	Dr Ultan Sherman, Assistant Lecturer
Chemistry	Ms Carol Berigan, Executive Assistant
Education	Dr Celine Healy, Lecturer
English, Media & Theatre Studies	Dr Shelley Troupe, Assistant Lecturer
	Dr Victoria Brownlee, Assistant Lecturer
	Dr Trish Morgan, Assistant Lecturer
Experimental Physics	Dr Dean McCarthy, Assistant Lecturer
Mathematics & Statistics	Dr James O'Shea, Assistant Lecturer
Music	Dr Barbara Dignam, Assistant Lecturer
	Ms Emily Cook, Executive Assistant
School of Modern Languages, Literatures & Culture	Dr Jean-Frederic Hennuy, Assistant Lecturer
	Dr Richard O'Rawe, Assistant Lecturer

Institutes	Appointees
Edward Kennedy Institute	Mr Kieran Doyle, Project Manager.

Library	Appointees
	Ms Laura Connaughton, Assistant Librarian
	Ms Kathryn Walsh, Assistant Librarian
	Ms Olive Morrin, Library Assistant

Our best wishes to all concerned.

TRAVEL PASS SCHEME

The Travel Pass Scheme will continue to operate in the University during 2013.

To be eligible to participate in this scheme an employee must be either:

- A permanent member of staff;
- A member of staff whose contract of employment has an end date on or after 31st December 2013 and whose annual salary can be pre-determined.

The Scheme applies only to annual rail/bus passes issued by Iarnród Éireann, Bus Éireann and/or Dublin Bus.

Members of staff interested in participating in the Travel Pass Scheme must submit their applications to the Human Resources Office not later than Friday, 16th November 2012. Applications received after this date will not be included for the 2013 scheme. Details pertaining to the Travel Pass Scheme may be accessed on the Human Resources web page at http://humanresources.nuim.ie/staff_schemes.shtml

SHORTER WORKING YEAR SCHEME

Applications are now invited from staff wishing to apply for a Shorter Working Year under the above Scheme. Details of the Policy, eligibility and application form can be found on http://humanresources.nuim.ie/staff_schemes.shtml

The purpose of the shorter working year scheme is to permit staff of the University to balance their working arrangements with outside commitments, including the school holiday periods of their children. Under the terms of the scheme, special leave is available as a period of not less than 2 and not more than 13 consecutive weeks. The leave may be taken as one continuous period, or as a maximum of 3 separate periods each consisting of not less than 2 weeks and not exceeding 13 weeks in total.

The period of leave is unpaid. However, members of staff who wish to participate in the scheme may apply for special administrative arrangements for the payment of basic salary in equal amounts over twelve months from the start of the tax year.

Members of staff interested in participating in the Shorter Working Year Scheme during 2013 must submit their applications to the Human Resources Office not later than Friday, 30th November 2012.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The offices of the University will close on the evening of Friday, 21st December 2012 and will re-open on the morning of Thursday, 3rd January 2013.

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**

Hack4Europe 2012 Award



Damien Gallagher.

An Foras Feasa software engineer, Damien Gallagher, was a member of the DRI Hackathon team that won the award for 'Application with the Greatest Social Impact' at the Hack4Europe 2012 Dublin! event in September.

Hack4Europe! is a series of hack days organised by the Europeana Foundation and its partners throughout Europe and provides an environment to explore the potential of open cultural data from the Europeana portal to create products for social and economic growth in Europe.

The DRI hackathon team won the award for "Application with the Greatest Social Impact" for their WWI project Ireland on the Western Front. The teams were judged by an international panel of experts, and the award was presented by Jimmy Deenihan, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, at a reception in the Science Gallery.

Ireland on the Western Front is an application that allows users to combine digitised versions of personal/familial objects (e.g. war medals, old photographs, birth certificates) with digital objects from Europeana's collections (e.g. maps, war proclamations, artistic representations) in order to create an individualised narrative about the Great War.

Hack4Europe 2012 Dublin! was organised by The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Irish Manuscripts Commission, the Digital Humanities Observatory and Fáilte Ireland in conjunction with the Europeana Foundation.

NUI Maynooth Rolls out MyCard

MyCard is the Maynooth Campus Card. MyCard will provide all students and staff on the Maynooth campus with a single card which can be used for identification, access control, library card, electronic purchase on campus and the new print and copy services for students (which will also be rolled out later this year).

MyCard uses smart card technology using an embedded chip on each card. The user will have the ability to top up money on their card either at a top up machine on campus or on-line. Each card carries a balance on an electronic purse; if a card is lost the user has the ability to hotlist the card online at any time.

Other functions will be rolled out over time to provide staff and students with a safer more convenient method of payment for services on campus and further details on these developments will be communicated shortly.



Celebrating Snooker Success

The Snooker Club at NUI Maynooth held an event on Friday, 14 September to celebrate its success to date.

NUI Maynooth has won the Snooker Invarsities nine times in the last 12 years, and has won both the team and individual event for the last five years in a row. The recent success has been largely due to NUI Maynooth's decision in 2006 to announce the NUI Maynooth Snooker Scholarship, the first such scholarship anywhere in the world. This scholarship is run in conjunction with the NUIM Snooker Club and RIBSA (Republic of Ireland Billiards and Snooker Association).

The purpose of the snooker scholarship is to promote the sport and to give top level amateur snooker players the opportunity to get a world class education at NUI Maynooth. The two main recipients of the scholarship to date are Johnny Williams from Monaghan and Vincent Muldoon from Galway. Johnny is one of the leading amateur players in Ireland and has graduated from NUI Maynooth with a BA and and Masters in Military History and Strategic Studies. Vincent has twice qualified to play snooker on the professional tour and has graduated from NUI Maynooth with a BA in Business and a Masters in Strategy and Innovation.

The club also moved to new facilities in 2007, which include 4 snooker tables, one of which (used at the world championships) is reserved for the snooker scholars. Household names such as Ken Doherty, Steve Davis, Fergal O'Brien and Denis Taylor have all visited the club and played snooker at NUI Maynooth.



Ciarán Mac an Bhaird, Honorary President of the Snooker Club; Peter Dunne, a BSc graduate of NUI Maynooth and former Snooker Club Committee member and Ken Doherty.

At the event Ken Doherty and the President, Professor Philip Nolan, made presentations to members of all nine NUI Maynooth snooker intersarsity winning teams, and a Snooker Club roll of honour was announced.

Titanic Exhibition Trip



Retired Staff members and friends visited the Titanic Exhibition in Belfast.

A group of 30 Retired Staff members and friends paid a visit to the Titanic Exhibition in Belfast in July.

Though raining (as usual) it did not dull their wonderful day in any way. Shortly after arriving in Belfast by train they were sitting to a scrumptious leisurely lunch in the Ten Restaurant in Donegal Square. The entire afternoon was spent at the Titanic Centre absorbing the wonderful exhibition. Sightings of clusters of retired members could be seen throughout, engaged in deep conversation about this and that and generally catching up since they had last met up. A tired but extremely happy group arrived back in Dublin around 8pm. A great day was had by all.

Optimal Handicapping System for Ten-Pin Bowling

Professor Donal O'Neill and Sarah Keogh in the Economics, Finance and Accounting Department have determined the optimal handicap system needed to create a level playing field in the sport of ten-pin bowling.

Many sports operate a handicap system in which scores are adjusted in an attempt to equalize the probability of victory in contests between players of different ability levels. This increased competition aids development and promotion of the sport. However, there has been a growing concern that the current systems used in bowling do not achieve the stated aims, with the same teams and players filling the top positions in the league every year.

The research carried out uses statistical analysis to evaluate the handicap systems currently in use. Using a goodness-of-fit statistic Professor O'Neill and Ms Keogh determine the optimal handicap system for bowling. Their proposed system allows lower ability players to compete against higher ability opponents while still maintaining a small incentive for players to improve their skill levels. The results of their analysis will be published in *The American Statistician*, a prestigious journal of The American Statistical Society.



Hamilton Walk 2012



On Tuesday, 16 October, the staff and students of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and members of the general public walked along the banks of the Royal Canal to mark a famous day in the history of Science and Mathematics.

On this day in 1843, William Rowan Hamilton, mathematician created the quaternions in a flash of inspiration while out walking. Beginning at Dunsink Observatory, the group of 150 headed south to meet the Royal Canal before going east along the canal to end up at Broombridge train station in Cabra, where a plaque marks the area where Hamilton scratched his formulas for the quaternions on the bridge.

NUI Maynooth Golf Team Win Barton Shield

NUI Maynooth golf team topped a remarkable season by winning the Chartis Europe sponsored Barton Shield final at Kinsale Golf Club.

The team were victorious over Banbridge with an eight-holes lead. Prof Philip Nolan, President of NUI Maynooth, congratulated the players saying, "We congratulate the golf team on their recent win, their success at this level is all the more remarkable considering it is only the second time that they have participated in the Barton Shield tournament."

"Their victory is a testament to the dedication and sportsmanship of the players, their Team Manager and the co-ordinators of the Paddy Harrington Golf Scholarship. It highlights the importance of investing in talented sportspeople and ensuring that they achieve a world-class education while simultaneously pursuing their sporting ambitions."

Conor O'Rourke (final year Business & Management), Jonathan Yates (1st Year Arts), Barry Anderson (recent graduate Finance & Accounting, achieving top marks in final year Economics 2012), Gary Hurley (1st year Business & Management) have all benefited from a Paddy Harrington Golf Scholarship. The Paddy Harrington Golf Scholarship Programme is now the leading programme of its kind in Ireland and is on a par with golfing scholarships based in the US.

Barry Fennelly, Manager of the Golf Scholarship Programme explains his experience as a Harrington golf scholar and his role as Manager: "At NUI Maynooth our aim is to provide a platform for golfers of international standard to achieve their golfing and academic potential during the course of their study, my role is in delivering this by implementing a structured and competitive golf programme. The key elements to this include expert golf coaching undertaken at the GUI National



Pictured. Back Row (l-r); Bob Joyce, Programme Co-ordinator; Stephen Brady; Ryan O'Dwyer; Ross Kenny, Team Captain; Shaun Carter and Barry Fennelly, Team Manager. Front Row (l-r); Conor O'Rourke; Jonathan Yates; Dr Philip Nolan, President; Barry Anderson and Gary Hurley.

Academy and Carton House, golf specific fitness training such as Titleist performance Institute (TPI) training and yoga for golf, mental fitness and golf psychology, performance nutrition and performance analysis. The scholarship programme employs some of the leading coaches and experts in these fields which are vital to its success."

New GAA Development Officer

Jenny Duffy, has a degree in Recreation & Leisure Management in CIT and a Hons Degree in Business Marketing.

Jenny previously worked with the CIT, in the Chaplaincy Student Support team and also worked as a Regional Development Officer for the Camogie Association covering the South Leinster area.

Jenny is a native of Togher in Cork city and member of the St Finbarrs Camogie Club and Inch Rovers Ladies Football club and she is a member of the Cork Senior Camogie Team for the past eight years. On her new role she says; "I am very much looking forward to the role of GAA Development Officer within the University and eager to meet the challenges that lay ahead. There is a fantastic group of students involved between the four GAA clubs at NUI Maynooth." Her enthusiasm is palpable as she continues "we hope to raise the performance of both scholarship students and players alike by introducing new programmes and support systems that would ensure progression for all teams."

One of Jenny's aims is to increase staff involvement within the University GAA club. If any university staff member has an interest in GAA and would like to become part of our team please contact Jenny, 01-7083321 or jenny.duffy@nuim.ie



Jenny Duffy

All-Ireland Success



Paddy McBrearty, Donegal in action against Mayo in the All-Ireland Senior Final.

Congratulations to the NUI Maynooth students and graduates who have helped Donegal and Dublin win their Senior and Minor All Ireland Football finals.

Patrick McBrearty, First Arts, is a member of the Donegal Senior Football Team who won the Sam Maguire, while Emile Mullan, Eric Lowndes and Niall Walsh are members of the Dublin Team who won this year's All-Ireland Minor Football Championship. All three are first years; Emile is studying law, Niall is studying Arts and Eric is studying the NUI Maynooth/Froebel College of Education BEd programme.

A former NUI Maynooth scholarship student, Rory Kavanagh, is a Donegal mid-fielder who played on the winning All-Ireland team. Rory graduated in 2003, having studied Nua-Ghaeilge and Geography at Maynooth.